



## Public Facilities (PF)



Graham Library  
Courtesy, LA County Arts Commission



Thomas Edison Middle School



Florence-Firestone Service Center

### Vision

Enhance community services and facilities to improve the quality of life and meet the needs of all community members, especially youth and seniors.

### Background

Florence-Firestone has several facilities to meet local needs, including libraries, parks, and a service center. These public facilities and services are essential to maintaining and improving the quality of life community wide. These facilities and services also play an important role in the land use pattern of the community and present an opportunity for further growth. The purpose of the following goals and policies is to enhance public facilities and services to accommodate the changing needs of the community over time.

### Opportunities and Challenges

#### County Facility Sustainability

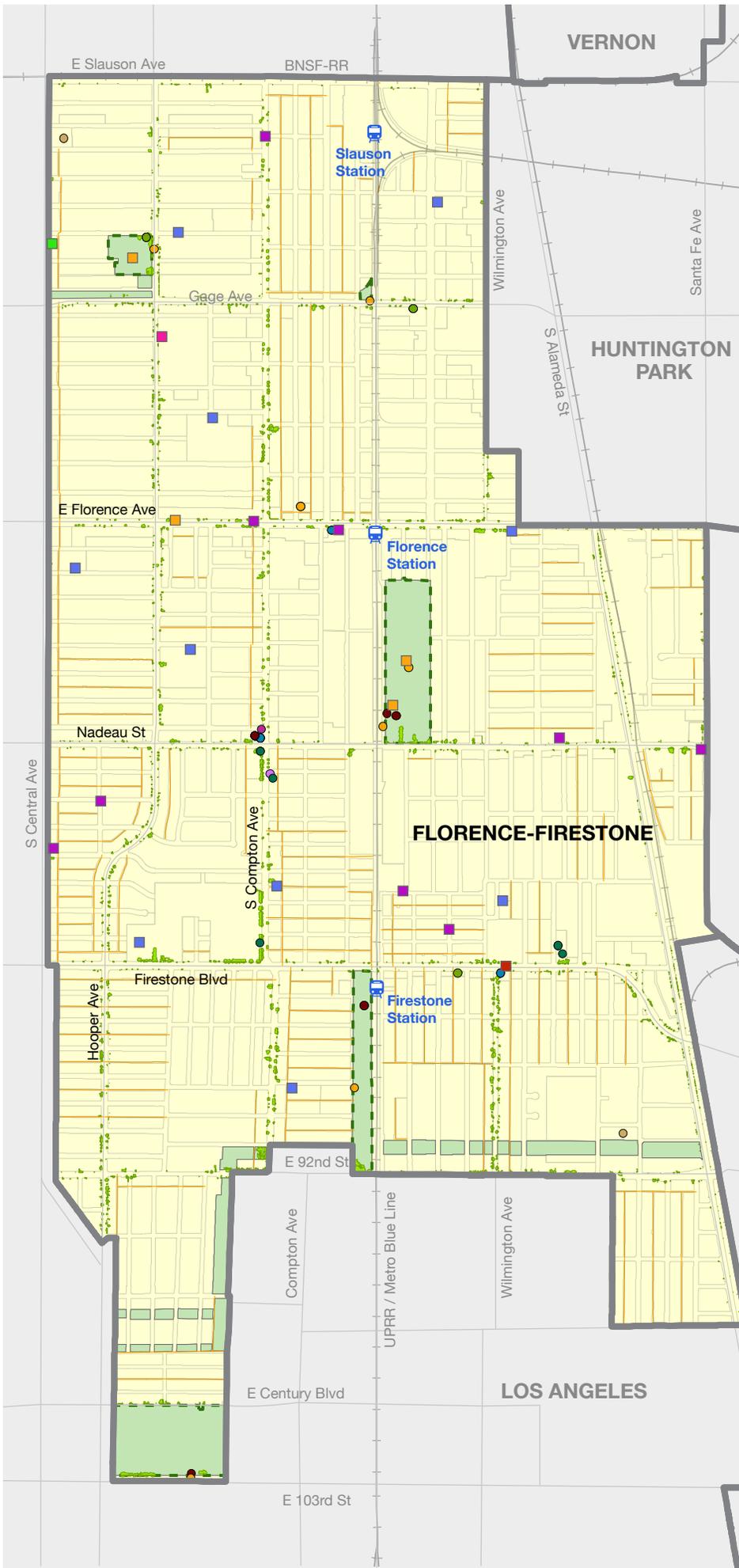
To promote a more sustainable vision for the Florence-Firestone community and to meet the sustainability goals established by the Los Angeles County General Plan, public facilities should be water and energy efficient. Many of the public facilities in Florence-Firestone are older structures that may not meet current energy or water efficiency standards. Facilities should be upgraded to meet the needs of community residents as well as standards. Preventative maintenance is also needed to allow for the continued use of facilities at optimal levels.

#### Information and Accessibility

Public services and programs, and active community participation are vital to building and maintaining a strong and healthy community. While some County programs are well-advertised, communication needs to be improved to increase access to and participation in these programs. According to 2016 ESRI demographic data, 90.7% of the population in Florence-Firestone is Hispanic. Eighty-seven percent of the population speaks Spanish, 63% is bilingual Spanish and English, and 13% speak only English. Given these statistics, to overcome the language barrier and facilitate access to services and increase civic participation, information also needs to be provided in Spanish.

#### Community Identity and Preservation

Though a resilient community, Florence-Firestone is in need of enhanced community identity and preservation efforts, notably through its civic infrastructure



# Florence-Firestone Community Elements

Unincorporated Florence-Firestone

## Base Layers

- Assessor Parcel Boundary
- City / Community Boundary
- Union Paciic Railroad &/or Metro Blue Line

## County Facility by Category

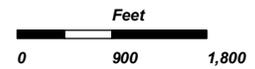
- Arts and Recreation
- Community Groups
- Emergency Response
- Government
- Health and Mental Health
- Municipal Services
- Public Safety
- Social Services
- Transportation

## Educational Facility by Category

- Early Childhood Education and Head Start
- Guidance and Tutoring Programs
- Private and Charter Schools
- Public Elementary Schools
- Public High Schools
- Public Middle Schools

## Community Elements

- Metro Rail Station (Blue Line)
- Street Tree (Primary or Secondary Street)
- Alley
- Open Space Zoning
- OS-PR Land Use Policy (GP 2035)
- Florence-Firestone



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and public facilities. Residents have commented on the lack of accessible community spaces in Florence-Firestone, while existing public facilities have been consolidated or moved. Though the building stock in the community is relatively old compared to surrounding communities, several public facilities of historic significance lack protected status, and could eventually be threatened with development. One such building is the old Firestone Sheriff's Station, which was the first sheriff's station in the county to have an African American captain, as well as the first station that allowed African American officers to ride in patrol cars. This structure no longer houses a sheriff's station, but hosts the Youth Activity League, a foundation partnered with the Sheriff's Department. Historic properties act as cornerstones on which to build community identity. Community programs and public involvement also help bolster a sense of community identity. Though there are several existing programs in place, such as the Youth Activity League, there is a need for more youth programs and recreation opportunities.

## Goals and Policies

### COUNTY FACILITY SUSTAINABILITY AND MAINTENANCE

#### GOAL PF-1

**County facilities in Florence-Firestone are well-maintained, environmentally sustainable, and efficient.**

##### Policy PF-1.1

**Sustainability Benchmarks.** Ensure all new County buildings meet the goals of environmental sustainability, carbon footprint reduction, water conservation, and energy conservation by conducting an environmental audit of all County facilities in Florence-Firestone.

##### Policy PF-1.2

**Facility Maintenance.** Ensure that routine maintenance and operations work optimizes water and energy conservation, and prolong the life of existing County buildings and facilities through preventative maintenance programs and procedures.

##### Policy PF-1.3

**Renewable Energy and Conservation.** Utilize strategies to conserve water and energy in Florence-Firestone public facilities and transition to alternative renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, where feasible.

## General Plan Policies

### Sufficient Infrastructure

**Policy PS/F 1.4:** Ensure the adequate maintenance of infrastructure.

**Policy PS/F 1.7:** Consider resource preservation in the planning of public facilities.

### Water Conservation

**Policy PS/F 2.1:** Support water conservation measures.

**Policy PS/F 2.2:** Support educational outreach efforts that discourage wasteful water consumption.

### Utility Infrastructure

**Policy PS/F 6.8:** Encourage projects that incorporate onsite renewable energy systems.

## INFORMATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

### GOAL PF-2

**Community residents are well-informed of County services and resources, which are easily and safely accessible.**

#### Policy PF-2.1

**Public Spaces.** Increase awareness and engage residents about County resources through community events in public spaces, including parks and schools.

#### Policy PF-2.2

**Service Information.** Require all County public service agencies to provide coordinated, up to date information on County services at community parks, libraries, and service centers.

#### Policy PF-2.3

**Language Accessibility.** Provide informational materials in multiple languages to increase accessibility.

#### Policy PF-2.4

**Existing Services.** Raise awareness of existing County services available to community members through multiple forms of engagement including mailings, social media, pop-up outreach events, and handouts available at community centers.

Policy PF-2.5

**Health Clinics.** Provide public information and ensure access to community health clinics and surrounding medical institutions.

Policy PF-2.6

**Safe Access.** Target public safety measures to ensure safe access to parks, playgrounds, other recreational facilities, and public facilities.

**General Plan Policies**

Sufficient Infrastructure

**Policy PS/F 1.3:** Ensure coordinated service provision through collaboration between County departments and service providers.

**Policy PS/F 1.6:** Support multi-faceted public facility expansion efforts, such as substations, mobile units, and satellite offices.

**PUBLIC FACILITIES AND ENRICHMENT**

**GOAL PF-3**

**Public facilities in Florence-Firestone reinforce shared community identity, offering spaces for interaction and enrichment.**

Policy PF-3.1

**Civic Center.** Establish a location to focus the concentration of public services around the intersection of Compton Avenue and Nadeau Street, including the implementation of signage and streetscape improvements to brand the intersection as a Civic Center district of Florence-Firestone.

Policy PF-3.2

**Shared Use of Public Facilities.** Provide space to use within public facilities for the community and community-serving non-profit organizations for community meetings, events, workshops, or other such uses.

Policy PF-3.3

**Youth Engagement.** Provide designated spaces for youth within County facilities, and encourage opportunities for youth to engage in community development, volunteer efforts, and recreation programs.

Policy PF-3.4

**Library Resources.** Expand library facilities and educational resources in Florence-Firestone. *(Refer to the Library System section of the Public Services and Facilities element of the General Plan for more information.)*

Policy PF-3.5

**Historic Preservation.** Protect and preserve historic public facilities in Florence-Firestone, through inventory, repair, and restoration.

Policy PF-3.6

**Signage.** Improve and enhance educational, informational, and regulatory signage at County parks and facilities, as appropriate.

Policy PF-3.7

**Joint-Use Agreements.** Require new public school development subject to discretionary review in Florence-Firestone to include Joint-Use Agreements to maximize public use and enrichment opportunities. *(Refer to the Early Care and Educational Facilities section of the Public Services and Facilities element of the General Plan for more information.)*

Policy PF-3.8

**Local Sponsorships.** Support youth programs and activities by partnering with local organizations and businesses to leverage community resources and hold events in public facilities.

Policy PF-3.9

**Alternative Uses.** Encourage alternative use of public facilities outside of normal works hours for community activities, including farmer's markets, community events, community meeting space, storage space for local community organizations, or other uses.

**General Plan Policies**Early Care and Educational Facilities

**Policy PS/F 7.1:** Encourage the joint-use of school sites for community activities and other appropriate uses.

**Policy PS/F 7.2:** Proactively work with school facilities and education providers to coordinate land use and facilities planning.

**Policy PS/F 7.3:** Encourage adequate facilities for early care and education.

Library System

**Policy PS/F 8.1:** Ensure a desired level of library service through coordinated land use and facilities planning.