rcenic highways element



### SCENIC HIGHWAYS ELEMENT

# INTRODUCTION:

This element provides for the local planning for official and unofficial scenic highways. Official scenic highways are designated by the State Scenic Highway Advisory Committee after plans have been adopted and submitted by the City. Unofficial scenic routes may also be adopted by the City of Montebello.

#### PURPOSE:

Government Code Section 65302(h) requires a scenic highways element of all city and county general plans, as follows:

The plan shall include a "scenic highway element for the development, establishment, and protection of scenic highways pursuant to the provisions of Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 260) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code."

## **DEFINITIONS:**

- 1. Scenic Corridor: The visible land area outside the highway right-of-way and generally described as "the view from the road".
- 2. Official State Scenic Highway and Official County Scenic Highway: Scenic highways officially designated by the Scenic Highways Advisory Committee after application from local jurisdictions and only if on list of eligible highways found in Section 263 of the Streets and Highways Code.
- 3. Rural Designated Scenic Highway: A route that traverses a defined corridor within which natural scenic resources and aesthetic values are protected and enhanced.
- 4. <u>Urban Designated Scenic Highway</u>: A route that traverses a defined visual corridor which offers an unhindered view of attractive urban scenes.

### APPLICABILITY:

There are no state or county designated scenic highways in the City of Montebello, and no proposals are now pending. Although

there are or may be local streets that could be designated as unofficial scenic routes (e.g., Bluff Road, north of Sycamore Street, Lincoln Avenue between Avenida de la Merced and San Gabriel Boulevard, future streets in the Montebello Hills) none have been so designated.

### POLICIES:

Montebello's policies toward scenic highways are to:

- Acknowledge that there are no officially designated scenic corridors or highways in the City of Montebello.
- 2. Consider promotion and establishment of unofficial scenic routes in conjunction with development and redevelopment of the Montebello Hills, Rio Hondo Channel areas, and other applicable locations in the City. Of particular promise are routes and points in the Montebello Hills where vistas of the South Coast Basin, Downtown Los Angeles, the San Gabriel Mountains and Valley, and the Whittier Narrows-Puente Hills are most impressive. Consideration of scenic route designation shall include providing turn outs, picnic areas, and vista locations to take maximum advantage of these scenic qualities.
- Relate scenic route designation to other applicable General Plan Elements and City policies.