




ORO VALLEY'S
Path Forward
Planning Together for Our Future



Background Report

A snapshot of Oro Valley's current conditions and trends to help plan for the future.

2023-2024



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Purpose

The purpose of the background report is to provide useful information representing a wide range of topics important to the community.

The report helps provide residents an informational foundation to develop the community's next 10-year plan, **known as OV's Path Forward**.

Using this Report

This report is divided into 10 different sections. Each section provides context for the State law required planning elements and key topics valued by the community.

- Who OV Is: History, population and demographics
- Where OV Lives: Housing,
- Where OV Works: Economic development and tourism
- Where OV Plays: Recreation, trails, historic and cultural resources
- How OV Stays Safe: Police/fire safety and disaster preparedness
- How OV Conserves: Environment, open space and conservation
- How OV Sustains: Energy and water
- Town finances and services
- How OV Develops: Land use, zoning, growth and redevelopment.
- How OV Travels: Circulation, bike and pedestrian connectivity
- How OV Maintains Services: Finances, public buildings and facilities.

At the beginning of each section is a summary of key trends and important points the community should consider when planning for Oro Valley's future.



Help Shape OV's Future

Everyone's voice is needed to create a community action plan that accurately reflects Oro Valley and can be implemented over a 10-year time frame.

Focused conversations about each topic is the first step in setting the community's vision, goals and policies that will guide Town decisions. Community members are encouraged to:

- **READ** about each topic.
- **WATCH** short videos summarizing the key facts and trends.
- **DISCUSS** each topic with other community members.

The feedback collected will be used to create the vision, goals, policies and actions related to each area.

Learn more and join the conversation at: OVPathForward.com

Key Trends and Considerations

As Oro Valley approaches 50,000 people, all of the State required planning elements must be in OV's Path Forward. The 10-year plan is comprehensive and addresses topics that determine residents quality of life. Some key trends and considerations are shown below. Additional trends and considerations for each topic are provided throughout this report.

Population: OV's current population is 48,226 and is projected to reach a maximum capacity of 55,850 people around 2040.

Housing: Population is projected by the number of housing units remaining to be built. Roughly 3,000 more units remain, most of which are large-lot custom homes or standard apartment units. The types of homes being built need to be considered to address some of Oro Valley's housing challenges, such as providing options that are attainable for its' workforce.

Workforce: Oro Valley has a high number of commuters (82.5% of workers commute to Oro Valley each day). This increases traffic, especially on north/south arterials.

Parks & Rec: Annually, Oro Valley's Park and Rec department runs 115 programs for all ages and abilities. The Town also hosts 54 events with roughly 35,000 attendees every year.

Popularity of youth sports will continue to rise. Exploring options to accommodate this increased demand for sports facilities will be critical in the future.

Providing accessible programs and activities for older adults will continue to be a need in OV.

Tourism: Expanding the number of tourist events would result in additional room night stays and in turn, revenue for the Town.

Finances: Sales taxes and state shared revenues make up 55% of the Town's overall revenues. Sales tax can be a bit volatile during economic swings. A higher need to diversify revenue streams to help insulate the Town from fluctuations in the economically volatile revenue sources currently relied upon.

BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS

Development: Housing is the driver for development in Oro Valley. Evaluating the balance and viability of vacant commercially-zoned land relative to housing density needs to be discussed for OV's future.

Growth: The Town is approaching build-out with only 12% of land allowed for development is vacant. Half of the vacant land has a previously approved plan for development. Being strategic with the remaining land is critical to creating a more self-sufficient community with opportunities to live, work, and play.

Roadways: Road improvements in specific areas are required over time, however, OV's major and minor arterials have sufficient capacity to support the additional population projected at town build-out.

Automobile use could be reduced with the advancement in electric technology and mobility devices (e.g., electric bikes or scooters). Roadway modifications would be needed to support these devices in OV.

Funding: Gasoline tax rates (state and federal) have not increased since the 90s. Yet inflation of materials and labor for roadway maintenance continues to rise. Additional funding options for roadway widening and maintenance projects needs to be explored.

Public Safety: Maintaining a well-trained police force is critical to staying one of the safest cities in AZ.

Environment: Balance between development and open space has always been a core value in OV. This value is supported through historic development patterns and current code requirements. Views, environmental resources, including washes, steep slopes, and native plants are all subject to code.

Water: Annually, OV projects the amount of development remaining in the Town. At build-out the total potable water demand will increase 8.5% over the current total potable water demand. This is based on no rezonings or annexations. OV has sufficient water supplies to serve the anticipated growth within our existing service area.

Continuing to reduce OV's reliance on groundwater by increasing the deliveries of other water resources such as CAP and reclaimed water is important for the future.



Introduction

Key Points

 OV's Path Forward is the community's map guiding Town decisions. It includes the community's vision, goals, and policies for the next 10 years.

 The Town is well on its way to fulfilling 100% of the actions from the last plan, known as *Your Voice, Our Future*.

 Oro Valley has always placed a high value on community engagement. In fact, Oro Valley has won numerous awards for public outreach.

Importance to OV's Future

- Community participation is critical to creating a plan that stays relevant and can be implemented over the next 10 years.
- There are many ways to get easily involved either online or in person. Everyone's voice is needed.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [OV's Path Forward video](#)
- [Archive of Oro Valley General Plans](#)
- [Your Voice, Our Future General Plan Progress Report](#)

Boundaries

Incorporated in 1974, Oro Valley is situated in the northeastern corner of Pima County. The Town lies between the Santa Catalina Mountains to the east and the Tortolita Mountains to the northwest. The Coronado National Forest makes up much of the Town's eastern boundary. The Town boundaries and associated planning area includes:

- Town Limit.** The jurisdictional boundary of the Town. The Town limits include the area within the Town's corporate boundary over which the Town exercises land use authority and provides public services. **The Town limits include 35 square miles.**
- Planning Area.** The geographic area covered by the plan. It includes the Town's limits as well as areas that influence Oro Valley's traffic, public safety, growth and development. **The Planning area includes 99 square miles.**



Historic Milestones

- 1974** Incorporation approved by the Arizona Supreme Court.
- 1981** Oro Valley's first General Plan was adopted.
- 1987** Rancho Vistoso Planned Area Development annexed and approved. Area is 11.9 square miles, north of Tangerine Rd.
- 1990** Fastest growing municipality in Arizona for several years in the 90s. Population increased 345% between 1990 and 2000.
- 2016** Oro Valley's most recent General Plan, known as *Your Voice, Our Future* adopted.

Did you know?

- Original name for the Town was Palo Verde.
- The first General Plan was adopted in 1981 and was only 5 pages long.
- Since 2016, the Town limits expanded to include the Westward Look and the southwest corner of La Canada and Moore Rd. The Planning Area expanded to include 880 acres of State land along the Town's western boundary.

Importance of the 10-year plan

What is OV's Path Forward?

OV's Path Forward represents the community's action plan that will guide Town decisions. It will reflect the community's vision, goals, and policies for the next 10 years.

The plan has four defining features:

- **General.** The plan provides general policy guidance use for Town decision-making.
- **Comprehensive.** The plan covers a broad range of factors effecting the community.
- **Long-range.** The plan takes immediate concerns into consideration but focuses primarily on the future.
- **Integrated and Actionable.** The goals, policies, and actions are integrated and presented in a manner to achieve the community's vision for the future.

State law requires cities and towns with more than 50,000 residents to update their plan every 10 years. **OV's Path Forward must be adopted by November 2026.**

Did you know?

The following accomplishments stem from the community's input for the 2016 *Your Voice, Our Future* General Plan:

- The Parks and Recreation Master Plan and associated improvements to the Community Center and Naranja Park.
- The Town's Annexation Policy.
- Updates to the Town's Drainage Criteria Manual and Zoning Code.
- Ongoing work to maintain or improve daily operations to better serve residents.

Importance of the 10-Year Plan

The plan will be implemented over a 10-year time frame to make the community's vision a reality.

Community participation is critical to create a plan that stays relevant over the 10-year time frame.

Per State law, the Town publishes an annual report to update the community on our progress in fulfilling the promises made in the plan.

The *Your Voice, Our Future* General Plan has 310 actions to meet the policies, goals and vision set by the community in 2016.

Implementation of Your Voice, Our Future

Actions in this living document are prioritized through the Strategic Plan and implemented through department work plans, which guides staff and other resources.



Since 2016, 96% of the actions have been completed, maintained or are being actively worked on.



The 11 remaining items may be complete or evaluated by 2026. Any remaining items still relevant to the community's vision may be transferred to OV's Path Forward.

It is important that all residents and community stakeholders lend their voices to identify the goals, policies and actions to implement over the next 10 years.



Community Engagement

The first step in the process is adoption of a Community Engagement Plan. The Town's award-winning Community Engagement Plan was adopted by Town Council in March 2023.

The Community Engagement Plan details the methods and tools for involving all residents in the process. It is based off a Town-wide survey and was created by a diverse group of residents. The plan includes guiding principles, or must-dos for community engagement. This includes being:

- Inclusive and prioritizing community input
- Engaging and effective
- Organized, efficient, and timely
- Fair and open
- Understandable and accessible

The process to develop OV's Path Forward will be completed over a three-year period, culminating in a public vote to ratify the plan in 2026.

This a unique opportunity for residents and stakeholders to engage in establishing priorities that guide the future of their community.

Did you know?

- Oro Valley's 2016 planning process was an award-winning effort for best public outreach, marketing and community engagement.
- The Community Engagement Plan also won the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association's "Best Public Outreach" Award in 2023.

When people from all walks of life come together to discuss, share ideas, and collaboratively listen to one another, the Town gains a larger understanding of who it represents and how community members want to move forward.

The planned project phases are:

- **PHASE 1 (LET'S TALK).** Through open dialogue the Town's residents and stakeholders will establish priorities. The aim is to bring many voices together as one. The result will be a foundation of community values to develop the plan.
- **PHASE 2 (LET'S THINK).** A draft of the plan will begin to take shape with goals and policies for the elements identified during Phase 1.
- **PHASE 3 (DO IT! MAKE IT SO)** Adoption of the plan will occur through a formal public review process.





Who OV Is

This section explores the following topics:

- **History.** Information about all three major periods in Oro Valley's history.
- **People.** Demographic information identifying patterns in population, race and ethnicity, gender, age, education, income and select household information.

10 Year Trends and Conditions

 OV's current population is 48,226 and is projected to reach a maximum capacity of 55,850 people around 2040.

- Racial and ethnic minority groups substantially contributed to the Town's population growth between 2010-2020.
- New OV residents primarily moved from other areas in Pima County.

 OV residents are highly educated with 56% of ppl over 25 having a bachelors degree or higher.

 The median household income is \$92,548, which is one of the highest in the region yet similar to Marana (\$94,983).

Importance to OV's Future

- The next 10-year plan must include all State required elements for places with 50,000 or more people.
- Oro Valley will continue to become more diverse over the next 10 years.
- Retaining highly educated residents is important to attract and retain employers in OV.
- Higher incomes may result in more disposable money to spend within the Town.

Join the online conversation today at OVPathForward.com



10 Year Trends and Conditions

 The average age of OV residents is 55.4 years old. However, 42% of residents are between the ages of 25-64.

 There are 20,754 occupied households in Oro Valley. The average household size is 2.3 people per unit, compared to 2.4 in 2013.

- 20.6% of households have people under 18. This is 6% less than in 2013. 50.9% of households have people over 65. This is a 7% increase from 2013.
- 27% of households have one or more people with a disability. This is 6% higher than 2013.

Importance to OV's Future

- When combined with a decrease in the average people per household and households with minor children, this indicates that the Town has a slightly lower percentage of family households than was seen during the last General Plan update process.
- The number of people 65 and over living alone has increased 3% since 2013. An aging community may have heightened needs related to health, safety, and more.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [Who OV Is video](#)
- [U.S. Census Oro Valley Profile](#)
- [Arizona Economic Office of Economic Security \(population projections\)](#)
- [OV Historical Society](#)

Oro Valley History

History

It is important to know Oro Valley's history before planning the community's future. Key historic periods are shown below.

Pre-Historic

The Hohokam initially inhabited what is now Oro Valley. We do not know why the Hohokam left but petroglyphs and other remains still exist, giving insight into their lives. The Hohokam were avid farmers who built extensive irrigation systems, ball courts and pit-houses. They produced pottery either for their own use or trade. You can visit a large Hohokam site, known as Honeybee Village to learn more.



Pre-Historic

Settlement/Ranching



European Settlement / Ranching

European settlement and ranching emerged in the 1800s. There were several ranches in the area, including what is now known as Steam Pump Ranch. Steam Pump Ranch got its name back in the 1870's, when it was acquired by George Pusch and his friend and business partner, John Zellweger.

Steam Pump Ranch was the only watering hole between Tucson and towns in Pinal County. After George Pusch died, the ranch was purchased by Jack Procter. Jack Procter continued to use the ranch for agriculture but also built his residence on the property and had many well-known guests spend time there. This includes Francis Rooney, which the Rooney Ranch shopping center is named after and Hollywood stars. The ranch was inherited and run by Procter's sons until it was purchased by the Town in 2008. Steam Pump Ranch is now 15-acres and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

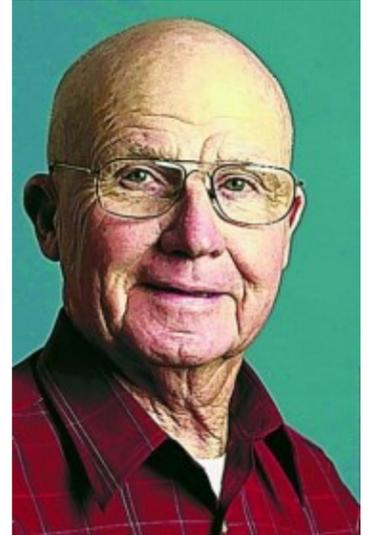


Incorporation

In 1970, the County Board of Supervisors rejected a petition signed by 78% of the residents living in the area seeking incorporation. James D. Kreigh, the Town's founder led this effort for several years, which ended with the Arizona Supreme Court ruling to allow Oro Valley to become a Town in 1974.

The Oro Valley Estates, Linda Vista Citrus Tracts, Campo Bellow, Shadow Mountain Estates and Suffolk Hills' area made up the original town limits which were less than 2.5 square miles.

Oro Valley's first town hall was a two-bedroom apartment with one of the bedrooms used as Council Chambers and the rest used as offices.



Incorporation

Oro Valley Today



Oro Valley Today

Since incorporation, 49 annexations have been approved to grow Oro Valley to what it is today.

The El Conquistador Resort, which opened in 1982 put Oro Valley on the map. Other notable annexations include La Canada between Lambert and Magee (1983), the north side of Town, known as Rancho Vistoso (1987), La Cholla Airpark (2003), Tohono Chul Park (2013) and more recently, Westward Look (2021).

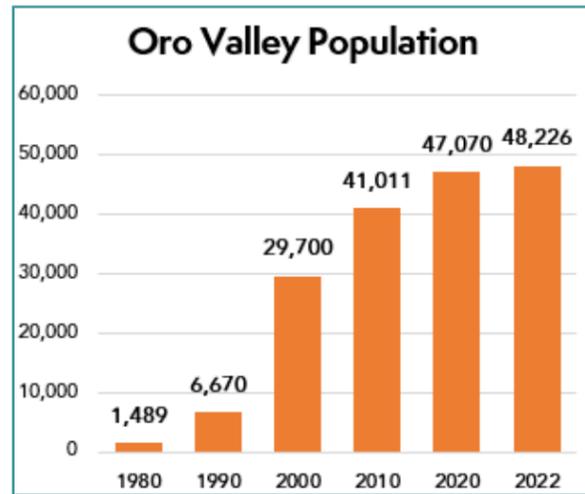
The General Plan is an important aspect of Oro Valley's history and future. The first General Plan was adopted in 1981. Several decisions and elements implemented in the Town are due to the community's vision, goals and policies established in a General Plan.

Population & Demographics



Population

In 2022, Oro Valley's population was 48,226. The Town's population increased 14.8% between 2010 and 2020. It is anticipated to reach 50,000 before 2026.



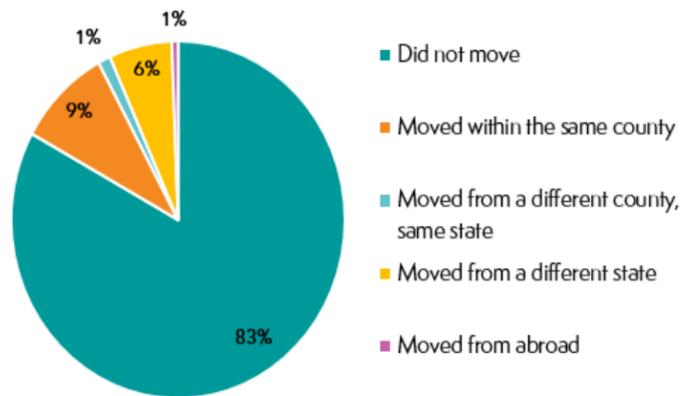
Gender Distribution



The Town has almost an equal distribution of males and females. In 2022, 48% of the population was female compared to 51% male.

Mobility

The majority (88%) of Oro Valley residents did not move here in 2021. Of those that moved to OV, most moved from other areas in the region (9%) or from out of state (6%). This was the same trend in 2013.



Race and Ethnicity

Oro Valley's population growth was driven mainly by increases in racial and ethnic minority groups.

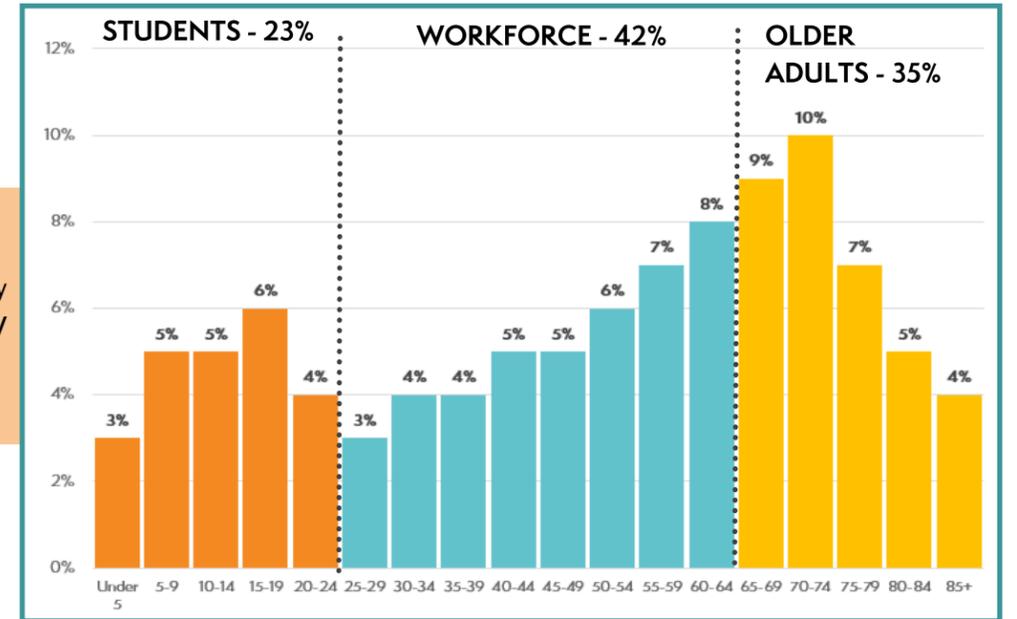
Race	2010	2020	% Change
White	36,825	37,448	2%
Black or African American	617	776	26%
American Indian and Alaska Native	179	228	27%
Asian	128	2,043	1496%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	54	57	6%
Some other race	1,070	1,456	36%
Two or more races	982	5,062	415%
Ethnicity	2010	2020	% Change
Hispanic or Latino	4,808	7,141	49%

Did you know?

- Assuming there are no annexations or rezonings, the Town is expected to hit maximum capacity around 2040 with 55,850 people.
- Approximately 1,069 homes are used seasonally. Based on this data, the Town estimates an additional 2,465 people live here for 6-9 months out of the year.
- Oro Valley's median household income is higher and outpacing both Pima County and the state of Arizona. Yet is similar to Marana.

Age Distribution

The median age in Oro Valley is 55.4. However, 42% of OV residents are between the ages of 25-64.



Households

There are 20,754 occupied households in Oro Valley. The average household size is 2.3, compared to 2.4 in 2013.



- 20.6% of households have people under 18. This is 6% less than in 2013.
- 50.9% of households have people over 65. This is a 7% increase from 2013.
- 61% of households are families.
- 26.2% of households are people living alone.
- 16% of these households have people over 65 living alone. **The number of 65 and over living alone has increased 3% since 2013.**
- 27% of households have one or more people with a disability. This is 6% higher than 2013.

Education

Educational attainment is a key factor employers use to understand a place's workforce.



56% of Oro Valley residents' 25 and over have bachelor's degree or higher.

Income and Poverty



Oro Valley has one of the highest median household incomes in the region. Marana is slightly higher at \$94,983. The median household income is \$92,548.



6.7% of OV residents are below the poverty status. Most of which are children under 18 years old. For more information about how the Census calculates poverty rates, please click [HERE](#).



Where OV Lives

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required 10-year plan elements:

- **Housing.** An inventory of existing housing units and future housing needs.

10 Year Trends and Conditions

 Most of Oro Valley's housing is single-family residential (73%). Only 13% of the housing stock is traditional apartment units, which have low vacancy rates.

 16.3% of owner-occupied homes and 39.8% of renter-occupied homes are cost burdened, meaning more than 30% of their income is spent on housing related costs.

- The housing affordability gap is the difference between the rents or housing values in a community and the ability of households to afford those rents or values. Oro Valley's housing affordability gap is 4,561 units, or 22% of total households.

Importance to OV's Future

- Low vacancy rates indicate a demand for rentals in Oro Valley. Targeting key areas for higher-density residential could help reduce Oro Valley's housing gaps.
- Housing options for current residents who want to stay in OV but are struggling to contend with the rising costs of other necessities is a need.

Join the online conversation today at OVPathForward.com



10 Year Trends and Conditions

 Essential service works, such as firefighters, police officers, and nurses, are likely priced out of the Oro Valley housing market.

- Lack of attainable housing options can contribute to decreased quality of life, increased employee turnover, and employee recruiting issues due to long commute times.
- 82.5% of Oro Valley's workforce drives into Town each day.

 The data shows new retail, restaurants, and activity oriented development will largely be dependent on higher-density, infill projects.

Importance to OV's Future

- Workforce housing is important for OV's economy to run efficiently and to ensure the needs of residents are being met.
- Having a high percentage of commuters increases traffic congestion on major roadways.
- Retail relies on people, income, and traffic to be successful. Locating higher-density residential near commercial areas is something the community may want to consider to support more retail development.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [Where OV Lives video](#)
- [2023 Oro Valley Housing Study](#)
- [2023 Housing Survey Analysis](#)

Housing Types & Occupancy

Housing Units and Types

Oro Valley has 23,303 housing units with 89% occupied on a year-round basis. Most (79.5%) of Oro Valley's housing stock was built between 1980 and 2010.

Since 2018, 98.2% of all residential permits have been for single family detached units. 26 multifamily units have been built over the past five years.



Oro Valley has a high percentage of single-family detached units (73%) compared to multifamily units (16%).



An estimated 13.7% of the housing stock is located within traditional apartment communities. **The average apartment vacancy rate is at or below 7%.**

An estimated 2,512 units are considered vacant or 12.1% of the total inventory, lower than the state but higher than Pima County.

Seasonal Housing

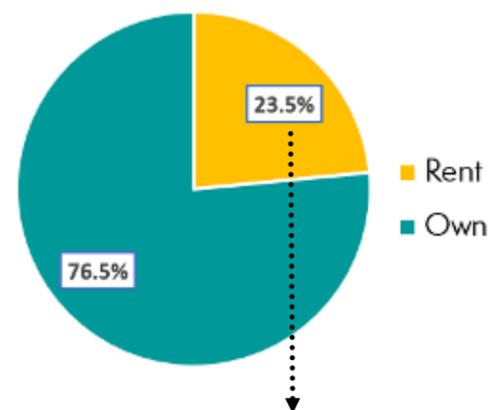
Approximately 39.5% of all vacant units in the town are only used seasonally. This is a much higher ratio than found in Pima County or the state. Oro Valley has roughly 1,069 seasonal units, or 4.6% of the total housing inventory. When occupied, seasonal units increase the Town's population by 2,645 people.

Short-term Rentals

Oro Valley has roughly 759 short-term rentals and an estimated 254 available year-round. This is roughly 1.1% of the total housing stock. During peak vacation season, there are roughly 300-400 listings available.

Occupancy

Homeownership has decreased by 7.7% in the past 20 years, yet remains high for the region at 76.5%.



Approximately 3,674 single-family homes are rented and 2,750 apartment-style units are available in town (includes condos).

Unlike the rest of the state, the household size of renter-occupied households in Oro Valley are slightly larger than owner-occupied households.

Household Characteristics



Although the number of family households has decreased in the past 10 years, there are still more family (61%) than non-family households.



Of the family households, 21% have children under 18 and 7% are single-parent households. Less than 1% of grandparents live with and are responsible for their grandchildren.



Housing Costs

The price of housing in Oro Valley, across all types of housing, has increased dramatically over the past five years.

57%

Single-family homes and townhome prices increased 57%. The average price of a single-family home is \$619,928. The average price of a townhome is \$355,656.

Manufactured homes increased the most by 62%. However, at \$185,131 this is the most affordable option in Oro Valley. Manufactured homes are only permitted in one zoning district in town.

Rent

Average apartment rent is \$1,466 a month. Slightly more than half (52%) of Oro Valley apartments are two-bedrooms. 37% are one-bedrooms and 10% are three-bedrooms. Only 24 units are studio apartments.

Housing Affordability

According to the U.S. Census, a household spending more than 30% of their income on housing is considered cost burdened.

- 2,563 owner households (16.3% of households) are cost burdened.
- 1,998 renter households (39.8% of households) are cost burdened.
- 20.3% of renter households pay more than 50% of their income on housing costs.

4,561

The housing affordability gap is the difference between the rents or housing values in a community and the ability of households to afford those rents or values. Oro Valley's housing affordability gap is 4,561 units, or 22% of total households.

Household incomes required to afford a new home in Oro Valley at stabilized interest rates (5%) start at \$104,600 for a \$500,000 home and increase to \$136,000 for a \$650,000 home.

The average rent requires a household income of \$58,000. Incomes required for various apartment sizes include:

- \$39,500 for a studio (\$990/month)
- \$50,400 for a 1-bedroom (\$1,259/month)
- \$60,600 for a 2-bedroom (\$1,516/month)
- \$73,400 for a 3-bedroom (\$1,834/month)



Did you know?

- Over half (60%) of the residents who took a housing survey felt housing costs were "personally concerning" and 26% of those who participated in a statistically valid phone survey found housing costs to be "very concerning."
- The median household income in Oro Valley is \$92,500. In 2022, less than 1% of homes were sold at a price that those making the median household income could afford.

Relationship to Business & Workforce

Complete Community

A complete community provides opportunities for people to live, work, and play. Housing, employment, and retail development are directly related to each other.

The labor force participation rate for Oro Valley in 2021 was well below the state average (48.5% versus 60.6%), reflective of the retirement population.

Lack of attainable housing options can contribute to decreased quality of life, increased employee turnover, and employee recruiting issues due to long commute times.

Oro Valley has a high number of commuters (82.5% of workers commute to Oro Valley each day). This increases traffic, especially on north/south arterials and also reduces the amount of money spent at local stores.



Workforce Housing

The monthly affordable housing cost for each occupation is provided below. This shows that no essential service provider is able to afford a home among the local housing stock in a single-income household. Additionally, the average Oro Valley apartment rent of \$1,466 is also out of reach for most occupations as a single-income household. Even as dual-income households, most would be cost burdened (more than 30% of their income towards housing costs) if purchasing a home.



Occupation	Pima County 2022 Median Wage	Monthly Affordable Housing Costs	Monthly Affordable Rent (Less Utilities)
Firefighters	\$40,181	\$1,005	\$905
Pharmacy Technicians	\$41,828	\$1,046	\$946
Elementary School Teachers	\$45,943	\$1,149	\$1,049
Secondary School Teachers	\$48,477	\$1,212	\$1,112
Paramedics	\$49,673	\$1,242	\$1,142
Police and Sheriff Patrol Officers	\$60,583	\$1,515	\$1,415
Licensed Practical Nurses	\$61,547	\$1,539	\$1,439
Registered Nurses	\$82,164	\$2,054	\$1,954

Relationship to Retail & Services

Retail Development

Primary factors for retail development is population (within a 3-mile radius), income, and traffic. Although Oro Valley meets the income threshold it often lacks the population and traffic volume needed to support new retail development.

Oro Valley has roughly 265 acres of commercially zoned remaining, which could support 1.7 million square feet of space. Without any annexations or rezonings, there are roughly 3,100 housing units remaining. The amount of vacant commercial land remaining is likely not supportable by the number of remaining housing units.

New retail development will largely be dependent on higher-density infill developments. This is illustrated in the comparison below.

Did you know?

- 43% of business owners who completed the Oro Valley's housing survey felt lack of affordable housing options or commute time (39%) impacts their ability to recruit and retain employees.
- On a per acre basis, the potential for new town revenues from residential development favors multi-family development. This is important because of the limited amount of developable, vacant land remaining in Oro Valley.



Type	Single-Family Residential
Land Area	12 acres
Density	5 units/acre
Total lots	57
Household Income	\$129,000

Adds \$1.6 million of retail spending annually

Supports 3,600 square feet of retail space



Type	Apartment
Land Area	12 acres
Density	22 units/acre
Total units	250
Household Income	\$74,800

Adds \$5.1 million of retail spending annually

Supports 11,700 square feet of retail space



Where OV Works

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required 10-year plan elements:

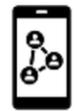
- **Economic Development.** Includes information about OV's employers, workforce and tourism.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



In the past 10 years, the need for distribution centers, supply chain businesses, rail or interstate-served sites increased regionally.

- Oro Valley has a significant challenge in recruiting these types of primary employers due to the lack of large vacant parcels (over 30 acres) and rail or interstate access.

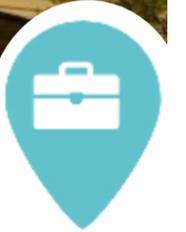


Increase in online sales and consumers using drive-thru or pick-up areas.

Importance to OV's Future

- The key to Oro Valley's economic development success will be to focus on creating new businesses or spin-off businesses in our key industries—bio-life and sciences; emerging tech; and aerospace and defense.
- The need to redevelop and reuse big box stores will continue to increase.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



Bed tax from group stays brings in revenue for the town. Expanding the number of events will result in additional room night stays and in turn, revenue for the Town.



Collaboration is crucial. Oro Valley can partner with neighboring towns, local businesses, and regional tourism boards to create enticing packages and promote cross-destination travel.

- OV's proximity to Tucson (2nd largest city in AZ) strengthens our tourism efforts. Visitors can easily access Tucson's attractions while staying in OV.

Importance to OV's Future

- Expanding the number of events will result in additional room night stays and in turn, revenue for the Town.
- Embracing nature and adventure, sustainability, culture, digital marketing & technology, infrastructure development, and collaboration, Oro Valley can position itself as a premier tourism destination.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [Where OV Works video](#)
- www.chooseorovalley.com
- [Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce](#)

Tourism

Nature lovers, athletes, self-care seekers and luxury travelers all come to Oro Valley to participate in events, enjoy the natural beauty or stay at a resort.

Experience/Personalized Tourism

Travelers looking for unique experiences tailored to their interests yet allows them to connect with local culture and nature instead of traditional sightseeing is anticipated to grow in popularity.



Opportunities for Oro Valley

Develop niche offerings that identify local and regional options for adventure, cultural, or wellness experiences that cater to diverse traveler needs and preferences.

Digitalization and Social Media

Online booking platforms, mobile apps, and virtual reality experiences have all played a big role in shaping the travel industry and will likely continue. Social media and the visual storytelling have become powerful tools in shaping travel trends and inspiring people to visit new destinations.



Oro Valley should invest in digital platforms, mobile apps, and smart tourism solutions to enhance the visitor experience, provide real-time information, and facilitate seamless travel planning.

Sustainable Tourism

Over the past decade, there has been a growing emphasis on sustainable tourism practices such as responsible hiking or reducing plastic waste.



Focus on promoting eco-friendly attractions, and supporting local businesses with sustainable practices.

Sports/Family Traveling

A rise in youth-related sport tournaments, where travelers combine vacationing with tournaments in local communities, has been observed and became very prevalent in recent years.



As families continue to travel together, Oro Valley should ensure it offers activities and attractions suitable for travelers of all ages, catering to the preferences and needs of multi-generational families.



Did you know?

- Much of Oro Valley's generated room night stays is dependent on resort conference events.
- Bed tax from group stays brings revenue to Oro Valley.



Traveler Trends

- Early retirees have become more active and willing to travel. In coming years, younger generations, particularly Gen Z and Millennials, will represent a significant portion of travelers.
- Tourism destinations that prioritize accessibility for travelers with disabilities and promote inclusivity are likely to attract a broader range of visitors. Oro Valley has a great opportunity to aim for an inclusive tourism offering, making it accessible to all.
- Keeping an eye on how global events, such as pandemics or geopolitical shifts, can influence tourism behavior continues to be important. Flexibility and adaptability in responding to unexpected circumstances will be essential for Oro Valley's tourism sector.

The following destinations, events, and opportunities are just a few of the attractions that bring tourists to Oro Valley each year:

- Tohono Chul Park and OV's natural beauty including Catalina State Park, Honeybee Canyon, and the Tortolita Mountains
- Cultural and heritage sites
- Private and public art
- Outdoor recreation and events such as the OV Triathlon, golfing, tennis, cycling, and pickleball
- Wellness and relaxation at the 2 resorts in OV

Art in Oro Valley

The 1% for Public Art program began in Oro Valley in 1999 and has since grown to include 210 pieces. All private property owners developing non-residential buildings must contribute to the Town's art program. Additionally, art is provided along roadways, drainage areas, parks and other public spaces.

Click [HERE](#) to take a virtual tour of the art pieces in Oro Valley.



The Town recently created an art maintenance plan, which prioritizes needs for all Town-owned art pieces. Funds to repair top priority pieces was approved for the FY 2023-2024 budget.



Business and Workforce



Economic Development

Economic Expansion Zone (EEZ)

EEZ was adopted by Town Council in 2008. It includes the Innovation Park area and all Tech-Park zoned properties. It allows projects developing under their existing zoning entitlements an expedited review process.

Business Recruitment, Retention and Expansion

Oro Valley's Business Recruitment, Retention and Expansion program includes one-on-one visits, local, state and federal incentives.

200 Oro Valley staff, the OV Chamber of Commerce, and elected officials have a goal to visit 200 businesses a year.



The Primary Employer Incentive Program facilitates long-term community financial sustainability in Oro Valley through the generation of new primary job opportunities and capital investment in the Town.

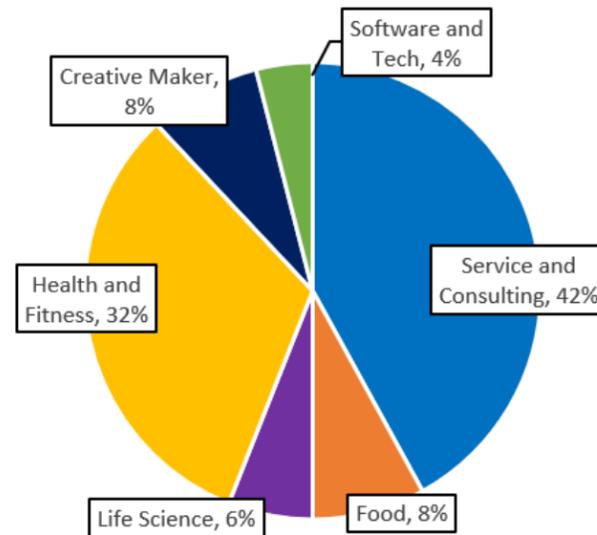
A primary employer refers to industries that produce more goods and services than can be consumed by the local economy, and therefore export a significant portion of them. Oro Valley's primary employment clusters include:

- Bio-life and sciences
- Emerging Tech
- Aerospace and defense

Recruiting new primary employers will be challenging due to the limited amount of land the Town has available. Specifically, large parcels over 30 acres in size with rail or interstate access.

Start-ups

In partnership with Startup Tucson, Oro Valley offers a hands-on class designed to give current and aspiring entrepreneurs the opportunity to create and incubate a business idea. The percentage of start-ups by sector in Oro Valley is shown below.



Industry Trends

Over the next 10 years, industries focused on technology, which are sometimes water dependent, are expected to grow throughout the state. This includes

- Electronic vehicle manufacturing
- Artificial intelligence
- Robotics
- Chip manufacturing and data storage
- Innovations in fiber optics, cellular tech
- Reshoring and supply chain security
- Rare earth metal extraction

Water dependent businesses are considered when discussing the Town's assured water supply.

Major Employers

The chart below shows Oro Valley's major employers.

Company/Employer	Employees
Roche Tissue Diagnostics	1,800
Oro Valley Hospital	500
Simpleview	470
Town of Oro Valley	449
Amphitheater Public Schools in OV	439
Walmart (2 locations)	338
El Conquistador Tucson	294
Splendido	200
Fry's Food and Drug (2 locations)	182
Casa de la Luz Hospice	155
Meggitt Securaplane Technologies	130
Total	4,957

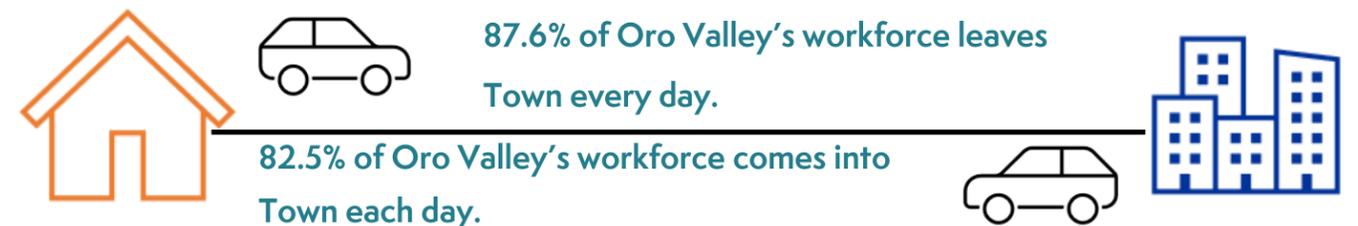
Workforce

More than half of Oro Valley residents over 16 years old are not in the workforce. Of the 48% of people that are in the workforce, 3.6% were unemployed. Most civilian and employed residents work in the private sector (65%). The top five industries OV residents work in are:

1. Education, health care and social services
2. Professional, scientific, management or administrative
3. Retail
4. Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation or food services
5. Finance, insurance, real estate, rentals and leasing

Workforce Trends

Tech-related manufacturing and product development will increase demands on employees to possess STEM-related skills. Certifications for specific skills rather than 4-year degrees are also likely to become more popular in efforts to keep up with changing technology.



Did you know?

- Without large parcels remaining or direct access to rail or the interstate, Oro Valley's economic development success will need to focus on creating new businesses or spin-off businesses in key industries such as, bio-life and sciences; emerging tech; and aerospace and defense.
- Housing accessibility/affordability and transportation options will be large factors in determining how successful service businesses will be.



Where OV Plays

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required 10-year plan elements:

- **Recreation.** Describes a comprehensive park and recreation system for current and future residents.
- **Trails.** Focuses on connectivity and maintaining a dynamic trail system to support all users.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



In 2021, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed. This included significant outreach to provide a roadmap for our future.



Activities that appeal to a wide range of people and offer a low cost for entry, such as pickleball will continue to grow in popularity.

- Youth sport clubs will continue to grow as more focus on preparing athletes for collegiate and professional level intensifies.
- Focus on wellness for older adults was a key trend over the past 10 years.

Importance to OV's Future

- The 10-year plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan should complement each other.
- Exploring options to accommodate an increased demand for sports facilities will be critical.
- Providing accessible programs and activities for older adults will continue to be a need in

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



Due to the year-round climate of Oro Valley and its proximity to state parks, outdoor recreation will remain popular.

- Oro Valley has a dynamic trail system for hikers, bikers, inline skaters, runners, equestrians, and other users.



Building improvements at Steam Pump Ranch property were completed to uphold the Town's commitment to honor its history.

- The aged irrigation system at the Town's El Conquistador 36-hole golf course was fully replaced to reduce water consumption and improve system efficiency.

Importance to OV's Future

- A Trails Master Plan is underway to complement the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The 10-year plan should incorporate both documents.
- Oro Valley will need to focus on renovation and redevelopment of older infrastructure using the 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan document as a guideline

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [Where OV Plays video](#)
- [Parks and Recreation Master Plan](#)
- [Interactive Trails Map](#)
- [Park facilities, programs and events](#)



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

In 2021, Oro Valley completed the Park and Recreation Master Plan. The plan was based off a comprehensive needs assessment, which included a town-wide survey.



The Master Plan provides guidance for future needs and improvements. Alignment between the Master Plan and General Plan is important.

Significant trends supported in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan include:

- Rise in popularity of pickleball and alternative outdoor aquatic elements such as splash pads.
- Increase in youth club sports.
- Focus on wellness with the senior population through free programs provided by the federal government and private insurance providers.

OV Parks and Recreation Mission: Inspire Connection Through Recreation



Improvements

Based on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, some improvements have been completed or are underway. This includes:

- Free membership access to the Community Center was increased by 50% through agreements with multiple senior fitness agencies.
- Online access to programs and activities was enhanced to provide better customer service to the community.
- A \$25 million dollar bond was approved allowing investment in the parks infrastructure including significant expansion of Naranja Park. Expansion includes lighted fields, a splash pad and pickleball courts.
- The aged irrigation system at the Town's El Conquistador 36-hole golf course was replaced to reduce water consumption and improve system efficiency.
- Improvements to facility and equipment at the Community & Recreation Center and Aquatic Center.
- Building improvements were completed at Steam Pump Ranch property to uphold the Town's commitment to honor its history.

Facilities

Public Facilities

Oro Valley owns and maintains several parks and recreation facilities available to the public.



Regional & Community Parks



Aquatic Center



James D. Kreigh Park

- Baseball & softball
- Ramadas, grills & picnic tables
- Restrooms
- Shaded playground
- Volleyball
- Off-leash dog park
- Metal detecting
- Racquetball courts
- Concessions & drinking fountains



Naranja Park

- Archery range
- Multi-use fields
- Metal detecting
- Off-leash dog parks
- Ramadas
- Restrooms
- Pickleball courts
- Splashpad
- Skate/bike park
- Remote controlled air park
- Drinking fountains



Riverfront Park

- Basketball court
- Metal detecting
- Horseshoe pit
- Ramadas
- Restrooms
- Tennis & Pickleball
- Shaded playground
- Soccer & softball
- Volleyball
- Performance stage
- Walking path
- Concessions & drinking fountains



OV Aquatic Center

- 601 members
- Olympic-sized competition pool
- 25-yard recreational pool
- Giant water slide
- Splash pad
- Restrooms
- Shaded bleachers
- Timing system, touch pads & scoreboard
- Classroom for parties & meetings

💡 Did you know?

In addition to the Town-owned facilities, there are also roughly 53 private parks maintained by HOAs.



Programs and Events

Annually, Oro Valley runs 115 programs for all ages and abilities. The Town also hosts 54 events with roughly 35,000 attendees every year.



Hiking Areas

Historic & Cultural Resources



Special Use Facilities



- West Lambert Lane
- Greenock Park
- Tho'ag Park
- Vistoso Preserve
- Honey Bee Canyon Park
- 54.5 miles of dirt trails



Steam Pump Ranch

- Historic buildings
 - Events and tours
- Honey Bee Village Archaeological Preserve**
- Historic sites
 - Walking path



El Con. Golf & Tennis

- Tennis courts
- 9-hole golf course
- Seasonal disc golf
- Tennis & golf pro shops
- Restrooms



Community Center

- 3,200 members with an average of 400 visits per day
- Tennis & pickleball
- Golf courses
- Racquetball court
- Swimming pool
- Half-court basketball
- Weight & exercise rooms
- Cardio equipment
- Fitness classes
- Locker rooms & child watch room
- Overlook restaurant

💡 Did you know?

- Oro Valley has a dynamic trail system for hikers, bikers, inline skaters, runners, equestrians, and other users. It is comprised of several types of surfaces including paved paths (shared use paths), "smooth" trails, and more "primitive" trails.
- Oro Valley is part of the Chuck Huckelberry Loop, which extends through unincorporated Pima County, OV, Marana, Tucson, and South Tucson.



How OV Stays Safe

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following required 10-year plan elements:

- **Public Safety.** Describes how the Town will meet and maintain fire, police, and emergency medical services needs as the Town evolves and grows.
- **Disaster Preparedness.** Protection of the community from natural and artificial hazards, including fire and flooding.

10 Year Trends and Conditions

-  On average, OV's Police Department meets all of its response time goals.
-  Theft is changing. Stolen packages increased significantly as more people shop online. Catalytic converter thefts from vehicles was also another theft
 - Fentanyl appears to be affecting more people every day, which leads to overdoses, and associated crimes like theft, burglary and assaults.
-  Artificial Intelligence (AI) will increasingly be used for online scams and fraud.

Importance to OV's Future

- Maintaining a well-trained police force is critical to staying one of the safest cities in AZ.
- Ongoing training in dealing with mental health crisis is important for officer and public safety.
- Community awareness and workplace training will continue to be important to avoid online scams.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions

-  Call volume for fire and emergency services is projected to increase roughly 15% in the next three years.
 - Population growth will add to the traffic call volume and can potentially effect response times.
-  Oro Valley has unique desert hydrologic conditions such as flash floods and sediment transport.
 - Oro Valley has public and private drainage facilities. The significant washes in the Town are maintained by Pima County.

Importance to OV's Future

- Strategies to adapt to an increased amount of calls is needed.
- Keeping a proactive approach to prepare for potential flooding events must be maintained.
- Awareness, education and maintenance of drainage facilities, both public and privately owned is necessary to avoid potential disasters.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

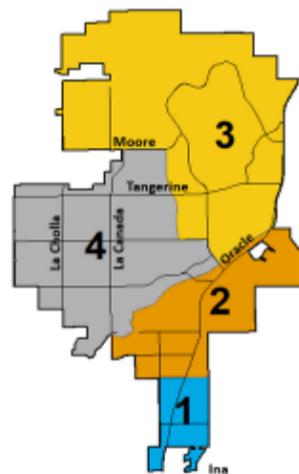
- [How OV Stays Safe video](#)
- [Police Beat Map](#)
- [Golder Ranch Fire District Interactive Map](#)
- [Oro Valley's Stormwater Utility Resources and Information](#)

Police

Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD)

The OV police department has 106 sworn officers and 70 civilian volunteers.

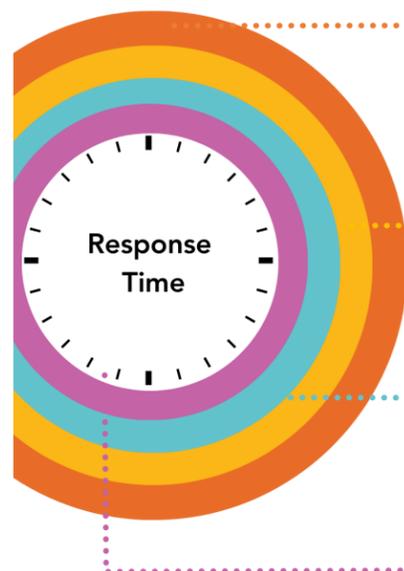
The Town is divided into 4 police beats to determine workload and crime statistics. The size and boundary of each beat is determined by the historical data of calls for service and geographic factors.



One or more patrol officers may be assigned to each beat at any time of the day. Each assigned patrol officer is responsible for calls for service and community-related activities in that beat.

Did you know?

- Oro Valley was ranked #2 as "Safest Places to Live in Arizona in 2022".
- OVPD participated in the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police law enforcement accreditation process. OVPD was found to be in compliance in excess of 170 best practice standards in policing.
- Widespread deployment of body cameras has increased both officer safety and community transparency.
- Training in dealing with mental health crisis has made interactions with people in crisis have safer outcomes for all involved.



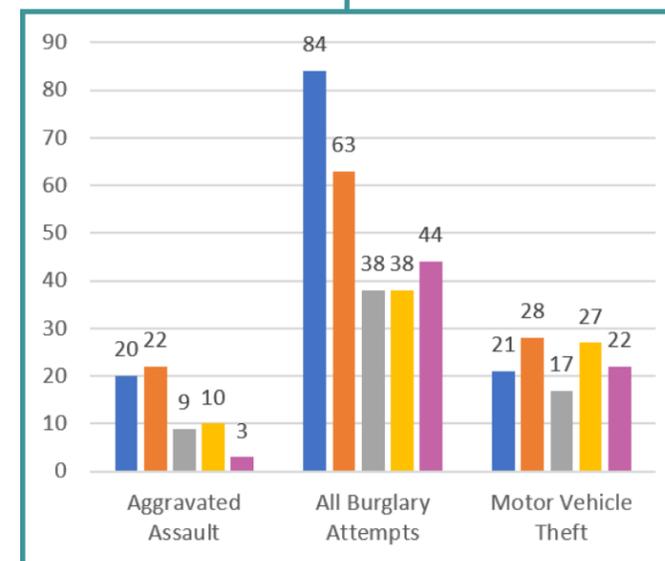
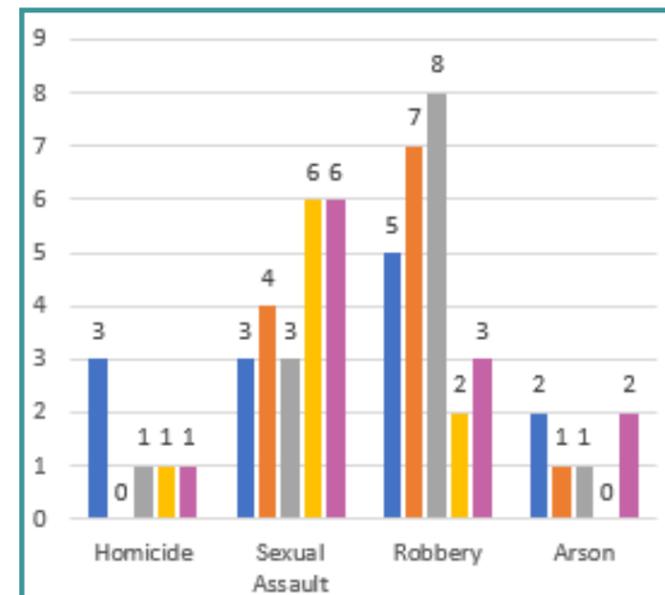
Priority	Description	Goal	Average
Priority 1 (Emergency)	Serious threats to life where injury has occurred or is imminent. Immediate response by a field unit is critical.	Under 5 min.	4:01
Priority 2 (Critical)	Incidents posing a danger to life or have high potential for a threat to life to develop or escalate. A quick response by a field unit may significantly affect the outcome of the call.	Under 8 min.	4:40
Priority 3 (General)	Other crimes or matters requiring a police response. A small delay will not significantly affect the outcome of the incident.	Under 15 min.	6:37
Priority 4 (Routine)	Routine calls for service or matters requiring a police response but a delay will not significantly affect the outcome of the incident.	Under 30 min.	6:29



Crime Trends

Part I crimes are more serious in nature and defined by the FBI. The graphs below include the crime trends over the past 3 years and in comparison to the last General Plan effort (2013 and 2016).

Legend	2013	2016	2020	2021	2022
Larceny	608	555	500	555	499



Traffic Incidents

The top 10 intersections with the most traffic incidents in 2022 are shown below.

Intersection	2022 Incidents
Oracle and Magee	43
Oracle and 1 st	24
Tangerine & 1st/Rancho Vistoso	24
Oracle and Pusch View Lane	21
Oracle & Suffolk	21
Oracle and Hardy	20
Oracle and El Conquistador	18
La Canada and Lambert	16
Oracle & Water Harvest	15
Oracle and Calle Concordia	14
Tangerine and La Canada	14
Oracle & La Reserve	14

Crime Trends

The types of thefts have changed. For example:

- Stolen packages increased significantly as more people shop online.
- Catalytic converter thefts from vehicles was also another theft trend observed.

Anticipated trends facing the community over the next 10 years include:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly being used in online scams and fraud.
- Fentanyl appears to be affecting more people every day, which leads to overdoses, and associated crimes like theft, burglary and assaults.

Fire

Golder Ranch Fire District (GRFD)

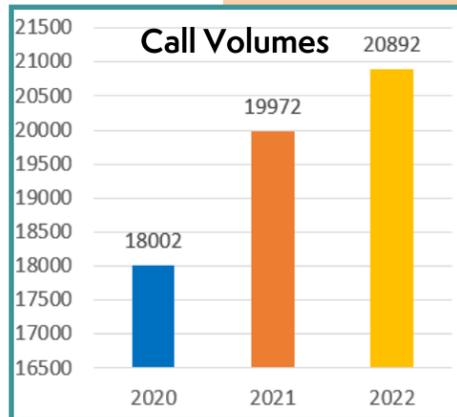
Oro Valley fire services are primarily provided by the Golder Ranch Fire District (GRFD). GRFD serves 100,059 residents (48,609 housing units) in Catalina, Oro Valley, Saddlebrook, SaddleBrooke Ranch.

They provide service to 238 sq. miles with an ambulance service area of 403 sq. miles. There are 5 fire stations within Oro Valley.

The fire district has 2 ladder trucks, 9 fire engines or pumpers, and 7 ambulances. There are 299 employees, including 245 first responders.

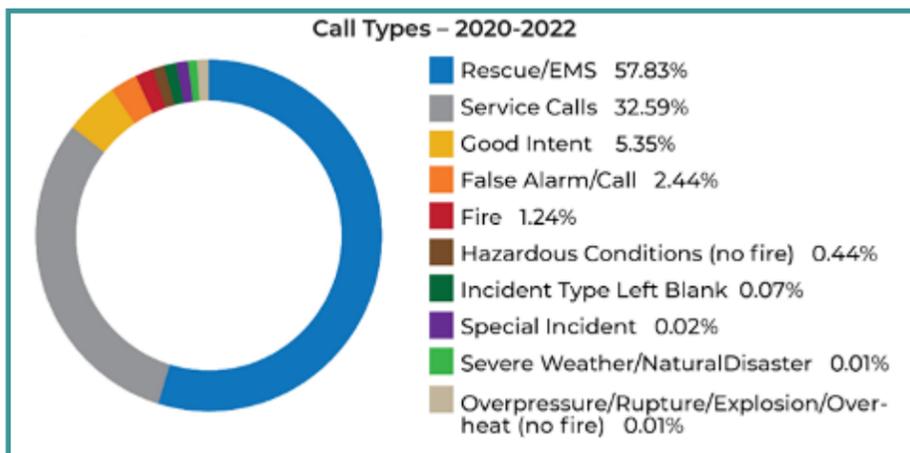
Response Times

Service Type	1st Unit Arrival Goal*	1st Unit Arrival Performance*
Fire Calls	Urban: 9 min Rural: 11 min	Urban: 11m 54s Rural: 16m 18s
Emergency Medical Services	Urban: 8 min 30 sec. Rural: 10 min. 30 sec	Urban: 10m 6s Rural: 13m 30s
Auto Accidents		Urban: 10 min Rural: 10m 36s
Hazardous Materials		Urban: 12m 24s Rural: 13m 48s
Technical Rescue		Urban: 17m 36s Rural: 13m 24s
Goals and performance to be in the 90th Percentile.		



Call volume is increasing at a significant rate. Using the current annual call volume growth statistic of 4.8%, call volume is projected to increase slightly over 15% increase in the next three years. Without strategies to adapt, this will have a detrimental effect on response times.

- The district anticipates population growth rates will continue in an upward trend of roughly 2% per year. This will add to the call volume and potentially effect response times.
- Traffic accident calls for service have increased 10% annually (on average) over the last three years. Increases in population correspond to an increase in traffic. This traffic increase correlates to an increased number of motor vehicle accidents to which the Golder Ranch Fire District responds.



Call type classifications are based on the National Fire Incident Reporting System

Year	Vehicle Accident Calls
2020	400
2021	450
2022	470



Community Resource Programs

The Oro Valley Police Department and Golder Ranch Fire District offer a variety of programs and resources to the community. Click on each below for more information.

OV Police Department

- [Active Shooter Response Class](#)
- [Adopt a Business](#)
- [Neighborhood Watch Program](#)
- [Citizens Academy](#)
- [Citizen Volunteer Assistances Program \(CVAP\)](#)
- [Dispose-A-Med \(DAM\)](#)
- [Dark House](#)
- [OV Safe Return Program](#)
- [Public Safety Cadet Program](#)



Golder Ranch Fire District

- [Car Seat Safety](#)
- [CPR Courses](#)
- [Daycare and/or Classroom Visits](#)
- [Fire Extinguisher Training](#)
- [Fire Safety/Prevention](#)
- [Home Safety Assessment](#)
- [Mini Muster](#)
- [Residential Lock Box](#)
- [Senior Groups](#)
- [School Programs](#)



Stormwater Management

Topography

Oro Valley's topography is made up of low lying desert foothills, arroyos, and rugged canyons. The mountains feature rugged peaks, gullies, canyons, and alluvial fans with rocky soils.



- The Santa Catalina Mountains in the Coronado National Forest are Oro Valley's most prominent range with the highest point at Mt. Lemmon at 9,157 feet.
- Pusch Ridge is another prominent peak with an elevation at 5,366 ft and the Pusch Ridge Wilderness Area.

The Cañada del Oro riverbed bisects the Town.

- The eastern banks of the Cañada del Oro rise dramatically to the Santa Catalina Mountains.
- The western banks of the Cañada del Oro rise more gradually to a plateau and the foothills of the Tortolita Mountains further north. The flattest area is in the valley adjacent to the Cañada Del Oro Wash.

Geology

There are three geological formations within the Town boundaries:

1 Intrusive and Metamorphic Rock. Bedrock formations are composed of intrusive granite rock.

2 Alluvial deposits, undifferentiated. The alluvial deposits compose the largest geo-form within the Town. Alluvial deposits are typically characterized by accumulations of boulders, gravel and coarse sand deposited by widespread sheet flow and/or ephemeral streams.

3 Stream and floodplain alluvial deposits. This category is characterized by stream channel deposits composed primarily of gravel and gravelly sand mixed with silt.

Soils

Soil supports plants, filters water, and sustains vital chemical reactions and organisms. Knowledge of soils in the community is central to preventing erosion. It is important for soils to be considered when determining the suitability or limitations for roads, natural areas, and development.

The main source of soil in Oro Valley is deposition from the surrounding mountains. Soil formation is a function of time and climate.

The majority of the deposits are sand and gravel, which are permeable, or allow liquid or gas to pass through it. In general, most soils have moderate to rapid permeability. Permeability decreases the closer one gets to the Santa Catalina and Tortolita Mountains. In those areas the soils are very shallow, less than 35-feet to bedrock.

Annual Precipitation

The average annual precipitation for the area is 14.67 inches based upon data from NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service.

- Approximately half of the annual precipitation falls during the summer and is normally most intense in the late afternoon or early evening.
- The remaining precipitation occurs during the winter and is caused by storms from the Pacific Ocean that move through Arizona. The precipitation associated with these disturbances usually falls in gently, widespread rain showers that may continue intermittently for several days.



Did you know?

- 100-year storm event is a term used to describe the recurrence interval of floods. This means that a flood of this magnitude has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.



Stormwater Management

Oro Valley manages the quality of stormwater to help ensure all surface water is free from pollutants. Pollutants include:

- The amounts or combinations that settle to form bottom deposits that inhibit or prohibit the habitation, growth, propagation of aquatic life, or impair recreation uses.
- Ones that cause objectionable odor in the area where surface water is located,
- Are toxic to humans, animals, plants, or other organisms.
- Those that change the color of the surface water from the natural background levels of color.

Stormwater management is mandated and regulated by:

- Federal Clean Water Act
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Regulations
- Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) General Permit
- Arizona Construction General Permit

The regulations require "owners/operators of construction activities, new or redeveloped land, and industrial and commercial facilities to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) through the installation, implementation, and maintenance of stormwater control measures."

The Town enforces these rules by reviewing development and construction plans for compliance with Federal and State regulations and by conducting regular site inspections during and after construction.

In September 2021, a new MS4 general permit and Storm Management plan was implemented.

Flooding

Oro Valley has unique desert hydrologic and topographic conditions such as flash floods and sediment transport. The town is proactive in managing publicly maintained washes and addressing potential flood issues in and around neighborhoods with homeowner association (HOA) responsibility for natural wash and drainage infrastructure maintenance. Some ways the town prepares for flooding are listed below.



Regulates floodplains with 100-year storm events with peak flows of 100 cfs and greater.



Participates in Pima County Flood Control District's Alert System Precipitation and Streamflow Data, for monitoring larger storm events.



Coordinates with various response teams, first responders and other regional partners.



Offers a Monsoon Preparedness Guide on the Town website. The guide links to monsoon awareness information from a variety of sources.



Offers OV residents free sandbag pick-up location(s).



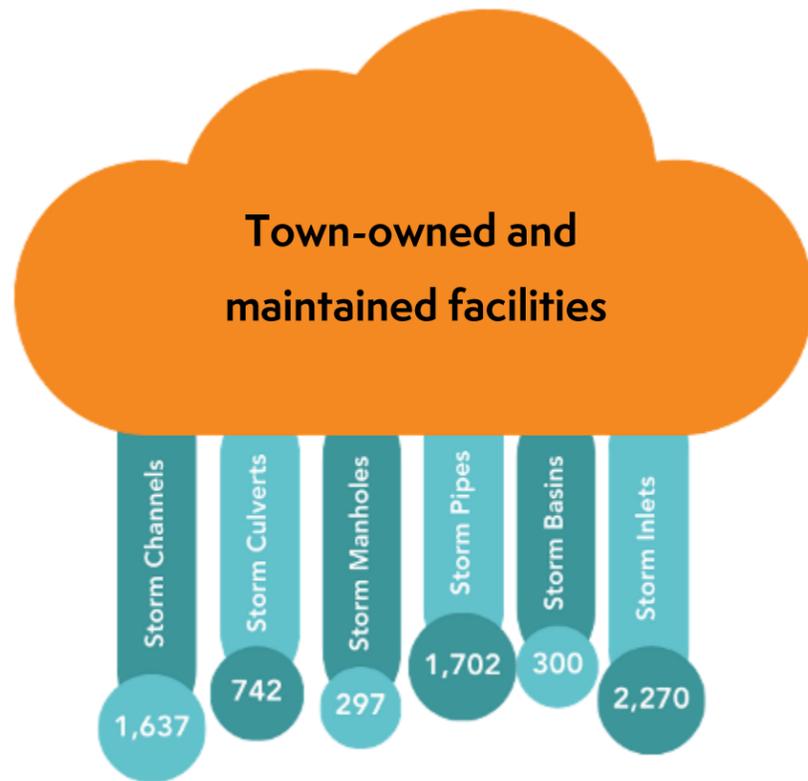
Did you know?

- Peak flow is the maximum rate of discharge during the period of run-off caused by a storm.
- 100 cfs = 100 cubic feet per second
- The Floodplain Inquiry Map on the Town website shows delineated regulatory floodplains within the Town limits.
- An official flood zone determination for flood insurance purposes can be provided by submitting a request online at www.ovalleyaz.gov.

Drainage Facilities

Drainage Facilities

Oro Valley has public and private drainage facilities. The significant washes in the Town are maintained by Pima County. This includes Big Wash and Cañada Del Oro Wash, and some smaller tributaries.



Did you know?

- Oro Valley offers HOA's explanation regarding the requirements for inspecting private assets, identifying who is responsible for maintenance and/or repairs, and providing general guidance for improvements.
- Existing recorded drainage studies and/or floodplain maps can be made available by a public records request through the Town Clerk's Office.

Current drainage facility improvements:

- Sierra Wash erosion mitigation at Naranja Drive.
Construction of a reinforced concrete drop structure and gabion mattress at the outlet of the existing concrete box culvert to mitigate undermining due to erosion.
- Unnamed wash west of N Avenida Vallejo, channel access and erosion mitigation.
Construction of new channel maintenance ramp in addition to repair and reconstruction of damaged/eroded segments of channel bottom.

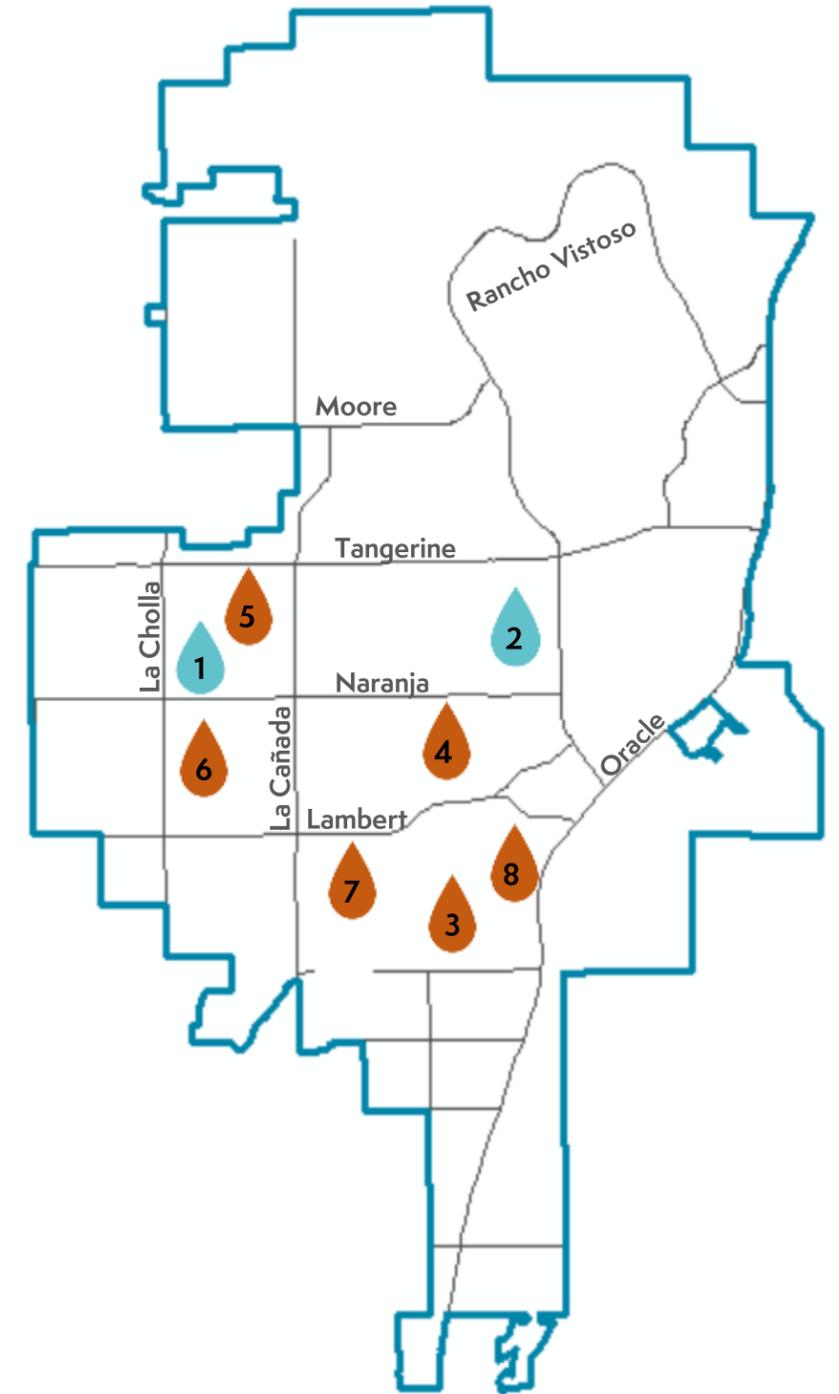
Future drainage facility improvements:

- Unnamed Wash upstream and downstream of Oro Valley Drive, channel access and sediment mitigation.
Construction of a new sediment basin and retention/detention basin.
- Highland Wash channel mitigation.
Construction of a new sediment/retention/detention basin and reconstruction of the concrete trapezoidal channel through the Highlands Mobile Home Park.



Future drainage facility improvements continued:

- Sierra Wash erosion mitigation at Via Mandarin.
Construction of reinforced concrete drop structure and gabion mattress at the outlet of the existing concrete box culvert to mitigate undermining due to erosion.
- Sierra Wash erosion mitigation at Glover Road.
Construction of reinforced concrete drop structure and gabion mattress at the outlet of the existing concrete box culvert to mitigate undermining due to erosion.
- Gravel Pit Wash channel repair, downstream (south) of W Lambert Lane.
Repair and reconstruction of damaged/eroded segments of the concrete channel side lining.
- Mutter Wash channel mitigation, upstream (south) of E Greenock Drive.
Construction of a new masonry wall and culvert headwall improvements.



The map is for illustrative purposes only and does not show the exact locations of the improvements.



How OV Conserves

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following required 10-year plan elements:

- **Environment, Open Space and Conservation.** Aims to protect and improve the Town’s environmental health. These elements focus on conserving wildlife habitats in balance with development intensity.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) was adopted in 2011. On average, a subdivision development subject to ESL will conserve roughly 37% more meaningful open space than those not subject to ESL.

- Connecting open space areas to create corridors is also critical for wildlife movement. ESL also provides more connected open space.



Protecting Saguaros has always been a core value in OV. In 2022, the Arizona Planning Association recognized Oro Valley’s groundbreaking standards to protect heritage saguaros.

Importance to OV’s Future

- ESL stems from several General Plans’ policies. Community participation is necessary to determine the policies in the next 10-year plan.
- Environmental resources must be mapped and considered with every annexation to ensure connectivity and habitat preservation.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



According to federal, state, and local scientific experts, habitat conservation is the primary tool for wildlife protection.

- Rock outcrops, or piles of large boulders, provide protection for wildlife, especially reptiles. Outcrops and boulders are also a significant scenic resource.



Oracle and Tangerine roads are both scenic corridors. Building heights are restricted and additional landscaping is required to maintain views of the mountains.

Importance to OV’s Future

- Maintain and explore best practices to conserve existing habitats and wildlife corridors.
- Examining the balance between open space, views, and development is an important aspect of the 10-

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [How OV Conserves video](#)
- [Environmentally Sensitive Lands Map](#)
- [Scenic Corridors Map](#)

Comprehensive Planning



Wildlife Protection

The Sonoran Desert is rich in natural resources including animal habitats, wash and river corridors, native plants, hillsides, cultural resources and scenic vistas.

According to federal, state, and local scientific experts, habitat conservation is the primary tool for wildlife protection. Scientific studies and assessments, such as the Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP). The SDCP provides policy for protecting the diverse needs of several species (e.g. pygmy owl, bats, and birds). Policies include the Pima County Conservation Lands System, which is an amalgamation of multiple species' needs. It established best practices for habitat conservation, which include:

- **Comprehensive planning** - Focusing on the needs of a broad range of species rather than a specific animal.
- **Connectivity** - Connecting open space areas to create corridors for wildlife movement.
- **Balance between open space and development** – Understanding the habitat type (e.g. riparian area) and percentage of open space needed to support wildlife in balance with development.

In line with these best practices and using the SDCP as a model, the Town adopted the Environmentally Sensitive Land requirements, often referred to as ESL.

Prior to ESL, washes and steeply sloped areas were conserved. However, open space requirements were exceedingly low and not based on habitat conservation principles.

Comprehensive Planning

In 2009 the Town hired Recon, a consultant group consisting of biologists and habitat specialists (also involved with the development of the SDCP), to map Oro Valley's environmental resources and help translate the SDCP policies into zoning requirements for more consistent and enforceable application.

After two years of intensive work by stakeholders, including an ESL Public Advisory Committee, the Environmentally Sensitive Lands ordinance was adopted in 2011.

For compliance with State law, ESL only applies to private property owners seeking new zoning rights through rezoning applications. For developers who are not required to comply with ESL, there is a system of incentives to entice users to "opt in" to ESL. Encouraging applicants to "opt-in" results in a higher level of resource conservation.

All new developments, with or without ESL, must conserve 95% of riparian (washes) areas. According to the Arizona's Riparian Areas, an extension of the University of Arizona, *riparian areas are considered the most productive habitats in northern America. Seventy percent of the threatened and endangered vertebrates in Arizona depend on riparian areas.* Steeply sloped areas must also be conserved in compliance with the Hillside Development Zone.

ESL provides conservation categories that enable a comprehensive and unified approach to protecting wildlife habitats and corridors. These conservation categories are mapped town-wide and include:

- **Major Wildlife Linkages (100% conservation)** – Large mammal movement corridors.
- **Critical Resource Areas (95% conservation)** – Riparian/wash corridors and major rock outcrops/boulders
- **Core Resource Areas (80% conservation)** – Habitat supporting five or more priority vulnerable species or distinctive plant stands.
- **Resource Management Areas (0-66% conservation)** – Habitat supporting three or more priority vulnerable species. Amount of open space is dependent on the land use intensity.

Impact of ESL

The purpose of ESL is to conserve the Sonoran Desert and heritage, preserve land values, implement community planning and design expectations, protect lives and property, and utilize an equitable regulatory approach.

Since the adoption of ESL more comprehensive protection of resources, including permanent open space preservation and better habitat connectivity, has occurred than would have previously.

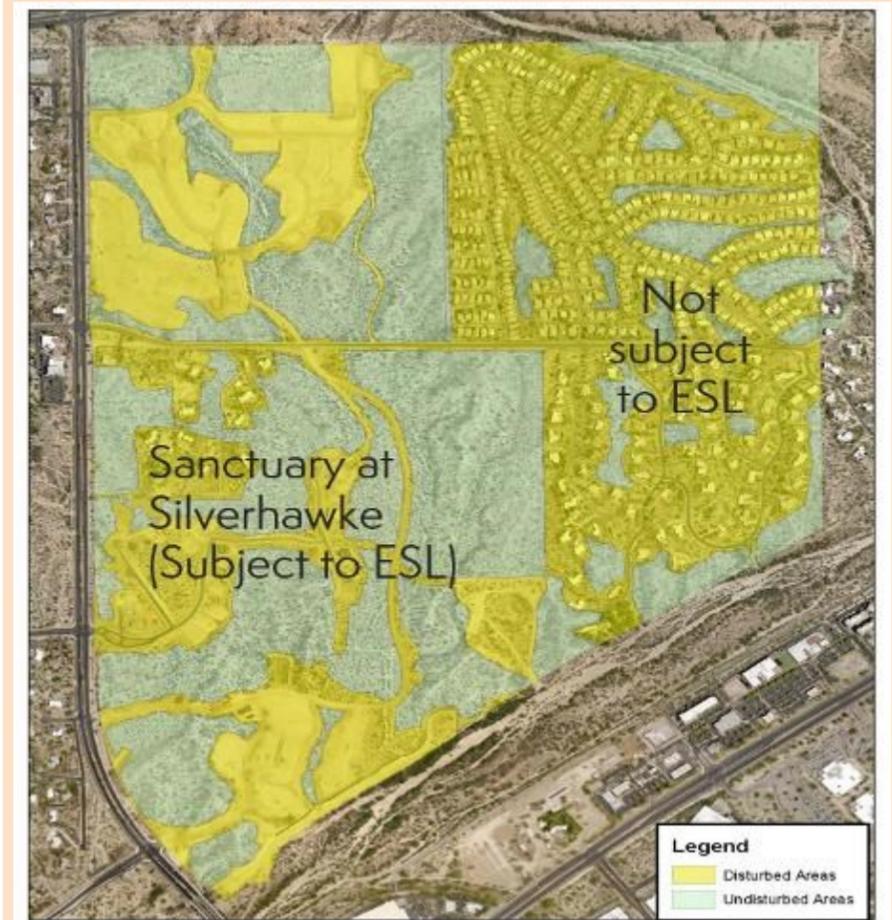
37% On average, a subdivision development subject to ESL will result in roughly 37% more meaningful open space than the previous requirements.

Did you know?

- ESL stems from several General Plans' policies. Protecting Oro Valley's unique desert landscape has always been a community value.
- Environmental resources must be mapped and considered with every annexation.
- In 2022, the Arizona Planning Association recognized Oro Valley's groundbreaking standards to protect heritage saguaros.

Case Study: Sanctuary at Silverhawke

The Sanctuary at Silverhawke subdivision is a model of conservation design. By clustering or grouping the layout of 44 lots rather than spreading them throughout the site, 68%, or 90 acres of the area was conserved as open space. Prior to ESL, only 28%, or 31 acres would have been conserved.



Connectivity

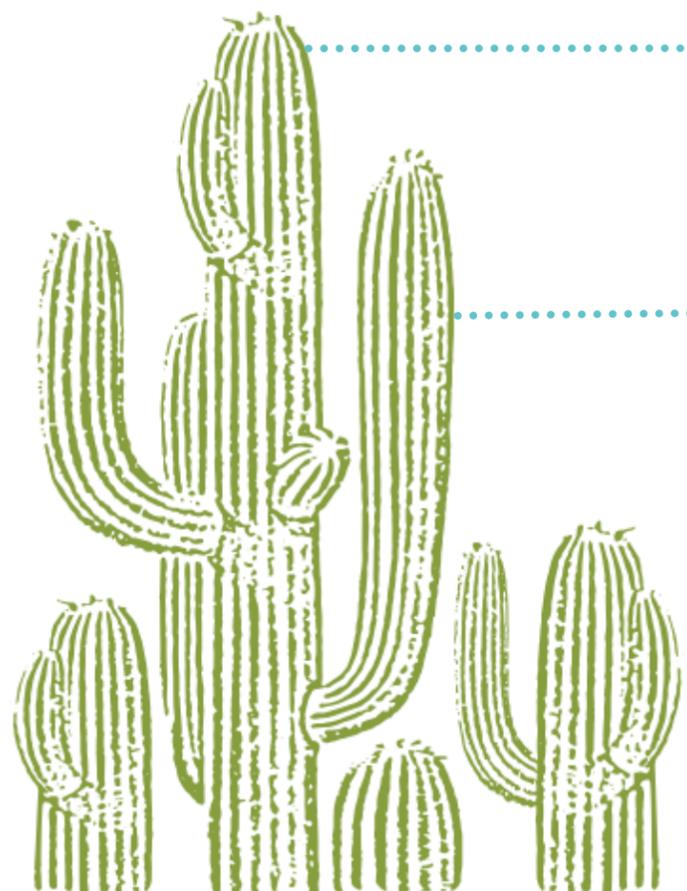
The amount of land conserved is just one aspect of ESL. Another key tenant is connectivity between open space areas to create corridors for wildlife movement. As shown in the image above, the differences between the amount of functional open space conserved before and after ESL was implemented is clear.

Environmental Resources

Conserving Existing Habitats

All developments must meet the following requirements:

- No outdoor lighting in identified riparian and natural open spaces to preserve a naturally dark habitat.
- Preserve drainage corridors and environmental resources to the greatest extent during the site design phase of a project.
- Use only approved native plants and seed mixes listed in the zoning code. The lists only include species common to the Sonoran Desert and plants protected by Arizona Native Plant Law or the Federal Endangered Species Act.
- Remove and prohibit use of invasive species. The Town was the first jurisdiction to prohibit plants or invasive species to reduce spread and/or harm to existing habitats.
- Provide signed acknowledgement to coordinate the development with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department. Further documentation is required from the AZ Game and Fish Department for all rezoning applications.
- Identify and provide a treatment plan for native plants common to the Sonoran Desert and protected by Arizona Native Plant Law or the Federal Endangered Species Act. As an extra layer of protection, the Town requires identification of plants beyond those protected by Federal or State laws.



Native Plant Preservation

Native plants must be identified with a treatment plan, prior to development. Significant vegetation, or plants known to be a habitat for protected species, must be preserved in place, transplanted, or mitigated accordingly. Examples include:

- Heritage saguaros 24 feet or taller with 2 or more arms must be preserved in place.
- Saguaros 15 feet tall with 2 or more arms may be preserved in place or transplanted.
- Palo Verde, Ironwood, and Velvet Mesquite Trees that are 12 feet or taller with a 12 inch caliper must be preserved in place or transplanted.

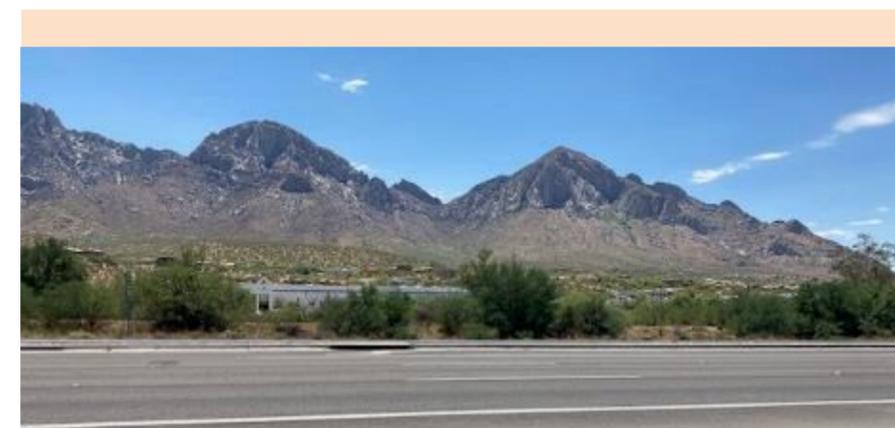
Case Study: Saguaro Viejos subdivision

Saguaro Viejos is a residential subdivision built to these standards. Town staff mapped the location of the saguaros and worked with the developer to design in a manner to respect each. This resulted in all 7 heritage saguaros being preserved in place. Of the smaller saguaros on site, over 287, or 98% were transplanted within the same subdivision.



Views and other resources

Not all resources are mapped through ESL. The resource categories below are driven by design so mapping of these occurs during the rezoning and design phase of the development process.



Scenic Corridors

Oro valley has a distinctive scenic quality partly because of its picturesque mountain vistas. Development along Oracle Road and Tangerine Road is restricted to protect the views along these scenic corridors. For instance, these areas have restricted heights and increased landscaping requirements.



Hillsides

Significant peaks and ridges are protected through the Hillside Development Zone and ESL. Both encourage sensible development in hillside areas while minimizing the physical and visual impact to the hillside. The code achieves this by restricting the amount of grading allowed on parcels with steep slopes. Additional grading can be approved in exchange for permanently protecting the land through conservation easements.



Cultural Resources

All new developments must research and identify any cultural resources onsite, prior to development.

If cultural resources are found, a treatment plan must be provided and considered by the Historic Preservation Commission and approved by Town Council.

Did you know?

Rock outcrops, or piles of large boulders, provide protection for wildlife, especially reptiles. Outcrops and boulders are also a significant scenic resource.



How OV Sustains

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required 10-year plan elements:

- **Water Resources.** Strives to effectively and efficiently maintain, protect, and preserve water resources.
- **Climate.** Aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



Oro Valley (OV) has reduced groundwater pumping to historic lows. Since 2005, groundwater pumping has been reduced by over 50%.

- Groundwater pumping has been offset through Central Arizona Project (CAP) water deliveries and use of reclaimed water for turf irrigation.



The Colorado River is over allocated so reductions in its use will be required from all its users. OV has anticipated and planned for a 25% reduction to its CAP water allocation.

- Approximately 25% of OV's CAP allocation is not delivered and is stored in nearby underground aquifer storage facilities for future use, if needed. This stored water is referred to as Long Term Storage Credits (LTSC's).

Importance to OV's Future

- Continue to reduce OV's reliance on groundwater by increasing the deliveries of other water resources such as CAP and reclaimed water.
- Collaborate with neighboring groundwater users on how to reduce their reliance on groundwater to further preserve the resource.
- A 25% reduction to OV's CAP allocation is sustainable, but could limit OV's annexation growth potential without changing how OV manages its water resources.

Join the online conversation today at OVPathForward.com



10 Year Trends and Conditions



Water conservation measures are required with all new developments. Residents and business owners are further encouraged to make small changes to reduce their use of potable (drinking) water.

- Reclaimed water is another resource the Town uses to reduce use of potable water. Reclaimed water is used for turf irrigation at some of OV's golf courses, street sweeping, construction and other non-potable uses.



OV's average high temperature is 84.6 degrees. However, June is the hottest month with triple digit temperatures.

- Heat islands are areas with a lot of impervious surfaces that increase OV's temperature, especially at night.

Importance to OV's Future

- Continue to educate the OV community and raise awareness about water consumption by following best use practices as well as utilizing new water consumption monitoring technologies.
- Consider expanding use of reclaimed water to all public golf courses.
- Explore the possibility of treating reclaimed water to be used as drinking water.
- Reduce the heat island effect through landscaping, minimizing paved areas, and encouraging energy efficient building designs, such as white roofs.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [How OV Sustains video](#)
- [2024 Annual Water Report](#)
- [Town of Oro Valley Water Utility](#)
- [Water Conservation Requirements and Policies](#)

Water Resources and Use



BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS



The Oro Valley Water Utility is the 2nd largest municipal water service provider in Southern Arizona. It is the primary water service provider for Oro Valley residents, however, some Oro Valley residents are served by Tucson Water and Metro Water. The Oro Valley Water Utility serves 21,300 customers through the following:

- 2 service areas totaling 33 Sq. miles
- 18 production wells
- 26 booster stations
- 12 reservoirs
- 381 miles of distribution mains
- 4 Central Arizona Project (CAP) water interconnects
- 2 water systems (potable & reclaimed)

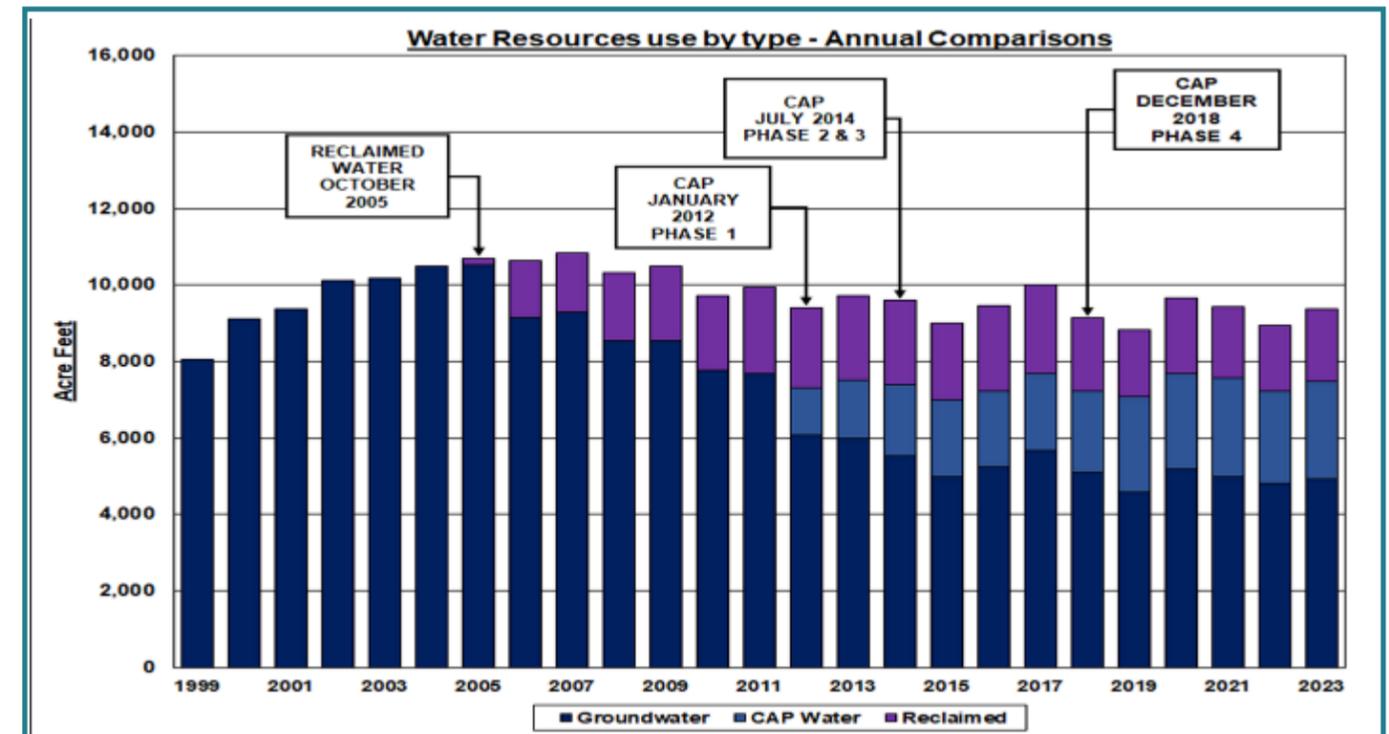
To support current and future residents the following improvements are planned in the next year for additional CAP delivery capacity, groundwater pumping reliability, and system reliability.

CAP Delivery Capacity	Northwest Recharge, Recovery and Delivery Systems (NWRRDS) Countryside Wheeling Station upgrades
Groundwater Pumping Reliability	Perpetual Well rehabilitations (1-2 wells a year) Replacement wells (La Posada and Steam Pump)
System Reliability	La Cañada design of "E" to "F" and "E" to "G" Zone Booster Palisades Redundancy 8-inch water main Pressure Vessel Replacements (1-2 per year) Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition Upgrades (SCADA)

In 2023, the OV Water Utility.....

- Took 2,661 water quality samples with all results meeting regulatory requirements.
- Added 186 new metered connections for an estimated total customer base of 21,300 connections.
- Developed and delivered four quarterly customer newsletters titled Behind the Meter.
- Completed the Potable Water Advanced Metering Infrastructure Data Analytics Evaluation Model which will allow the Water Utility to better measure and monitor conservation initiatives.
- Provided over 8,000 leak alerts through the WaterSmart customer portal, which has 7,300 registered users.
- Rehabilitated three groundwater production wells.
- Began construction of the Northwest Recharge Recovery and Delivery System (NWRRDS).
- Completed construction of water system improvements for Steam Pump Ranch and Naranja Park.

OV's Water Utility provides both potable, or drinking water and reclaimed water. OV's Water Utility delivered 3.1 billion gallons of water to 21,300 customers in 2023. The graph below shows the water resource usage by type for the past 25 years. The water volume shown is in units of acre-feet. An acre-foot of water equals 325,851 gallons. For context an acre-foot of water is enough water to cover a football field with 1-foot of water. Another way to think about it is 1- acre-foot is about how much water 3-4 residential homes use in a calendar year.



Groundwater:

- Exists in the ground approximately 300 feet below the land surface and extends over 1000 feet below the land surface.
- OV's primary potable (drinking) water resource.
- 18 wells produced 4,925 acre-feet or 53% of the Water Utility's total production in 2023.
- In 2023, the Water Utility pumped 37% of the groundwater that it was entitled to pump. This was the third lowest volume of groundwater pumped since 1996 (when the OV Water Utility was created).

CAP Water:

- Water from the Colorado River delivered through a 336-mile canal.
- OV's only other potable (drinking) water resource.
- 4 CAP wheeling (distribution) locations delivered 2,573 acre-feet or 27% of the Water Utility's total production in 2023.
- Utilized full allocation of 10,305 acre feet of CAP water for potable use, aquifer recharge and storage in the form of LTSC's.

Reclaimed Water:

- Produced from wastewater effluent from the sanitary sewer system and then treated for irrigation and other non-potable uses.
- Delivered 1,880 acre-feet or 20% of the Water Utility's total production in 2023.

5

Ways OV Projects Water Demand

There are many challenges to Arizona’s water supplies as a result of climate change, a persistent drought and over allocation of the Colorado River System. **The Oro Valley Water Utility’s continued planning and conservation measures will provide for a reliable water future.**



Review all new development projects to maintain accurate water demand and supply information.



Maintain the Town’s 100-year Designation of Assured Water Supply for groundwater through an annual build-out analysis, which forecasts new water users based on the development of vacant land.



Monitor potential annexations and the additional demand for water resources they will require.



Monitor economic development and business recruitment strategies to identify water demand and supply.



Consider the benefit annexations could have on the aquifer if they can be supported with water resources other than groundwater.



Water Resource Projections

Potable Water Resources

It is projected at Town buildout the total potable water demand will increase 8.5% over the current total potable water demand. This is based on no rezonings or annexations. **OV has sufficient water supplies to serve the anticipated growth within our existing service area.** Additionally, all significant development proposals and rezonings are analyzed on a case-by-case basis to ensure adequate water supply.

- Could limit the Water Utility's ability to support annexations without changing how the Water Utility currently manages it's water resources.

The Arizona Water Banking Authority (AWBA) will firm 100% of any CAP reduction that creates demand shortfalls through the year 2026.

Groundwater

At the Water Utility’s 2023 groundwater pumping rate and with no local groundwater recharge, **the groundwater available to the Water Utility would last 250 years.** This is in accordance with the Assured Water Supply (AWS) designation the Water Utility has with the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR).

CAP Water

Since the Town’s ability to reduce groundwater use is dependent on a reliable supply of Colorado River water, it is important to understand what the future might look like for the Water Utility’s Central Arizona Project (CAP) allocation.

Shortfalls to the CAP allocation have been projected based on the results from the United States Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) study that was developed for the Tucson region.

For planning purposes, the Water Utility uses the highest risk climate scenario from the BOR study to project what the CAP allocation may be in the future. **It is assumed that a 25% reduction in the Water Utility’s CAP allocation will occur and will remain in perpetuity. A 25% reduction in CAP water:**

- Is sustainable with no modifications with how the Water Utility currently manages it's water resources.

Reclaimed Water

The supply of reclaimed water is dependent on the amount of potable water delivered to customers. In 2023 the Water Utility delivered 92% of the reclaimed water that it was entitled to use. The use of reclaimed water for irrigation purposes is expected to remain flat.

Reclaimed water that the Water Utility is entitled to, but does not deliver is stored in the Santa Cruz River effluent recharge project. Stored reclaimed water results in LTSC.

It is projected that as the potable demand for water resources increases, so will the availability of reclaimed water. Reclaimed water can either be delivered for non-potable uses or further treated to be made suitable for potable deliveries.

Recycled Water

If the Water Utility’s reclaimed water entitlement continues to be in excess of the amount delivered then recycled water is a viable new source of potable supply.

If the current reclaimed water demand remains constant, by Town buildout, then the delivery of recycled water could offset further CAP allocation reductions, or reduced groundwater pumping, or both. **By Town buildout recycled water could account for 5% of all potable water deliveries.**

Strategies for Water Sustainability

BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS



To ensure the sustainability of our community and support community growth the Water Utility has developed a strategic water resource utilization plan that accommodates water shortages. For over two decades the Oro Valley Water Utility has been strategically planning for a warmer and dryer climate. Due to the Water Utility's strategic water resource utilization plan, **Oro Valley has never experienced a water shortage that required extreme conservation measures (i.e. pausing permits, draining pools, or reducing irrigation).**

The OV Water Utility will continue to partner with local, state, tribal and federal agencies to explore and discuss the feasibility of future water resource availability possibilities. These strategies result in the Oro Valley Water Utility being well positioned to provide continuous water service to the community.

Deliver additional CAP water to the Water Utility's service area to support growth and further reduce the reliance on groundwater to meet the communities water resource needs. This is accomplished in the following way:

- CAP water is delivered to aquifer recharge basins to be stored underground and blended with existing groundwater to be recovered when needed. Nearby wells recover some of the stored CAP water to be delivered to the Oro Valley service areas.
- Construction of the Northwest Recharge Recovery and Delivery System (NWRDRS) will increase CAP Water deliveries up to 150 %.

Oro Valley only utilizes about 70 % of its CAP water allocation.

- Recharged groundwater, that is not utilized in any given year, accumulates in the form of Long-Term Storage Credits (LTSC). LTSC's can be recovered in the future in times of water shortage.
- Approximately 25% of Oro Valley's CAP water allocation accumulates as LTSC's every year.

The Water Utility is a member of the Arizona Water Banking Authority. This membership provides a means to utilize water that has been stored by the State in underground aquifer storage facilities since 1996.



The Water Utility is also a member of the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District. This membership provides water resources that further firms the Water Utility's water resources.

The Water Utility maintains a Designation of Assured Water Supply (DAWS) with the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Understanding that groundwater supply is our community's ultimate backup water supply the DAWS ensures that our community has enough groundwater supply to last for at least 100-years.

Continue to utilize and look for ways of economically expanding the use of reclaimed water for non-potable uses, such as golf course irrigation. Unused reclaimed water entitlements are also accumulated in the form of LTSC's that can also be recovered in the future in times of water shortage.

Explore the possibility of treating reclaimed water to a potable standard and deliver as drinking water.

Water Conservation

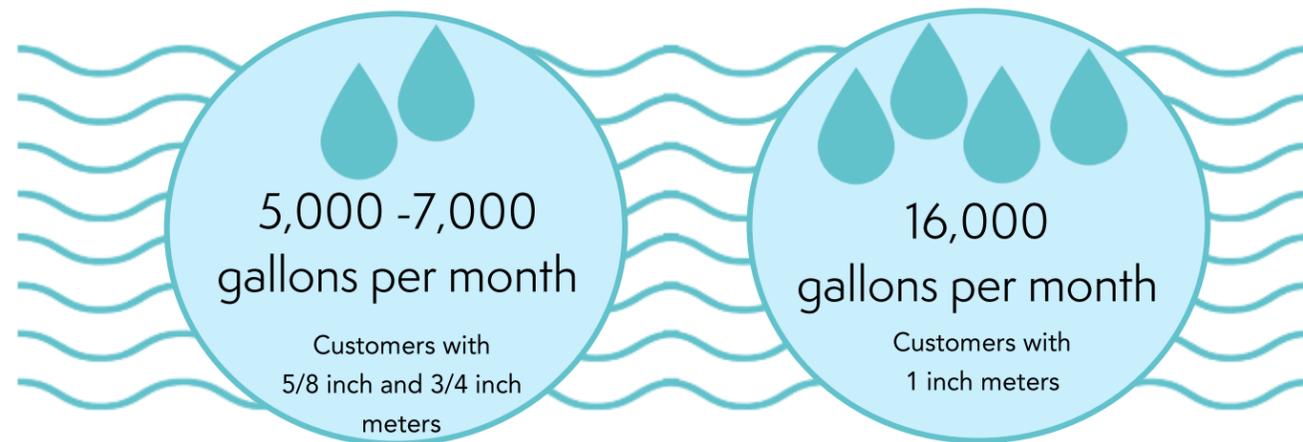


BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS

Residential Water Use and Conservation

A key function of the Water Utility is protecting the Town's water supply through community awareness of water conservation measures. Nearly 90% of the 21,300 water meters serve residential customers. Oro Valley encourages water conservation through a tiered commodity rate. The Water Utility has an inclining block rate structure where the rate per block increases as water use increases. Eighty-seven (87%) of the Water Utility's customers fall within the lowest water use (Tier I) block of the commodity rate structure.

Average water use for residential customers



Individuals use about 100 gallons per day. Water use varies significantly and depends on many factors, such as the number of household members, water use practices, pools, and landscaping.

Water Smart Program

Utility customers can view near real-time information of water consumption using the WaterSmart Program. The convenient, self-service program also provides early leak detection and high use notifications to save water, reduce water waste and possibly save money on water bills.

- 7,300 registered accounts
- Approx. 8,500 automated alerts were sent in 2023 with water savings of over 12 million gallons.
- Over 3,900 visits to the WaterSmart customer portal in 2023.



Water Audits

Audits are a free educational and technical assistance service offered to residential, HOA and commercial customers to help conserve water at your home or business. Water use is evaluated both indoors and outdoors.

- Customers saved just over 500,000 gallons (2023)
- Over 2,300 audits have been completed since 2003

Did you know?

AMI metering is used in OV. It provides a high level of accuracy and allows the Water Utility to collect hourly reads.

Water Conservation Programs and Policies



Residential customers use more than half of their total monthly water consumption outdoors. Water is wasted due to evaporation by pools and fountains, overwatering plants, and leaking irrigation systems.

42% of leaks confirmed by customers in the last year on the WaterSmart program, were related to irrigation. Ways to reduce water waste and outdoor water use include:

- Preventative maintenance, leak checks, and repairs are key to use water more efficiently and effectively.
- Choosing native, drought-tolerant plants
- Adjusting irrigation settings according to the season
- Capturing rainwater to supplement irrigation are also ways to reduce water use.
- Use pool covers to reduce the amount of water evaporated.

Mechanisms are in place to allow staff to identify water wasting, as well as implement corrective action and, if needed, impose fines for not complying with the water wasting code.

Water Conservation Resources:

- [Be A Leak Detector: Smart Home Water Guide](#)
- [Drain Your Pool](#)
- [Education Resources \(Grades 1-3\)](#)
- [High Water Use Action Plan](#)
- [Landscape Watering Guidelines](#)
- [Low Water Use Plant Ideas](#)
- [Rainwater Harvesting](#)
- [Oro Valley Approved Native Plant List](#)
- [Setting Your Irrigation Timer](#)
- [Watershed Management Group](#)
- [Ways To Save Water Indoors & Outdoors](#)
- [Water Wisdom Video Series](#)



Graywater use is allowed and encouraged to reduce water supply needs. Graywater is wastewater collected from washing machines, bathtubs, showers, or sinks (excluding kitchen sinks, dishwashers, or toilets). Graywater is most often used for irrigation.

Purchasing water and energy efficient appliances or installing low flow fixtures (faucets and showerheads) are also ways to significantly reduce water use.



Per Town code, OV can declare a potable water shortage and, if needed, impose additional water conservation measures depending on water resource availability. Fines for disobeying the level of water conservation required may also be imposed.



Conservation Kids is an interdisciplinary program that has been specifically designed for first through third grade learners and focuses on the water cycle. It is a 3-part program that is conducted at schools and includes fun activities, informative videos and lively discussions to raise the next water-smart generation.

Did you know?

Each year the Water Utility conducts thousands of tests on the drinking water system to make sure it is safe. The results of these tests are available on OV's website at: www.ovalleyaz.gov.

Development Related Water Conservation Requirements

Water conservation measures are required with all new developments. A brief overview of the building and zoning code requirements are below. Click [HERE](#) for a complete table of all the water conservation requirements and policies.

Building Codes

OV's adopted building codes support water conservation best practices through adoption of the International Plumbing Code regulations. Low flow rate fixtures are required in all new developments.

Golf Course & Car Washing

Car washing establishments must reduce consumption needs by recycling 70% of the water collected on site.

OV regulates the design and irrigation methods of golf courses. Use of natural turf is limited and drought tolerant landscaping must be used. Additionally, irrigation standards to maximize use of water resources other than potable ground water is required.

Landscape & Irrigation

Only drought tolerant, native vegetation is allowed in commercial and residential developments with higher water use plants being restricted to areas receiving shade to reduce the amount of irrigation needed. Plant types and locations are reviewed during the development review process.

Irrigation for landscaping placed around a site (buffer yard), in parking islands or medians must be turned off after five years, when plants reach maturity. Landscape water plans are required during the development review process to show the amount of water needed for landscaping and the reduction over time. Separate water meters are required for irrigation so water consumption can be monitored with real-time data.

Smart Growth

OV conducts an annual assessment to forecast water needs and maintain the Town's 100-year Designation of Assured Water Supply for groundwater.

Natural Turf & Ornamental Water Features

Natural turf is restricted to no more than 15% of the total recreation area for all single-family and multi-family residential projects. It can only be used for activity areas and not for ornamental purposes.

Ornamental water features, such as water fountains, are also prohibited in commercial developments or residential front yards.

Rainwater Harvesting

Utilizes rainwater harvesting to supplement or reduce potable water use for all commercial and residential developments.

- Small, dispersed water harvesting areas are required throughout a development to increase the number of capture points and maximize overall collection volumes.
- A minimum volume of rainwater collection is required for all commercial or multi-family developments based on project acreage and impervious surfaces.

Weather

Oro Valley's climate delivers average high temperatures of 84.6 degrees and average lows of 48.0 degrees. Due to a slightly higher elevation and proximity to the Santa Catalina Mountain range, Oro Valley and the immediate surrounding area experience slightly lower temperatures and slightly more rainfall than experienced further south in Tucson.

Typical of the southwest desert climate is a long, hot season, beginning in April and ending in October.

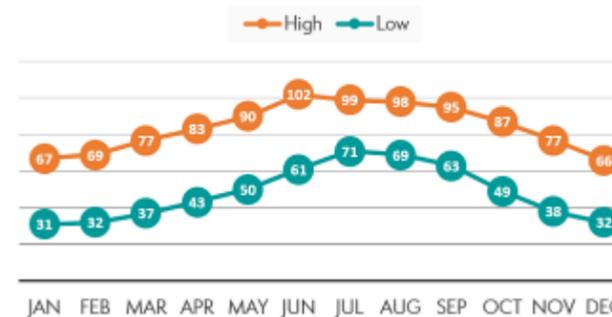
- Sunshine is abundant across Arizona with Oro Valley receiving, on average, over 300 days a year of sunshine.
- Nighttime temperatures begin to fall in November and on average, the first freeze occurs by the middle of November, with some potential for a hard freeze and/or snowfall throughout March.

Monsoon Season

Average annual precipitation is less than 20 inches with the summer thunderstorm season accounting for approximately 44% of the annual rainfall. The onset of the summer monsoon season begins in July, which typically lasts well into the month of September. September marks the end of the summer monsoons but heavy rainfall is possible during October due to tropical systems moving north along the Mexican coastline.

Oro Valley Climate	
Hottest Month	June
Coldest Month	Jan
Wettest Month	July
Average High Temp	84.6
Average Low Temp	48.0

Average Temperature



Rainfall (inches)



Heat Islands

Impervious surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, and cement absorb heat and slowly releases it. This increases the nighttime temperatures of towns and cities in comparison to their more rural counterparts. Areas with significant areas of impervious surfaces are known as heat islands.

Reducing the amount of pavement covering a site to only what is necessary is critical. Trees are the most effective tool to mitigate and reduce heat island effects.

Other ways to reduce heat island effects:

- Plant trees along streets to make shade, especially over dark surfaces
- Add vegetation to urban spaces, including green roofs
- Implement cool surfaces on roofs, roads, and walls
- Vary the height of new buildings to increase airflow and create shade canyons



How OV Develops

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required 10-year plan elements:

- **Land Use.** Identifies the general uses of land.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



The Town is approaching build-out as only 12% of land allowed for development is vacant. Half of the vacant land has a previously approved plan for development.

- The majority of the remaining vacant land in Oro Valley is zoned for large-lot residential.



Balancing development with preserving environmental resources has always been valued in the community.

- Open space, low-medium density residential are the largest land use categories.



Mixed-use developments (commercial with residential) have proven successes locally and regionally.

- Roughly 9% of the remaining land is zoned tech-park, which allows employment uses such as research and development.

Importance to OV's Future

- Being strategic with the remaining land is critical to creating a more self-sufficient community with opportunities to live, work, and play.
- Support mixed-use areas to help reduce traffic and increase walkability.
- Conserve tech-park areas for employment opportunities.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



Housing is the driver for development in Oro Valley. Seventy-three percent of Oro Valley's developed land is single-family residential.

- Without annexation or rezoning, Oro Valley has no more large (300+) subdivisions left to be built. The number of single-family home permits issued will reduce substantially over the next 5-10 years



Housing in Oro Valley is mostly single-family homes with some apartments.

- A need for low-rise, higher-density options such as single-family rentals was identified in the Oro Valley Housing Study.

Importance to OV's Future

- Evaluating the balance and viability of vacant commercially-zoned land relative to housing density.
- Annexing more land can benefit the Town and should align with adopted policies, including the General Plan.
- Consider varying the housing types available in OV to support current and future residents .

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [How OV Develops video](#)
- [Land Use Map](#)
- [Find Your Zoning Map](#)
- [History of Oro Valley Annexations Map](#)
- [Annexation Strategy](#)

Land Use and Zoning

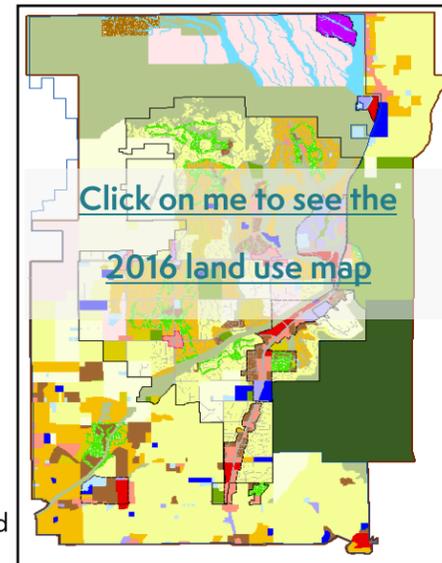
Land Use

In 2016, residents wanted a complete community, with a variety of housing types, commercial services, employment and recreational opportunities. The land use map in OV's current general plan provides the means to make that a reality.

The land use of a property can be changed by residents through the new 10-year plan or by amending the voter-ratified General Plan. Both processes include extensive public outreach and Town Council approval.

Land Use Map Elements

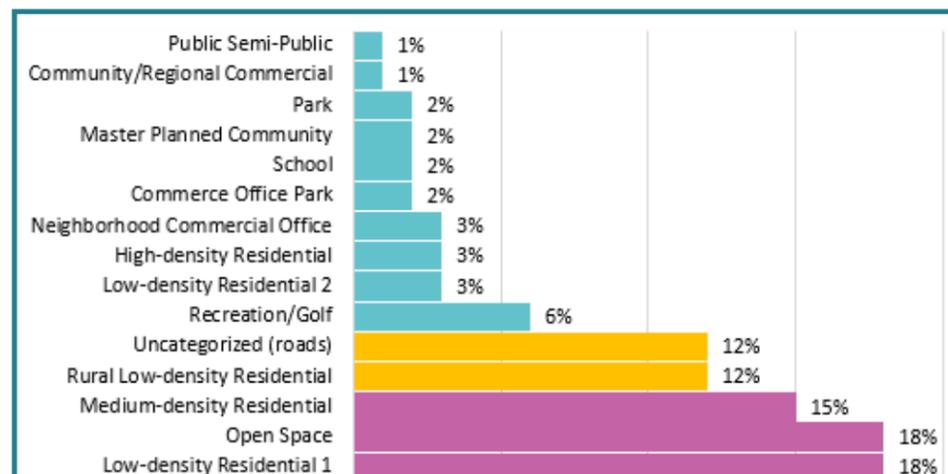
The General Plan includes a land use map, which depicts the intended use, density or commercial intensity for all properties within town limits and surrounding area, also referred to as the Planning Area. The General Plan's land use designations set the expectation for zoning.



The current land use map includes 18 different General Plan land use designations, which determine the:

- **Residential density** ranges from rural low-density intended for large-lot, single-family homes to high-density residential intended for a range of housing types, including apartments.
- **Commercial intensity** ranges from neighborhood scale centers to larger regional centers.
- **Open spaces** including natural desert areas, recreation and park areas.

The percentage of land each category makes up is depicted in the graph below.



Residential, specifically low and medium-density, is the largest land use category. Next is open space, which primarily includes areas along Cañada Del Oro Wash and Big Wash.



Zoning

While General Plan land use reflects policy recommendations, zoning establishes property rights to develop a site. This includes the types of uses allowed, building height, setbacks and other design elements.

The development standards of the zoning code correspond to the land use designations, map and policies in the general plan.

The Town's zoning map has 19 different zoning designations, including Planned Area Development (PAD) as shown in the chart to the right. Similar to the land use map, low and medium-density residential are the largest zoning categories.

In addition to the Town's zoning code there are also 19 PADs. A PAD establishes unique zoning requirements that are tailored to a specific site.

- **The largest PAD is for Rancho Vistoso**, which establishes the zoning requirements for 7,626 acres of land along the northside of Oro Valley.
- **Since 2016, the Town has adopted 3 new PADs.** The newest is the Westward Look PAD, which was adopted when the resort and surrounding area was annexed.

In addition to informing land owners and others of the type and scale permitted on specific parcels, **zoning and the associated land uses also enable forecasting of the community's form and composition at build-out to plan for traffic, water, public safety and other needs.**

Zone	% of Land	Description
R1-300	4%	Single-Family Residential—300,000 sf. Lots
R1-144	13%	Single-Family Residential—144,000 sf. Lots
R1-72	0.04%	Single-Family Residential—72,000 sf. Lots
R1-43	3%	Single-Family Residential—43,000 sf. Lots
R1-36	10%	Single-Family Residential—36,000 sf. Lots
R1-20	2%	Single-Family Residential—20,000 sf. Lots
R1-10	1%	Single-Family Residential—10,000 sf. Lots
R1-7	2%	Single-Family Residential—7,000 sf. Lots
R-4	2%	Townhouse Residential District
R-4R	1%	Resort District
R-S	0.33%	Residential Service District
R-6	1%	Multi-Family Residential District
SDH-6	0.16%	Site Delivered Housing District
C-N	0.22%	Neighborhood Commercial District
C-1	1%	Commercial District
C-2	1%	Commercial District
PS	0.49%	Private Schools District
T-P	.23%	Technological Park District
PAD	52%	Planned Area Development
NA (Roads)	6%	No zoning district applied.

Did you know?

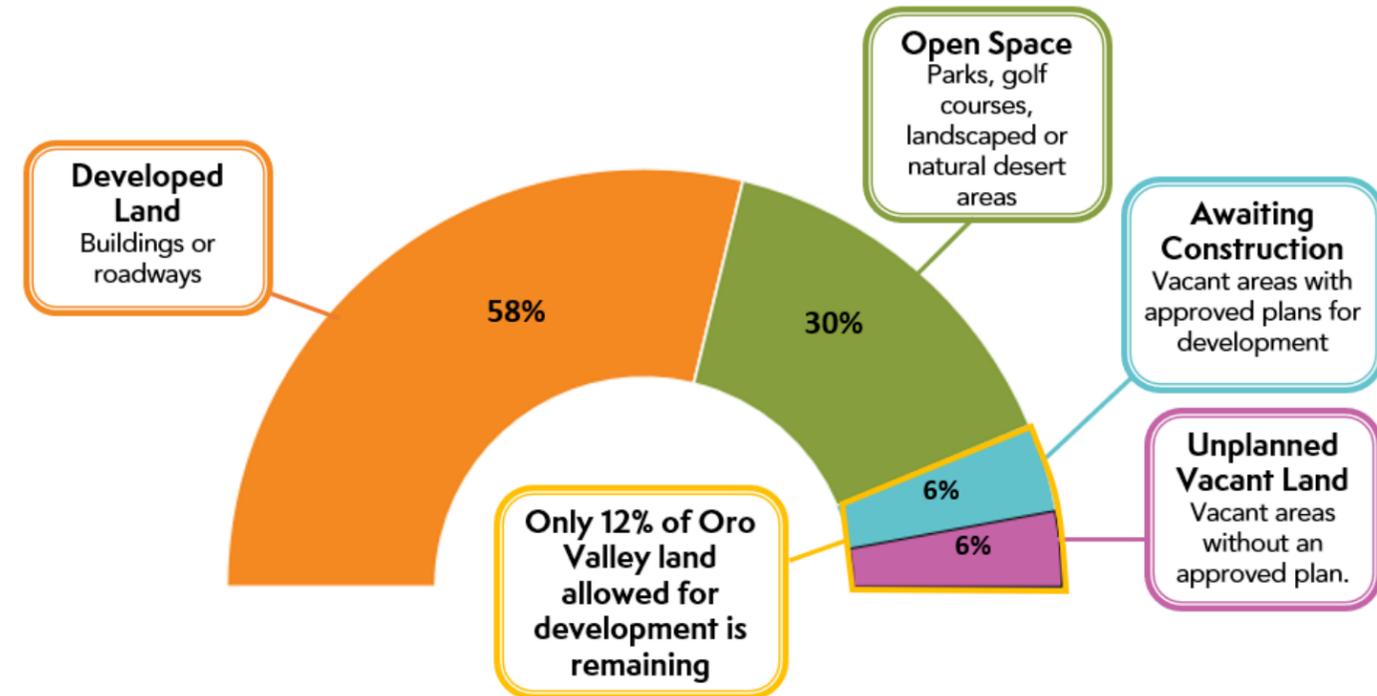
- Oro Valley has 20 different zoning codes regulating development. This includes the Town's Zoning Code plus 19 different Planned Area Developments.
- Highlands Mobile Park is the only site-delivered housing district. Popular and affordable housing types such as "tiny homes" or "manufactured homes" are only permitted in a site delivered housing district.

Development



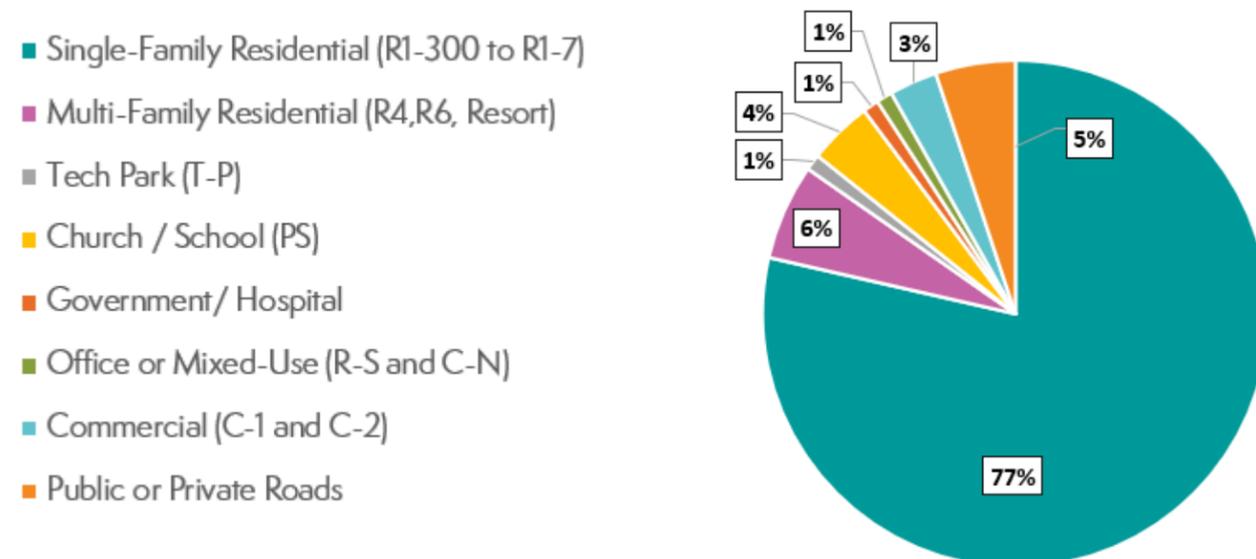
Capacity

Balancing development with environmental resources has been an ongoing community value in Oro Valley. This is shown by how the land has been used in Oro Valley.



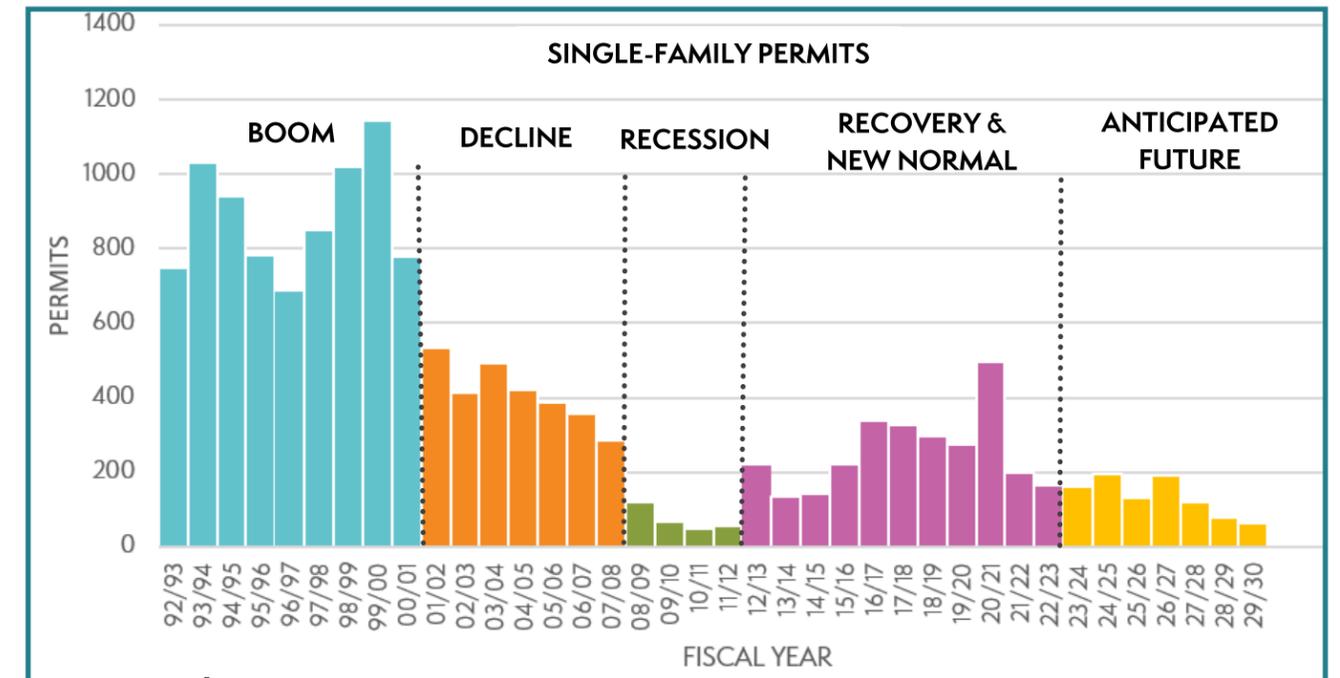
Historical Development Patterns

Looking at just the developed land, more than half (77%) has been single-family residential.



Single-Family Residential Patterns

Over half (51%) of the single-family lots are medium-sized ranging between 6,000 to 10,895 sf. Small lots (<4,000 sf) compromise 15% and large lots (>10,895 sf to 144,000 sf.) compromise 32% of single-family homes. The number of single-family residential (SFR) permits issued since 1992 is shown in the chart below.



Boom: Over a 1000 SFR permits were issued a year. This was when much of Rancho Vistoso, Canada Hills, etc. were being built.

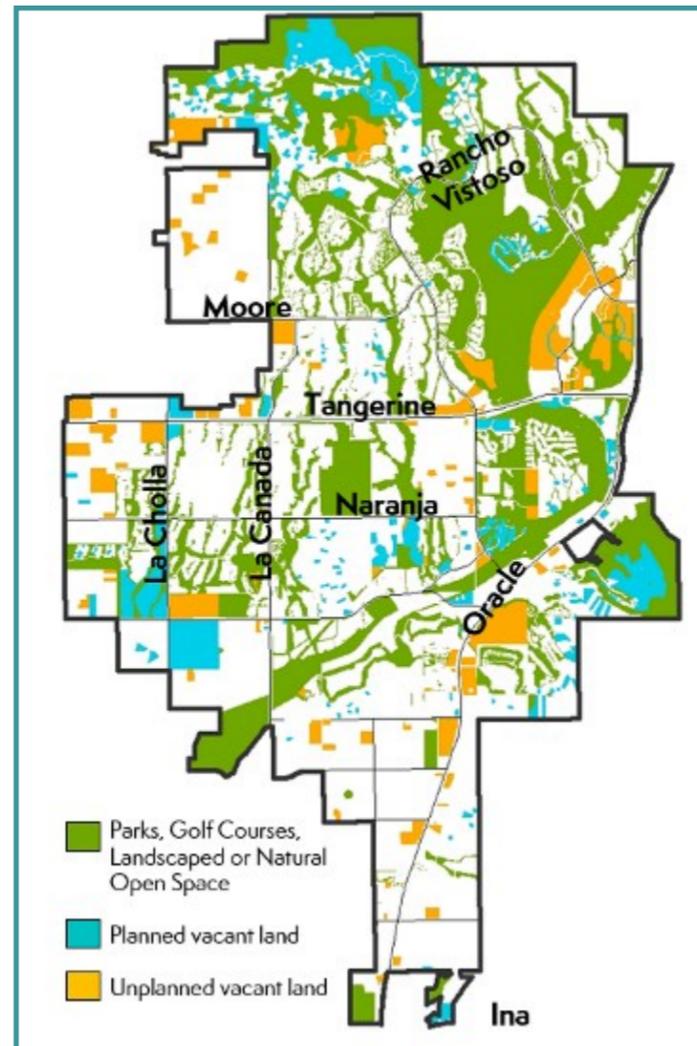
Recession: Like most of the nation, during the recession permits almost halted to as little as 47 a year.

Decline: Although not as rigorous, continued development of Rancho Vistoso and other areas of town occurred during this time.

Recovery and New Normal: Currently 100-200 SFR permits are issued a year. During the pandemic, the Town issued a peak number of permits (15+ year high).

Anticipated Future: The current number of permits per year will be maintained for about five more years. Without any rezonings or annexations, the number of permits is expected to significantly reduce as the Town approaches build-out.

Growth and Redevelopment



Parks, Golf Courses & Open Space (30%)

Most of the open space (natural or landscaped) is private and owned or maintained by HOAs. Publicly-owned natural open space includes washes such as Canada Del Oro and Big Wash or parks.

Remaining Vacant Land (12%)

Remaining land is separated into two categories:

Land awaiting construction (6%)

This remaining land in Oro Valley has an approved subdivision plat or development plan. Most of this land is remaining custom-home lots in the Stone Canyon or La Reserve areas or smaller subdivisions along La Cholla.

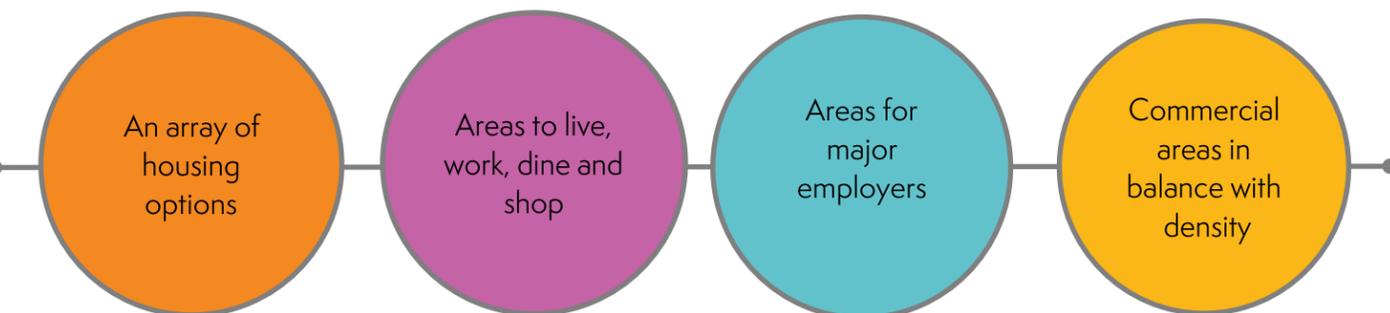
Unplanned (6%)

This is vacant land that is allowed for development but does not have an approved plan yet. Most of this land is also larger residential parcels along Tangerine or non-residential properties along Oracle or in Innovation Park. This land often has steep slopes or washes making it harder to develop.

Infill and Redevelopment

Most of the vacant parcels left in Oro Valley are considered infill. **Infill** occurs when vacant land or under-utilized parcels that are surrounded by existing development are built.

Construction doesn't stop once all of the land in Oro Valley is built. **Redevelopment** is repurposing or constructing new buildings in an area that was previously developed. With a limited land remaining that is allowed for development, Oro Valley must be strategic about its use. Considerations for development in the future include:



Annexations

Annexation is the process by which municipalities incorporate new territory into their boundaries, and is one of the most impactful actions a city or town can take.

49 Oro Valley is the product of annexations. Since 1974, Oro Valley has increased its boundaries through 49 annexations. This includes both vacant and developed land.

Benefits of Annexation

Annexing Existing Residential Areas

- Allows the Town to gain a share of the state-shared revenue that those residents pay to the state. This is monies returned only to incorporated areas based on population.
- Sometimes these areas serve as connectors to potential future annexations.

Annexing Existing Commercial Areas

- Allows the Town to collect sales tax and, in some areas, bed tax.

Annexing Vacant Land

- Enables the Town to properly plan for future development, including the phasing of infrastructure.
- Enables control of development to ensure it meets the Town's high standards for traffic control and design.
- Minimize "leapfrog development," which can result in an inefficient and more costly method to extend public facilities.

Future Annexations

In addition to benefits to local businesses, annexation brings additional services and public funds to invest in the community. These additional revenues help ensure services such as police, parks and recreation and transportation are continued at current, or improved levels of service.

In 2020, Oro Valley adopted an updated annexation strategy to identify, prioritize and prepare for future annexations that are economically beneficial to the Town. The plan also considers the impacts to residents and the social, aesthetic and environmental quality of Oro Valley with every potential annexation.

Priority 1
(Current)

Priority 2
(Near-Term)

Priority 3
(Mid-Term)

Priority 4
(Long-term)



Did you know?

- State law stipulates specific requirements for annexing land.
- The Town holds numerous awards for being the safest place to live and supporting businesses. Paired with high-quality infrastructure, Oro Valley remains a highly desirable place to live, work, and play.
- The Town has taken a proactive stance on annexations by prioritizing areas deemed most beneficial. A fiscal impact analysis is required with each annexation to further analyze the potential financial impacts of annexation on town facilities and services.



How OV Travels

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required elements for the 10-year plan:

- **Circulation.** Describes the Town’s transportation system, including roadways, bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian.** Plans for facilities, like multi-use paths or sidewalks, that support alternative modes of transportation for biking, walking, and more.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



Gasoline tax rates (state and federal) have not increased since the 90s. Yet inflation of materials and labor for roadway maintenance continues to rise.

- Use of electric vehicles is expected to increase. This will also impact the amount of gasoline tax the Town receives.
- Extending Shannon Road from Naranja to Tangerine is planned in the next 10 years.



Road improvements in specific areas are required over time, however, OV’s major and minor arterials have sufficient capacity to support the additional population projected at town build-out.

- The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) owns and maintains Oracle Road. Better coordination of traffic lights along Oracle Road is needed.

Importance to OV’s Future

- OV’s proactive approach to maintaining roads must be maintained.
- Infrastructure, such as charging stations, is needed to support a higher-use of electric vehicles.
- Additional funding options for roadway widening and maintenance projects needs to be explored.
- A Transportation Plan is needed to identify long-term circulation needs, including other transportation options, as roads get busier.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



Automobile use could be reduced with the advancement in electric technology and mobility devices for single use (e.g. electric bikes or scooters). Use of electric bicycles will continue to grow in popularity.

- Safe routes to school and other community resources (e.g., library, parks, etc.) are important.



The number of trips provided through Dial-A-Ride have increased 171% and are expected to continue to increase. Services for seniors are currently not available on the weekends.

- OV has a high percentage of commuters with 87.6% of workers leaving and 82.5% coming into town daily.
- Commuter bus routes are expected to increase frequency and need weekend services (not currently provided).

Importance to OV’s Future

- Roadway modifications would be needed to support electronic or mobility devices.
- Identification of areas for bike boulevards and other safety improvements is needed.
- As transit changes from a small operation to a larger one, a joint transit facility for the northwest region should be considered.
- Transportation options for seniors on the weekends is needed.
- Bus stops along major route to promote use and also coordinate transfer points.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [How OV Travels video](#)
- [Interactive Street Responsibilities Map](#)
- [Multi-use and Bike Path Map](#)
- [OV Transportation options \(bus routes and Dial-A-Ride\)](#)
- [Keep OV Beautiful Program](#)
- [Pavement Preservation Program](#)

Roadways

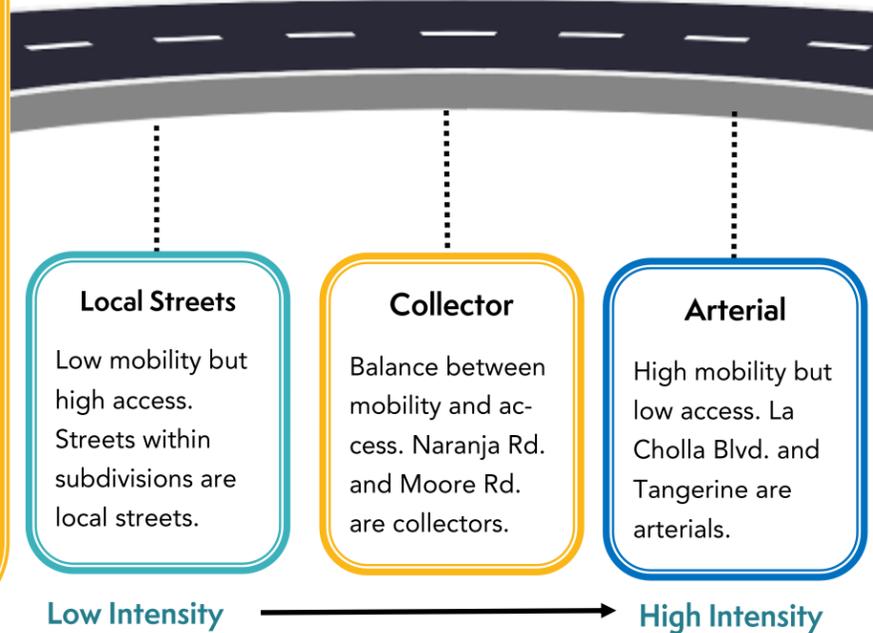


Did you know?

- Road improvements in specific areas are required over time, however, OV's major and minor arterials have sufficient capacity to support the additional population projected at town build-out.
- There are 95 streetlights and 22 traffic signals in Oro Valley.
- Arizona gasoline tax rate has not increased since 1991. The federal gasoline tax has not increased since 1993.

Roadway Types

There are three types of roadways in Oro Valley: Local, Collectors, and Arterials. Each type has a different degree of mobility and access and range from low to high intensity.



Roadway Funding

Impact Fees

- Fees paid by developers that can only be used for capacity or corresponding safety elements for growth-related projects on the adopted Infrastructure Improvement Plan.

General Fund

- Main funding source for the Town's Street Operations Crew.

Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)/Pima Association of Governments (PAG)

- Voter approved plan that covers roadway corridors, safety, transit and environmental improvements.

Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF)

- The 12.6% HURF can only be used on arterial and collector roadway projects in the RMAP.
- The 2.6% HURF can only be used on state facilities.

Future Roadway Improvements:

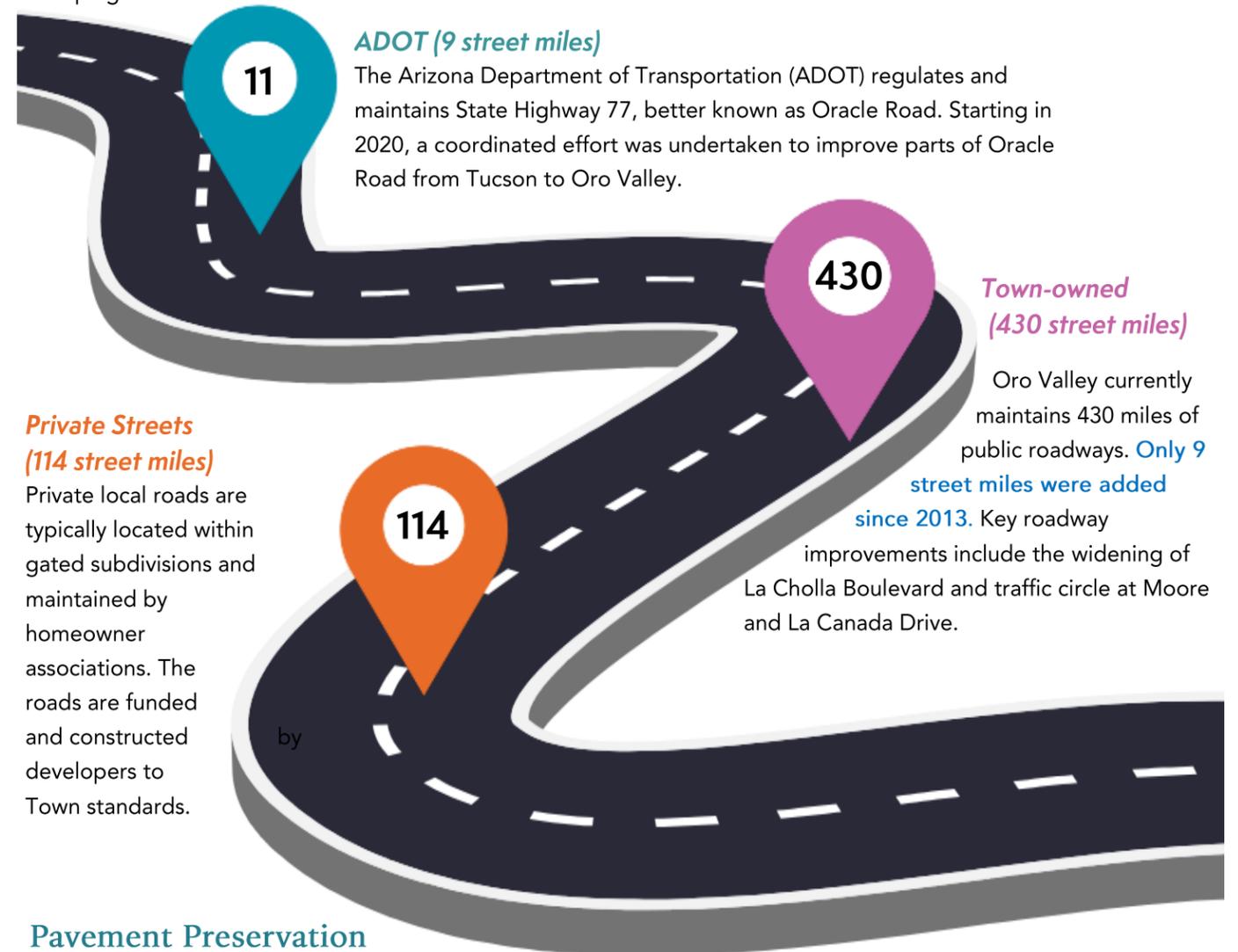
- Lambert Lane Widening:
- Widen to 4 lanes from Rancho Sonora to Shannon Road.
- Shannon Road Widening:
- Widen to 3 lanes from Lambert Lane to Tangerine Road.

Both projects will include sidewalks, multi-use lanes and multi-use paths.



Roadway Ownership and Maintenance

Oro Valley is regionally known for having superior roadways. There are both public and private roadways in the Town that are maintained by different groups, such as the Town, State of Arizona, homeowner associations and more. Roadway maintenance includes traffic signals, striping and signage, landscaping, sidewalks and shoulders, repairs, and sweeping.



Pavement Preservation

Every Town-owned public roadway receives a pavement treatment every 5 years. Depending on the roadway condition, treatment ranges from re-sealing to milling and repaving. **The Town invests \$2 million annually to keep OV roadways maintained.**

Adopt-A-Roadway. By adopting a roadway, civic and other non-profit organizations help generate pride in their community while creating economic benefits to citizens of the Town. Starting in 2000, roughly 74 miles of roadway have been adopted and cleaned up by 63 volunteers.

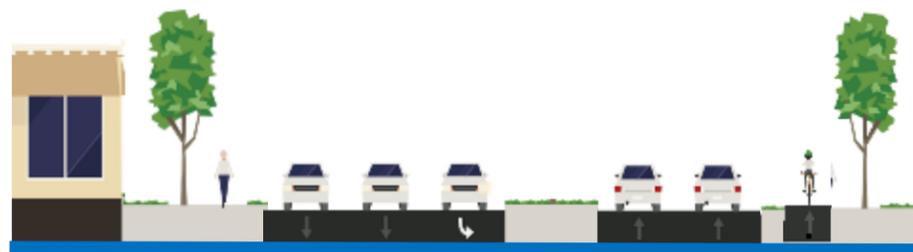
Bike, Pedestrian & Transit

Alternative Transportation Modes

Oro Valley offers numerous facilities to walk, run, or bike around town.

This ranges from multi-use paths to sidewalks or paved roadway shoulders.

The graphics below provide more information about the current amount and details of each. [Help identify areas where connectivity or other safety improvements are needed at www.OVPathForward.com.](http://www.OVPathForward.com)

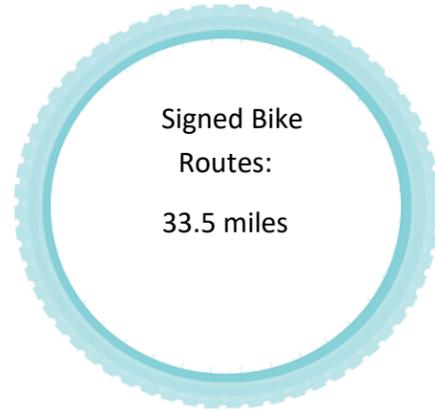


Pedestrian Facilities

In addition to multi-use paths, Oro Valley has **194 miles of sidewalks**. All new private developments are required to install sidewalks for pedestrian connectivity.

Bicycle Facilities

Oro Valley has **78.9 miles of bike facilities**. This includes multi-use paths, signed bike routes, and paved shoulders.



Multi-Use Path (MUP) Improvements

- Naranja MUP: a 10-ft wide MUP north of Naranja Drive from La Cañada Drive to First Avenue is underway.
- La Cañada Drive MUP: a MUP west of La Cañada Drive from Cañada Hills to Community Center was completed in October 2023.



Electronic Bikes and Scooters

- Electronic bikes, scooters and similar mobile devices are anticipated to increase in popularity over the next 10 years. Roadway modifications would be needed to support electronic or mobility devices.



Transit

Oro Valley transportation partners with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to ensure local transportation integrates with the Tucson Sun Tran system. This partnership enhances community mobility.

Bus Routes

There is a fixed route between Catalina and Tucson and express bus services from Oro Valley to key employment areas in Tucson. This service is targeted towards commuters.

Park and Ride

These facilities support carpooling, van-pools, transit, bike and other means of transportation. There are two Park and Rides in Oro Valley:

- Riverfront Park
- Rancho Vistoso

Dial-A-Ride

Dial-A-Ride provides origin-to-destination service for the public, disabled passengers, and older adults over 65.



Oro Valley currently operates 30 minibuses compared to 26 in 2013.



Ridership has increased to 61,447 compared to 45,202 in 2013.



The number of route miles has increased to 625,554 miles compared to 353,936 in 2013.



Did you know?

- Oro Valley is a "Gold" level bicycle friendly business by the League of American Bicyclists for the period of 2022-2026 (compared to silver in 2013).
- Transitioning the Dial-A-Ride vehicles to electric "green" buses would require an investment in green infrastructure, such as bus charging stations.
- RTA Next is a 20-year regional transportation plan that will go to the voters before June 2026. As part of this effort, a request has been made to expand Dial-A-Ride to older adults (65+) on the weekends.

Grants have been secured to fund:

- Bus replacements and ensure fleet is operating within maintainable service life.
- Video cameras installed to improve accident and incident investigations as well as improve operator accident and injury prevention training.
- Passenger trip scheduling software that allows electronic real time driver manifests on tablets, improved trip notification to passengers, payment tracking for passenger trips, passenger access to trip scheduling, planning and real time monitoring (Passenger Portal).
- A robust lift preventative maintenance program, eliminating problems with passenger access to fleet vehicles.



How OV Maintains Services

This section provides background information for context and understanding related to the following state required elements for the 10-year plan:

- **Town Finances and Cost of Development.** Ensure services to current and future residents are maintained and funded with growth and development.
- **Public Services and Facilities.** Aims to maintain a consistent level of high-quality services for all Oro Valley residents.

10 Year Trends and Conditions



Over the past 10 years, costs to provide water continued to rise.



Operations and infrastructure maintenance costs continue to rise with population and service demand.

Importance to OV's Future

- Continued planning for increased water costs related to service and delivery.
- Controlling operating costs to the extent possible.
- A higher need to diversify revenue streams to help insulate the Town from fluctuations in the economically volatile revenue sources that Oro Valley currently relies on.

- Oro Valley has experienced a healthy growth in state (shared revenues) due to population growth.
- Retail and online shopping also continue to rise.

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10 Year Trends and Conditions



Reductions in construction sales tax is anticipated and will depend on development activity. Currently, the town is 88% built.



Over the past 10 years, there has been robust capital spending, particularly on new and expanded recreation opportunities.

- Growth in personnel costs, with additional personnel needed for new facilities and to meet population growth and service demands is anticipated.

Importance to OV's Future

- Planning for associated revenue impacts as the Town approaches build-out.
- Continued and increasing focus on annexation efforts, both to address build-out and grow the Town's revenues.
- Addressing aging infrastructure or building new facilities to maintain current levels of service to the community.

Sources and Additional Information

Please click on the links below for more information about the topics covered in this section.

- [How OV Maintains Services video](#)
- [Know your Town budget](#)
- [Annual budgets and other financial documents](#)
- [Map of Public Facilities \(Town-owned and others\)](#)

Town Finances

Town Budget

19 Primary funds create the Town's overall budget. Each fund has their own "savings" account.



More than 1/2 of the Town's funds are restricted. This means they can only be used for specific expenses.

General Fund

- The Town's largest (40% of the 23/24 budget) and primary operating fund.
- Offers the widest discretion in terms of how the Town may use the money but includes specific line items.
- Ongoing with no expected termination date.

Enterprise Fund

- Self-supported by user charges. Used for services provided to the public, such as the water and stormwater service fees.
- Includes the Water Utility and Stormwater Funds.

Capital Project Funds

- Revenues and expenditures related to specific capital projects.
- Typically have identified revenue sources and a defined timeframe.

Debit Service Fund

- Accounts for repayment of principal and interest on Town-issued debt.

Special Revenue Funds

- Legally mandated resources or programs with revenues/expenditures restricted to special purposes.
- Includes the Community Center Fund, Highway User Revenue Fund, Grants and Contributions Fund and the Seizures and Forfeitures Fund.

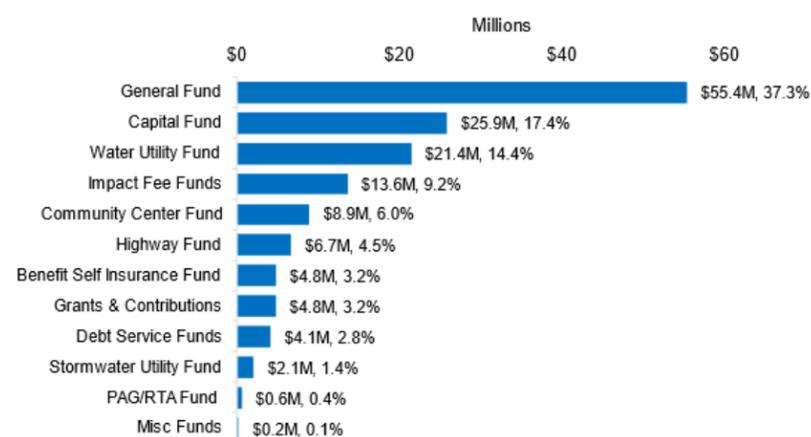
Internal Services Fund

- Used for operations serving other funds or departments within a government on a cost-reimbursement basis.
- Includes the Benefit Self Insurance Fund.

Since 2016....

- Operations & maintenance costs continue to rise.
- Growth in personnel costs. Additional personnel needed for new facilities and to meet population growth and service demands. Salary and benefit cost increased also to stay competitive.
- Cost of providing water service continues to grow.
- Robust capital spending, particularly on new and expanded recreation opportunities.

FY 2023/24 Adopted Budget by Fund

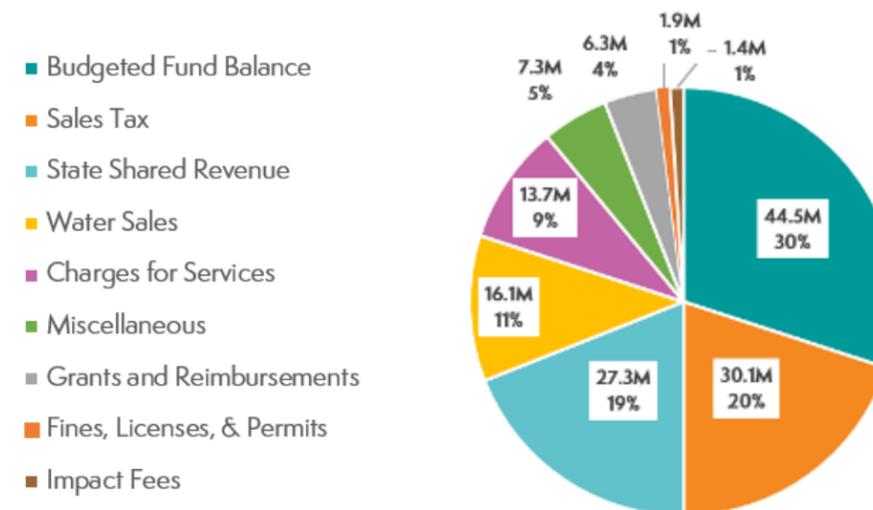


BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS



Revenue Sources

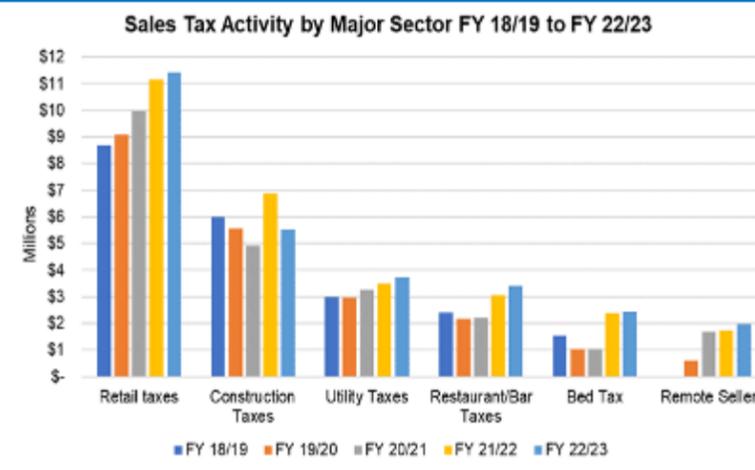
The chart below shows the total revenue sources for FY23/24.



Sales and Bed Tax

Barring any unforeseen economic declines, continued growth in bed taxes and most sales tax categories is expected with continued population growth and general inflation.

Fluctuation in construction sales tax is expected, and will depend on development activity. Timing of build-out, as well as annexation efforts will be key factors.



Did you know?

- Sales taxes and state shared revenues make up 55% of the Town's overall revenues.
- The Town relies heavily on revenues, such as sales tax that can be a bit volatile during economic swings.
- User fees and charges are stable revenue sources critical to offsetting or recouping operating costs.

Impact Fees

Cities and towns have the authority to impose one-time fees that provide a direct benefit to a new development area for their proportionate share of items.

Impact fees are a popular alternative to implementing or raising property taxes to pay for new infrastructure. Over the next 10 years, revenues from commercial and single-family residential activity are expected to either remain steady or decline, whereas there is potential for some growth increase in multi-family activity.

Town Finances

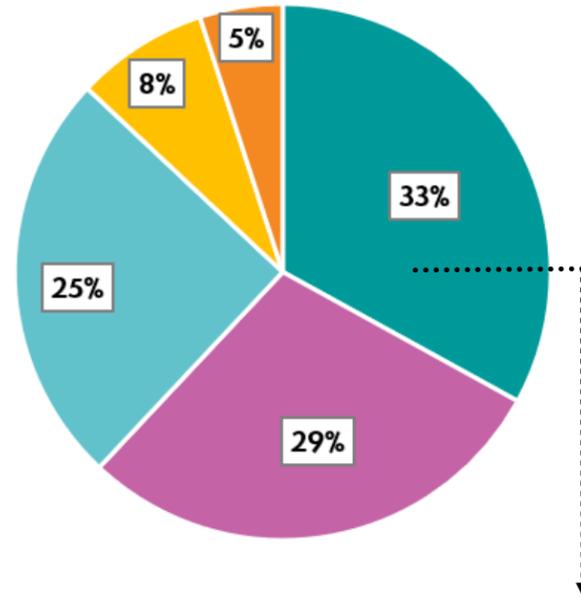


BACKGROUND REPORT: A SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS AND FUTURE TRENDS

General Fund Expenditures

The graph to the right shows the FY23/24 General Fund Expenditures.

- **Capital (33%)**—Cost to acquire or construct items valued over \$5,000 with a life expectancy of at least five years
- **Personnel (29%)**—Salary and benefit costs for Town employees
- **Operations and Maintenance (25%)**—Costs of operating and maintaining all Town assets, as well as service provision costs that do not include personnel or capital costs
- **Contingency Reserves (8%)**—Budgeted capacity for unforeseen expenditures
- **Debt Service (5%)**—Principal and interest costs on all debt issued by the Town



Capital Expenses

Capital expenditures are typically the largest component of the Town's expenditure budget.

They will fluctuate depending on the Town's Capital Improvement Program. Needs are expected to continue to grow and potentially outpace available funding sources.

Fiscal Management Policies and Practices

Oro Valley engages in the following practices to produce sound financial reporting and budgets.

- Dedicate one-time revenues to one-time expenditures and recurring revenues to recurring expenditures
- Prepare monthly budget-to-actual financial reports
- Prepare 10-year Capital Improvement Plan
- Evaluate funding for capital projects – allocate minimum of 5% of excise tax collections to Capital Fund
- Prepare 5-year financial forecast
- Maintain minimum 30% contingency reserve balance in General Fund
- Excess funds allocated to capital funding and reducing PSPRS unfunded liability
- Annual independent audit by CPA firm

Did you know?

The Town has won several finance awards, including:

- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award – 11th consecutive year
- GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting – 29th consecutive year

Public Services and Facilities

Oro Valley currently owns and operates 26 facilities (207,000 sf) to provide services to the community. This includes Town buildings, including the police department and substations, and recreational facilities.

In addition to Town-owned facilities, other public facilities include the Pima County library, public schools, post office and fire stations in Oro Valley.

Providing infrastructure is a primary function of a local government. Maintaining public safety, town services, parks and recreation facilities, adequate transportation systems, and the community's quality of life are all heavily dependent on how the Town plans to fund future infrastructure needs.



Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a comprehensive, ten-year plan of capital projects that will support the continued growth and development of the town.

The CIP is used in implementing the General Plan and supporting the Town's adopted Strategic Leadership Plan by:

- Developing a prioritized schedule of short-range and long-range community capital needs
- Evaluating projects
- Analyzing the community's ability and willingness to pay for them in the most cost-effective way.

The Town uses the CIP as its method in determining future infrastructure requirements and planning the financing of facilities and equipment to maintain the service levels provided to the community.

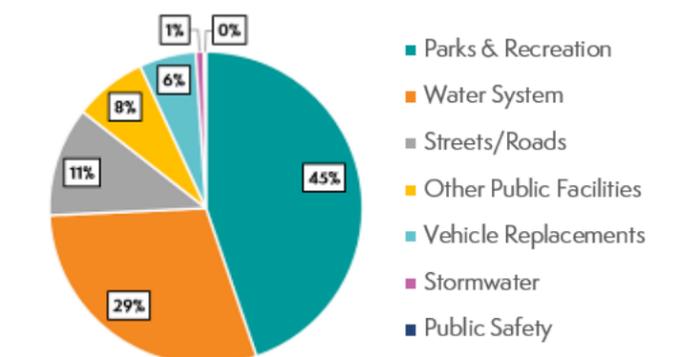
The Capital Improvement Plan is comprised of 6 major categories:

1. Parks & Recreation
2. Public Facilities and Vehicles/Equipment
3. Public Safety
4. Stormwater
5. Streets/Roads
6. Water System

A breakdown of the FY23/24 budget for each category is shown below.

FY24 CIP budget by category

	FY24 Budget	Millions	
Parks & Recreation	21,441,089	\$21.4M	44.9%
Water System	14,069,792	\$14.1M	29.5%
Street/Roads	5,427,534	\$5.4M	11.4%
Other Public Facilities	3,569,820	\$3.6M	7.5%
Vehicle Replacements	2,818,200	\$2.8M	5.9%
Stormwater	365,000	\$0.4M	0.8%
Public Safety	80,000	\$0.1M	0.2%
FY2023/24 Total CIP	\$47,771,435	\$47.8M	100%





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