City of South Gate


South Gate (incorporated in 1923) is 9.7 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. It ranks 18th in population size among Los Angeles County cities. Major thoroughfares include Firestone Boulevard and the 710 and 105 Freeways. Two rivers, the Los Angeles and the Rio Hondo, pass through South Gate. The job base is small. Manufacturing accounts for over one-third of the jobs, followed by services and retail trade. The median family income was $28,980 in 1989. The city’s population is young (68% under the age of 35) and predominately Hispanic (83%).

Issues

• There is a need for improved flood protection.
• Crime prevention issues need to be addressed.
• There is a need for improved recreational opportunities.
• There is a need for greater sensitivity to land-use issues.

Jurisdictional Planned Projects

• In the city’s General Plan, areas adjacent to the Los Angeles River have been designated low-and low/medium-density residential, major commercial and industrial. Both the Los Angeles and Rio Hondo rivers are designated as open space.

Adopted General or Recreational Plans

• Residential development just south of Firestone along the river.
• Commercial development at Firestone and possibly at the river confluence.

Recommendation Based on Master Plan Goals

• Develop confluence acreage into a park and community center with tree planting and an interpretive site. Commission a large work of art that can be seen from the 710 Freeway.
• Begin restoration efforts and environmental enhancements at various sites.
• Connect Hollydale Park to the river.
• Plant trees along the entire length of river through the city.
• Develop a rail-to-trail project between South Gate, Cudahy and Bell Gardens.
• Create a park on the open land at the railroad.
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