

# 2005 Report Card



## Inland Empire's Infrastructure for Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

## 2005 Report Card for Inland Empire's Infrastructure

Transportation	D <sup>+</sup>
School Facilities (K-12)	C <sup>+</sup>
Aviation	A <sup>-</sup>
Flood Control & Urban Runoff	D
Parks, Recreation & Open Space	C <sup>+</sup>
Solid Waste	B <sup>-</sup>
Wastewater	B <sup>-</sup>
Water	C <sup>+</sup>
<b>Inland Empire's Infrastructure GPA</b>	<b>C</b>

**Annual Investment Needs - \$4 Billion**

## D+ Transportation

Local agencies are finding greater success in improving street conditions due to the success of long-term county-wide funding measures and fee programs; however, Inland Empire decision-makers continually strive to keep pace with deteriorating sections of highway with limited funds. For the Inland Empire highway system to achieve and/or maintain a satisfactory grade, significant funding sources need to be earmarked, approved and allocated both for new construction to add needed capacity and for maintenance of existing roads.

## C+ School Facilities (K-12)

Much of the region is facing twin challenges; the first challenge is in maintaining existing facilities while the second challenge is finding the necessary funding to build new facilities. The most convenient short-term solution that many local school districts turn to is to add portable classroom facilities to meet immediate enrollment needs.

## A- Aviation

All seven major airports in the Inland Empire have existing infrastructure and facilities that are in good to excellent condition, based on sound facilities management practices, and have sufficient annual funding for maintenance, repair, and capacity enhancements. The seven airports conduct operations with accepted safety standards as well as complying with other regulatory criteria specific to environmental compliance, airspace controls, noise levels, and community compatibility issues.

## D Flood Control and Urban Runoff

Master plans for both San Bernardino and Riverside counties indicate that major portions of the system infrastructure required to provide desired flood protection must still be constructed. As such, the existing systems are not providing desired capacities. In addition, as communities develop, runoff volumes increase, further compromising system capacities.

## C+ Parks, Recreation & Open Space

The Inland Empire is widely known as an area with a wealth of recreational opportunities. The area is quite fortunate to be home to a variety of environments including mountains, deserts and lakes. This complements a commitment by both counties to maintain significant areas of open space to serve the region's rapid growth. While current parks, recreational, and open space infrastructure is generally rated good to excellent, there is a growing concern that funding necessary to maintain this infrastructure is in jeopardy.

## B- Solid Waste

The Inland Empire's growing population, coupled with a high rate of development, impacts the capacity of the current and future integrated waste management infrastructure. Research, planning and funding of new waste management technologies will become even more critical as the population increases.

## B- Wastewater

Inland Empire wastewater agencies are doing an adequate job of recycling treated wastewater for industrial and irrigation purposes. To improve recycling efforts, agencies will have to work with regulators to develop comprehensive plans that maintain existing wetlands habitat.

## C+ Water

Overall, the state of the Inland Empire's water infrastructure is good, with some room for improvement. The biggest concern on the part of water agencies is the changing regulatory landscape that is both unpredictable and expensive to meet. If agencies with older infrastructure can find ways to repair or replace it, if additional recycled water facilities can be constructed and markets found for it, and if agencies can augment their current storage volume, the region as a whole would be better off.