



APPENDIX B

GLOSSARY

Affiliated volunteers: attached to a recognized voluntary organization and are trained for specific disaster response activities. Their relationship with the organization precedes the immediate disaster, and they are invited by that organization to become involved in a particular aspect of emergency management. An example of affiliated volunteers is Sunnyvale Amateur Radio Emergency Services (SARES). (See also Unaffiliated Volunteers)

Ambient Noise: a relatively steady background noise which is an accumulation of different noise sources near and far. Most ambient noise in Sunnyvale is related to transportation. Other ambient noise sources include wind and chirping birds.

Articulation: Variations in the depth of building plane which break up monotonous walls and create interesting patterns of light and shadow.

Beneficial Uses: The uses of water of the State of California that are protected against degradation. Examples of beneficial uses include, but are not limited to: domestic, municipal, agricultural and industrial water supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; and preservation of fish and wildlife and other aquatic resources or preserves.

Below Market Rate Housing Unit: Any housing specifically priced to be sold or rented to low or moderate-income households for less than the fair-market value of the unit. Includes financing of housing at less than prevailing interest rates. See also Low-income Household, Moderate-income household, and Very-low income household.

Character: Special physical characteristics of a structure or area that set it apart from its surrounding and contribute to its individuality.

Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA): A certification awarded by the California Environmental Protection Agency that allows the City to implement several important State environmental programs locally

Congestion Management Program (CMP): A state-mandated program that requires each county to prepare a plan to relieve congestion and air pollution.

Design Guidelines: Design guidelines are more limited and would generally not affect land use or building regulations.

Density Bonus: The allocation of development rights that allow a parcel to accommodate additional square footage or additional residential units beyond the maximum for which the parcel is zoned, usually in exchange for the provision or preservation of an amenity at the same site or at another location.

Districts: special areas within a city which have a unique and unified character. Most districts share a predominantly homogenous form of horizontal structures and relatively similar building styles.

Freeboard: a vertical distance, or clearance, from a 1 percent flood incident. Standards set by the FEMA and the Army Corp of Engineers call for a minimum three foot freeboard.

Gateways: Gateways are specific places along a boundary where people enter and leave the City.

Heritage Resource: A natural or human-made object of scientific, aesthetic, educational, political, social, cultural, architectural or historical significance to the citizens of the city, the Santa Clara Valley region, the state, or the nation, which are designated and determined to be appropriate for preservation by the city council. See SMC Title 19 for a complete definition.

Heritage Housing District: A zoning overlay which can be added to a residential zoning district to inform the community of the presence of a Heritage Housing District

Inundation: Flooding caused by water topping a dam or water released by a dam, reservoir, levee or other break.

Infrastructure: Public services and facilities, including schools, roads, communications systems, utilities, etc. (See also Lifelines)

Impervious Surfaces: Constructed or modified surfaces that do not effectively allow infiltration of rainfall into the soil below. Impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to building rooftops, asphalt or concrete pavement, sidewalks, and driveways where such surfaces are not constructed with pervious materials. (See also Pervious Surface)

Land Use Operational Noise: a continuous or frequent noise related to the basic use of property. Examples include air conditioners, pool pumps, restaurant loudspeakers and industrial machinery

Lifelines: Essential services that are necessary for the continued functioning of the community following a disaster. They include utilities (gas, electricity, water, sewer, and communications), City streets, major highways, bridges and railways lines. Information on age, service, condition and location help emergency preparedness planners assess the likelihood of failure.

Local Landmark: A heritage resource which is significant in that the resource materially benefits the historical character of a neighborhood or area, or the resource in its location represents an established and familiar visual feature of the community or city, and has been designated and determined to be appropriate for preservation by the city council. See SMC Title 19 for a complete definition.

Low-income Household: a household with an annual income usually not greater than 80 percent of the area median income for a household of four persons.

Maximum Extent Practicable: A standard for implementation of stormwater management programs under the Clean Water Act to reduce the level of the pollutants in stormwater runoff to the maximum extent possible, taking into account equitable considerations and competing facts including, but not limited to the seriousness of the problem, public health risks, environmental benefits, pollutant removal effectiveness, regulatory compliance, cost, and technical feasibility.

Moderate-income Household: A household with an annual income between the lower income eligibility limits (usually 80 percent of the area median family income) and 120 percent of the area median family income.

Nodes: Junctions where roadways or other pathways intersect and there is a crossing or convergence of paths.

Noise: Unwanted sound. See also Land Use Operational Noise, Single-Event Noise, and Ambient Noise.

One Percent Flood: Also known as a 100 year flood, has a one percent probability to being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Pervious Surfaces: May include natural or designed landscapes or specially constructed paving materials (e.g. pervious paving) that allow stormwater to infiltrate into sub-surface soils.

Scale: the relative relationship in size of buildings and other objects to one another.

Seiche: wave generated in an enclosed body of water

Sensitive Receptors: Sensitive populations such as children, athletes, elderly and the sick that are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution than the population at large.

Single-Event Noise: An unusual, occasional or temporary noise. Examples include barking dogs, construction work, deliveries, and organized athletic, musical or other group events.

Specific Plans: Has development standards like a Zoning District, but also includes design features which strengthen the district identity. Specific plans can identify appropriate uses, set regulations for building height, setbacks or floor area ratios and establish landscaping standards, architectural design standards, unique street lighting, public plazas and special signage.

Sphere of Influence: The probable ultimate physical boundaries and service area of a local agency (city or district) as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County.

Subsidence: Subsidence is the motion of a surface (usually, the Earth's surface) as it shifts downward relative to a datum such as sea-level. The opposite of subsidence is uplift, which results in an increase in elevation. Subsidence can occur when too much groundwater is pumped out, causing the land above to sink.

Tsunami: A series of waves caused by the sudden shift or subsidence of the sea floor which accompanies some earthquakes. They are characterized by great speed and may cause considerable damage along an exposed coast thousands of miles from the source.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM): Strategies that reduce travel demand such as telecommuting, teleshopping, flextime, carpooling, increased use of public transit, and other strategies to reduce the number of trips made in single-occupant vehicles.

Unaffiliated volunteers: Not part of a recognized voluntary agency and often have no formal training in emergency response. They are not officially invited to become involved but are motivated by a sudden desire to help others in times of trouble. They come with a variety of skills. They may come from within the affected area or from outside the area. (See also Affiliated Volunteers)

Visual Landmarks: Visually prominent and outstanding structures or natural features that function as points of orientation and identification for individuals and areas of the City.

Very-Low Income Household: A household with an annual income usually no greater than 50 percent of the area median family income. (See also Low and Moderate Income Households)

Zoning: The division of a city or county by legislative regulations into areas, or zones, which specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings within these areas. It is a program that implements the General Plan.

DRAFT
CITY OF SUNNYVALE