

# 1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the purpose of the background report in relation to the General Plan (Plan) update and Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The organization of the background report and a description of its 11 chapters are included, along with a description of each chapter's format.

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND REPORT

This background report represents a snapshot of the city's existing conditions, and summarizes the physical, social, and economic information required to update the Citrus Heights General Plan. This information, in some cases expanded and reformatted, will also be used as the Environmental Setting within the EIR that accompanies the Plan. This background report represents a summary of available information. More in-depth data may be assembled later for specific topics if deemed important to the Plan or the EIR.

The data and information in this background report generally reflect conditions as of December 2009. However, the Population and Housing chapter has not been updated as part of the 2009/2010 General Plan update. This chapter has been updated on two previous occasions, and corresponds to the City's 2006–2013 Housing Element.

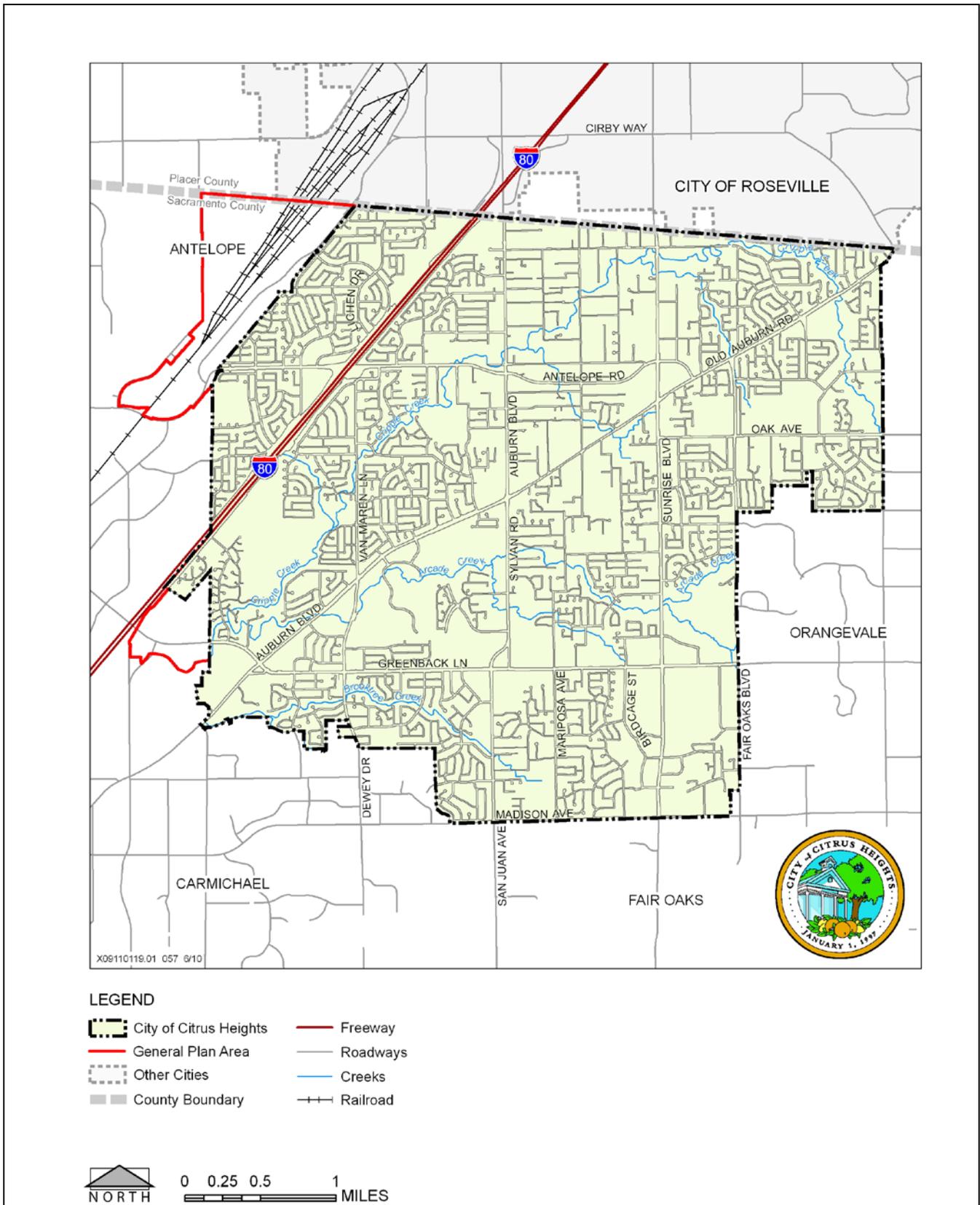
## 1.2 GENERAL PLAN AREA

The Citrus Heights General Plan Area includes all land designated, or to be considered, for future development as part of Citrus Heights, including all land within the existing City limits and areas the City may wish to consider for annexation in the future. Figure 1-1 shows the Citrus Heights General Plan Area.

## 1.3 ORGANIZATION OF THE BACKGROUND REPORT

The background report is organized into 11 chapters as described below.

- ▶ **Chapter 1 – Introduction** provides an overview of the role of the background report in preparing the General Plan and EIR, the organization of the background report, and the Citrus Heights General Plan Area.
- ▶ **Chapter 2 – Population and Housing** provides information relative to the population and housing characteristics of the City. The data and analysis contained in this section are a part of Citrus Heights' 2006–2013 Housing Element. Information in this chapter has not been updated as part of the General Plan update.
- ▶ **Chapter 3 – Mobility** identifies current transportation conditions within the General Plan Area. This chapter is to be used as a baseline to develop goals/objectives, identify future needs, and explore alternative transportation scenarios.



**General Plan Area**

**Figure 1-1**

- ▶ **Chapter 4 – Natural Resources** provides information regarding natural resources located within the General Plan Area, including water resources, water quality, and biological resources.
- ▶ **Chapter 5 – Air Quality** frames the existing air quality regulatory environment and conditions in the General Plan Area and surrounding region. Issues addressed in this chapter include criteria air pollutants such as ozone and carbon monoxide, toxic air contaminants, and odors.
- ▶ **Chapter 6 – Climate Change** provides a discussion of existing climate conditions, climate change science, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission sources in California and in Citrus Heights. The chapter also includes a description of potential effects of climate change on the General Plan Area.
- ▶ **Chapter 7 – Historical and Cultural Resources** discusses the historical and cultural resources found within the General Plan Area, including prehistoric resources and remaining historic structures.
- ▶ **Chapter 8 – Community Services and Facilities** describes the provision of public services in Citrus Heights by the City and by a variety of special districts and contracted firms. This chapter addresses police, fire, and emergency services; parks and recreation; schools; water supply, wastewater collection and treatment, and storm drainage; and solid waste and recycling.
- ▶ **Chapter 9 – Land Use** documents current (2009) land use conditions in the General Plan Area and provides a context for examining development constraints.
- ▶ **Chapter 10 – Safety** provides information regarding potential hazards in the General Plan Area, including seismic and geologic hazards, hazardous materials, and aircraft and helicopter hazards.
- ▶ **Chapter 11 – Noise** describes the noise environment in the General Plan Area, including noise from roadway traffic, railroads, aircraft, and stationary sources. The chapter also describes noise-sensitive land uses in the General Plan Area.

## 1.4 FORMAT OF THE BACKGROUND REPORT

Each chapter of the Background Report includes the following sections:

- ▶ **Introduction** contains a brief background of the issues covered in the chapter.
- ▶ **Regulatory Setting** describes the regulatory context pertaining to each issue area addressed in the chapter. This section describes federal, state, and regional/local regulations where appropriate.

- ▶ **Existing Conditions** provide a “snapshot” of conditions as of December 2009 for each issue covered in the chapter. As described earlier, the Population Housing chapter has not been updated as part of this General Plan update.

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## **Tables**

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## **Acronyms**

Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

General Plan (Plan)

greenhouse gas (GHG)

## **Citations**

## **Sections/Chapter**