3.1.5 Utilities/Emergency Services

This section addresses potential impacts to public utilities and emergency services that would result from construction of the HDC Project. Short-term construction impacts to public utilities and emergency services are addressed in Section 3.6.

Regulatory Setting

California Code of Regulations Streets and Highways Code Sections 700-711 discuss utility relocation policies and procedures. Public Resources Code 21083, 21087, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15126.2(a) require lead agencies to assess the impact of a proposed project by examining alterations in the human use of land, including public services. Compliance with Public Utilities Commission General Order 131-D is required if power lines or substations operating at 50-kilovolt (kV) or higher are to be relocated.

Affected Environment

Data for this section were obtained from the HDC Project Community Impact Assessment (CIA) (Caltrans, 2014) and data collection performed by the project consultants and/or consultation with local public agencies.

For purposes of discussion, the study area is broken down into the project areas within Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

Los Angeles County

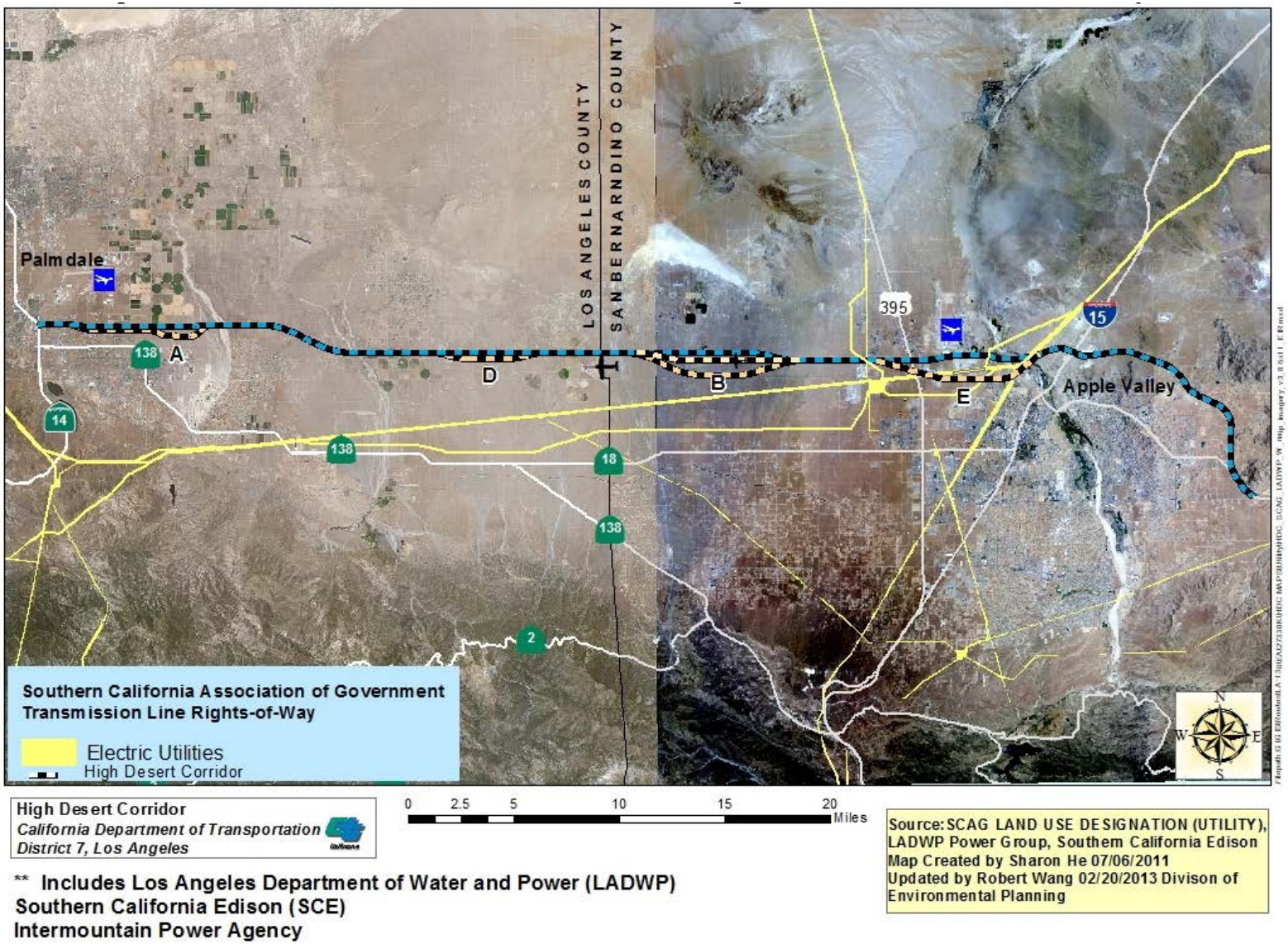
Public and Private Utilities

Public utilities include electrical power, natural gas, telephone service, cable television services, and communication services. Electricity is provided by Southern California Edison (SCE) to the Los Angeles County portion of the project area (refer to Figure 3.1.5-1). The Southern California Gas Company provides gas service to Palmdale and the surrounding communities (refer to Figure 3.1.5-2). Telephone services are provided by AT&T. Time Warner Cable provides services to Lancaster and Palmdale and the unincorporated areas of Lake Los Angeles and Sun Village. The Palmdale Water District and the Littlerock Creek Irrigation District provide water in the area.

Sewer service to Palmdale is provided by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District Number 20. Water treatment is provided by the Palmdale Water District treatment plant. Six disposal companies that use the Antelope Valley Landfill for solid waste disposal serve the City of Palmdale

Table 3.1.5-1 lists utility providers whose facilities either cross the project corridor or are within the Los Angeles County portion of the study area.

Figure 3.1.5-1 Power Transmission Lines along the High Desert Corridor



** Includes Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
Southern California Edison (SCE)
Intermountain Power Agency

Figure 3.1.5-2 Natural Gas Lines in the Los Angeles County Portion of the High Desert Corridor

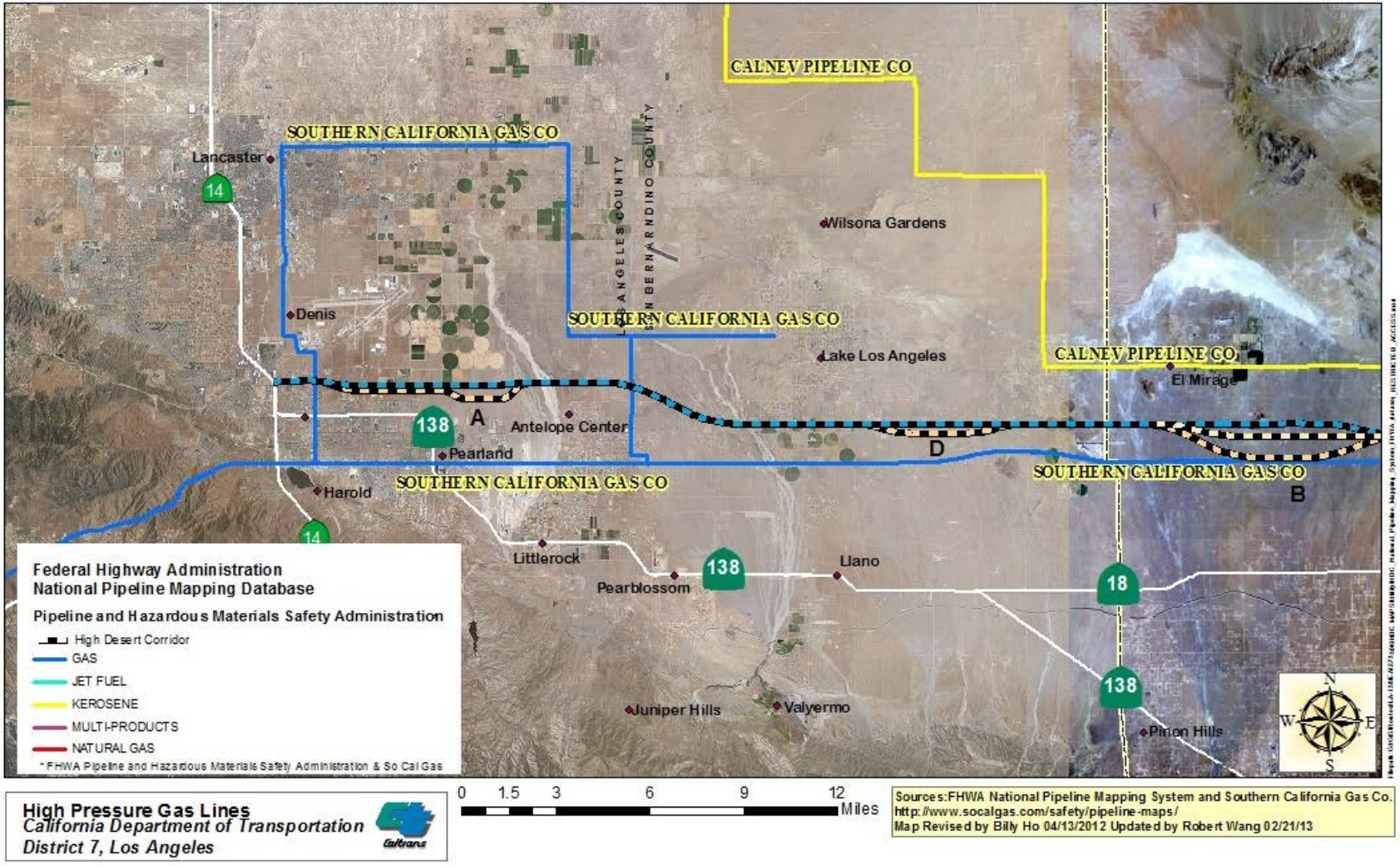


Table 3.1.5-1 Utilities within Los Angeles County Portion of the High Desert Corridor

Utility Company	Category	Utility Description
Antelope Valley East Kern County	Water	24-inch Water Line
AT&T	Telephone	Telephone/Telecommunications Line
City of Palmdale	Sewer	8-inch Sewer Line, 39-inch Sewer Line, 33-inch Sewer Line
City of Palmdale	Sewer	15- and 18-inch Sewer Lines
Level 3 Communications	Communications/Internet	6-2" HDPE Conduits/Fiber-Optic Line
Palmdale Water District	Water	12-inch Water Line
SCE	Electricity	Overhead Power Lines (approximately 66 kV to 500 kV)
Southern California Gas Company	Gas	4- and 6-inch Gas Lines
Sprint	Telephone	Fiber-Optic Line
Time Warner Cable	Cable	Cable

Source: Appendix J, Utility Conflict Matrix

Fire Protection and Emergency Services

Hospital service is provided by Palmdale Hospital Medical Center, which provides 24-hour emergency service. The Los Angeles County Fire Department provides fire protection services for the project area from five fire stations.

- Headquarters, Station Number 24 located in Palmdale at 1050 West Avenue P
- Station Number 37 located in Palmdale at 38318 9th Street East
- Station Number 131 located in Palmdale at 2629 East Avenue S
- Station Number 93 located in Palmdale at 5624 East Avenue R
- Station Number 92 located in Littlerock at 8905 East Avenue U

Figure 3.1.5-3 shows the locations of fire protection, emergency, and police protection services. Figure 3.1.5-4 shows the location of fire hydrants in the Los Angeles County portion of the project area.

Police Protection Services

Police protection is provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, with additional services provided by the California Highway Patrol (CHP). The CHP provides traffic enforcement for the unincorporated area and will provide emergency assistance with respect to general law enforcement when necessary. The closest police station to the project area is the Los Angeles County Sheriff Station located at 750 East Avenue Q, near the intersection of Sierra Highway and Avenue Q, approximately 1 mile south of the HDC. The CHP Antelope Valley Office is located approximately 12 miles north of the project at 2041 West Avenue I in Lancaster. Refer to Figure 3.1.5-3 for locations of police protection facilities.

Figure 3.1.5-3 Fire Protection, Emergency, and Police Protection Services Locations in Los Angeles County Portion of the High Desert Corridor

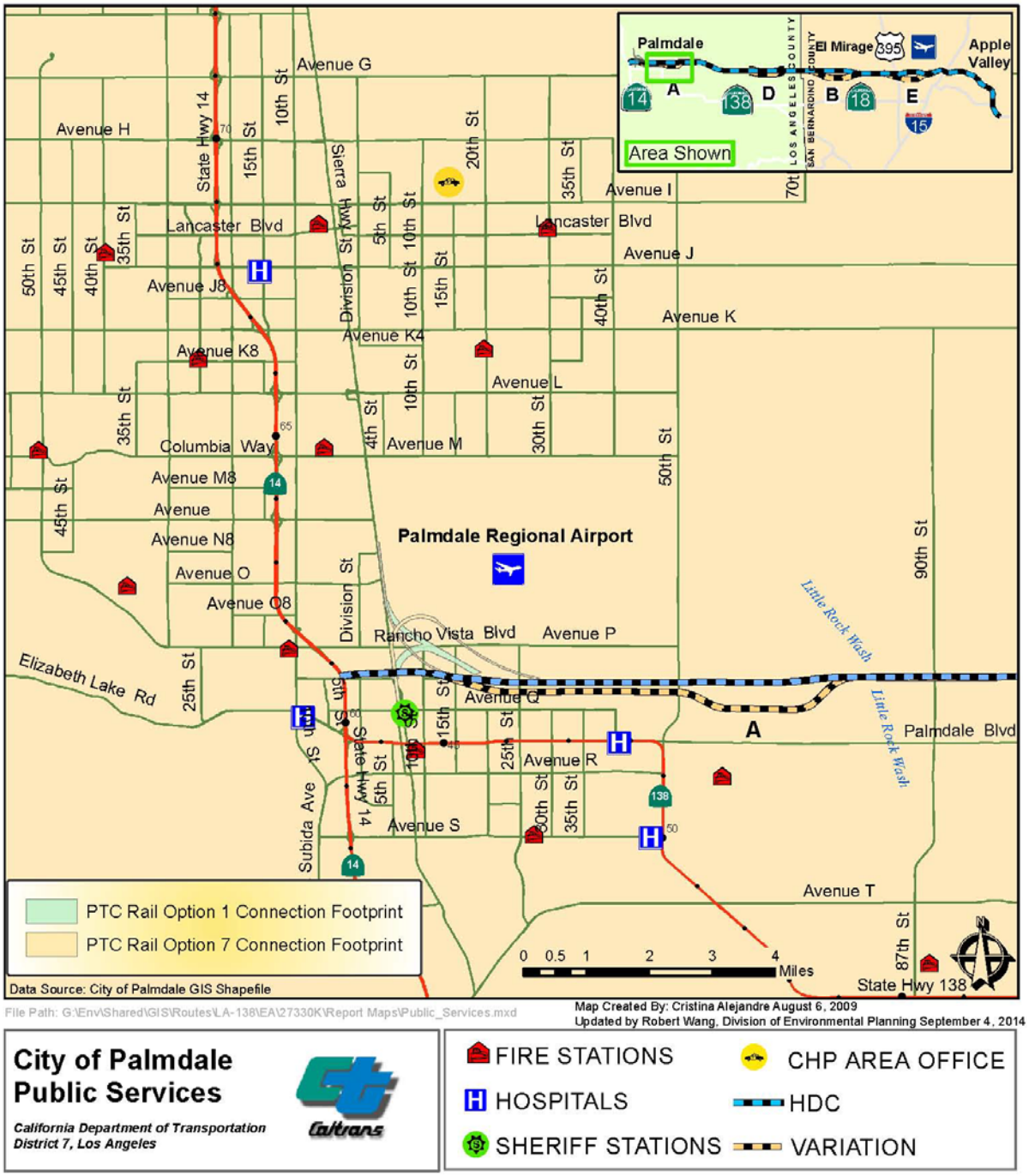
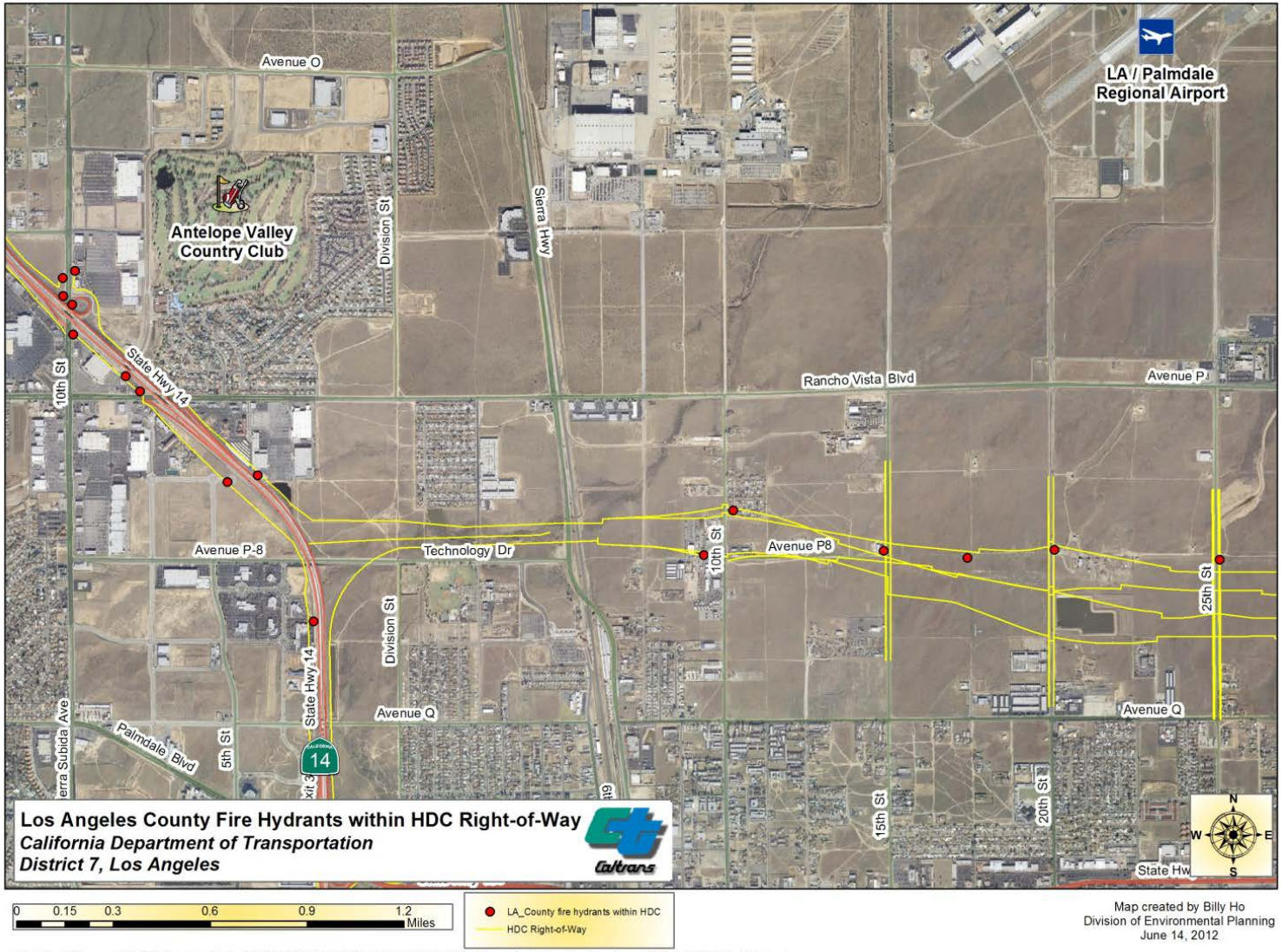


Figure 3.1.5-4 Fire Hydrant Locations in Los Angeles County Portion of the High Desert Corridor



G:\Env\Shared\GIS\Routes\LA-138\EA\27330K\HDC MAPS\LA County Fire Hydrants within HDC R-W.mxd

San Bernardino County

Public and Private Utilities

Electricity to the San Bernardino County portion of the project area is provided by SCE (refer to Figure 3.1.5-5). The Southern California Gas Company and Southwest Gas Corporation provide gas service to Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley, and surrounding communities (refer to Figure 3.1.5-6). Telephone services are provided by AT&T. Golden State Water provides the water service to Apple Valley residents. Sewer service to Adelanto, Victorville, and Apple Valley is provided by Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority. Water treatment is provided by Victorville Water District and Golden State Water and Apple Valley Ranchos Water District for Apple Valley. San Bernardino County provides solid waste disposal at its Victorville Landfill facility.

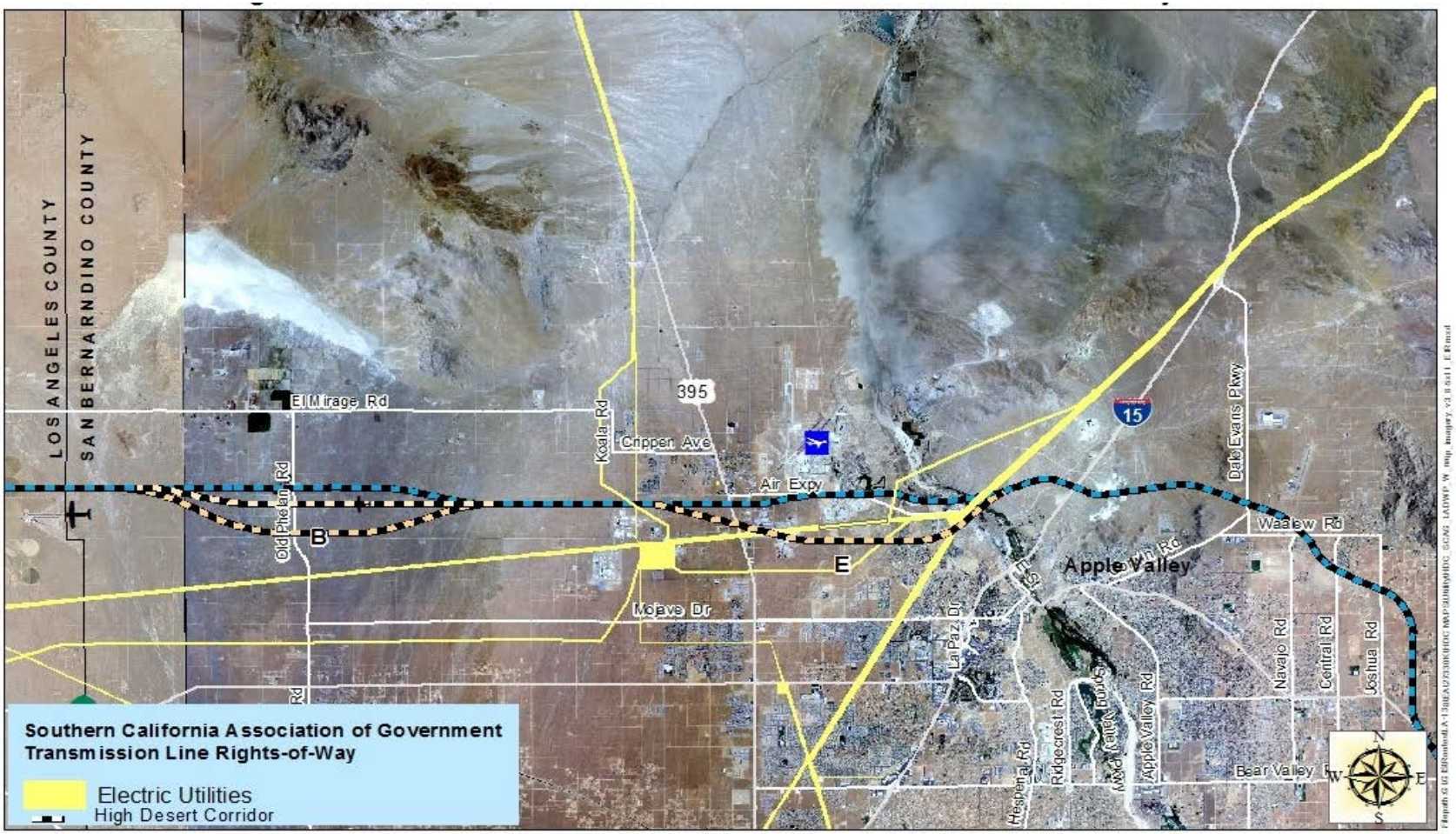
Table 3.1.5-2 lists utility service providers (and other entities) whose facilities either cross the project corridor or are within the San Bernardino County portion of the project area.

Table 3.1.5-2 Utilities within San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor

Utility Company	Category	Utility Description
Antelope Valley East Kern County	Water	24-inch Water Line
AT&T	Telephone	Telephone/Telecommunications Line
CalNev	Oil	4- and 6-inch Oil Lines
City of Adelanto	Sewer	12-inch PVC Sewer Line
City of Adelanto	Water	8-inch PVC line, 18-inch Water Line
City of Victorville	Sewer	18- and 27-inch Sewer Lines
City of Victorville	Water	4- and 8-inch Water Lines
Continental Telecommunications Company	Telephone	Telephone/Telecommunications Line
Kinder Morgan	Gas	8- and 14-inch High Pressure Petroleum Pipes
Level 3 Communications	Communications/ Internet	6-2" HDPE Conduits/Fiber-Optic Line
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Electricity	Overhead Power Lines (approximately 66 kV to 500 kV)
Mojave Water Agency	Water	48-inch Water Line
SCE	Electricity	Overhead Power Lines (approximately 66 kV to 500 kV)
Southern California Gas Company	Gas	4-, 6-, and 30-inch Gas Lines
Southwest Gas	Gas	Distribution Line/High-Pressure Line
Sprint	Telephone	Fiber-Optic Line
Time Warner Cable	Cable	Cable/Telecommunications Duct Bank
Victorville Water	Water	16-inch Water Line

Source: Appendix J, Utility Conflict Matrix

Figure 3.1.5-5 Power Transmission Lines in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor



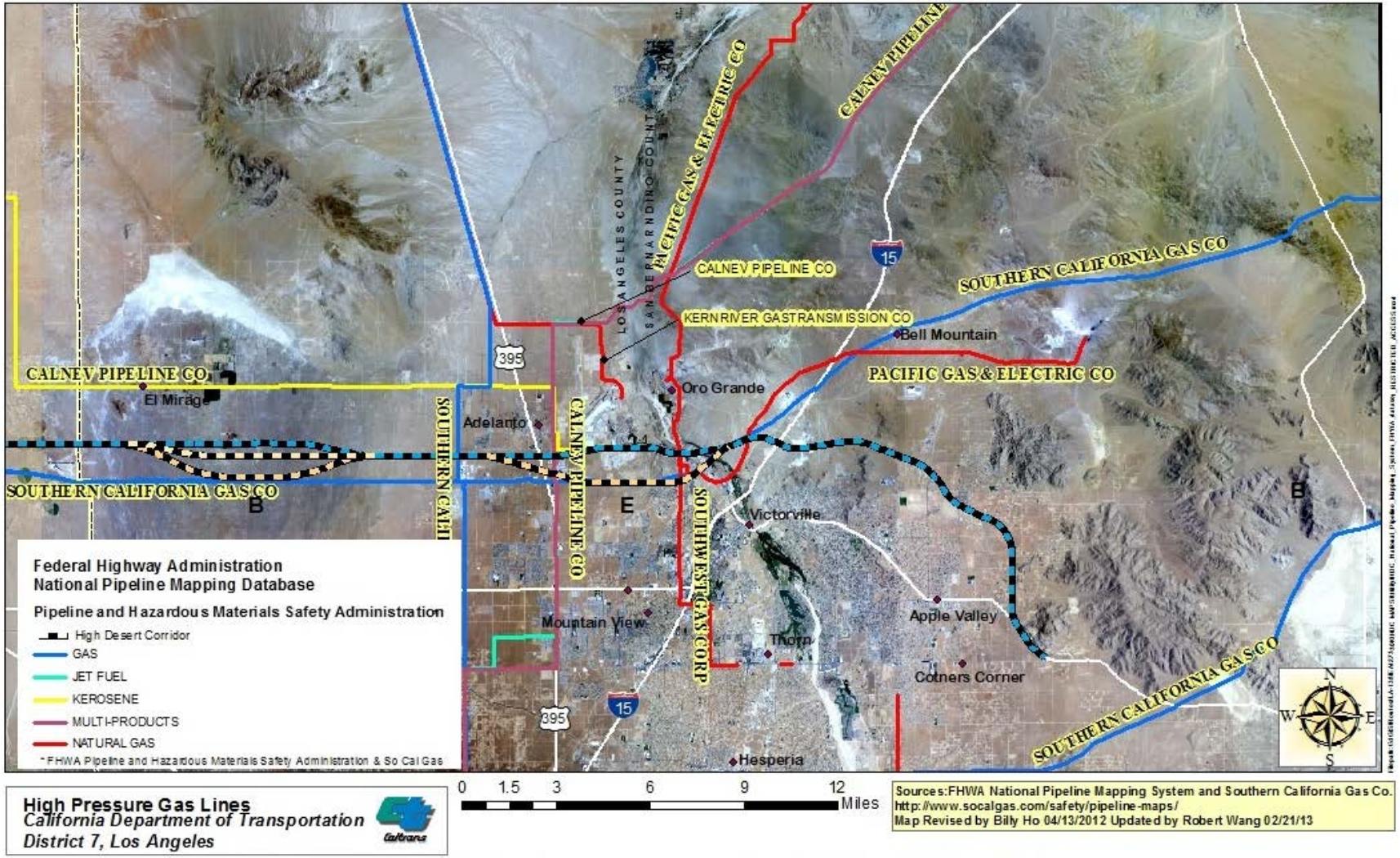
High Desert Corridor
California Department of Transportation
District 7, Los Angeles

0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles

Source: SCAG LAND USE DESIGNATION (UTILITY), LADWP Power Group, Southern California Edison
Map Created by Sharon He 07/06/2011
Updated by Robert Wang 02/20/2013 Divison of Environmental Planning

** Includes Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
Southern California Edison (SCE)
Intermountain Power Agency

Figure 3.1.5-6 Natural Gas Lines in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor



Fire Protection and Emergency Services

Hospital service is provided by Victor Valley Community Hospital, which provides 24-hour emergency service. The San Bernardino County Fire Department provides fire protection for the project area from three San Bernardino County fire stations.

- Station 11 located in El Mirage at 2929 El Mirage Road
- Station 321 located in Adelanto at 1741 Hardy Avenue
- Station 322 located in Adelanto at 10370 Rancho Road

Six Apple Valley Fire District stations also serve the project area.

- Station 331 (Headquarters) located in Apple Valley at 22400 Headquarters Drive
- Station 332 located in Apple Valley at 18857 Highway 18
- Station 334 located in Apple Valley at 12143 Kiowa Road
- Station 335 located in Apple Valley at 21860 Tussing Ranch Road
- Station 336 located in Apple Valley at 19235 Yucca Loma Road
- Station 337 located in Apple Valley at 19305 Jess Ranch Parkway

Figure 3.1.5-7 shows the locations of fire protection, emergency, and police protection services. Figures 3.1.5-8 through 3.1.5-11 show the locations of fire hydrants that are within the proposed HDC right-of-way (ROW) in San Bernardino County.

Police Protection Services

Police protection is provided by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, with additional services provided by the CHP. The CHP provides traffic enforcement for the unincorporated area and will provide emergency assistance with respect to general law enforcement when necessary. The closest Sheriff's station to the project area is located at 14931 Dale Evans Parkway, north of the intersection of Thunderbird Road and 1 mile west of Happy Trails Highway. The CHP Victorville Office is located approximately 4 miles south of the project at 14210 Amargosa Road.

Environmental Consequences

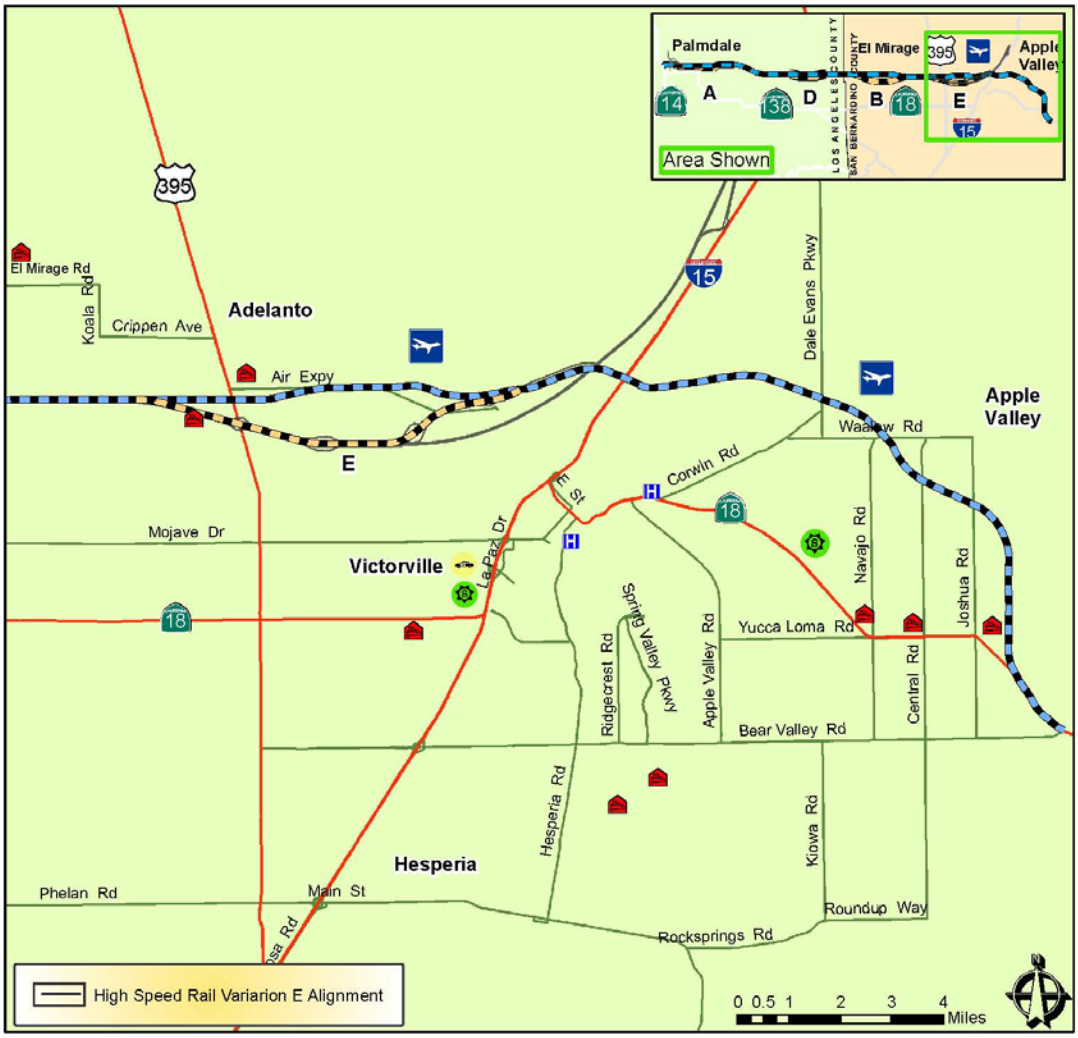
Potential impacts to public utilities and services were determined by inventorying those facilities that were within 0.5 mile of the HDC. The assessment was based on such factors as safety, circulation, accessibility, and disruption of operation during construction and operation of the proposed project. Facilities were evaluated to determine which ones would be directly or indirectly affected by the HDC.

Utilities

No Build Alternative

The HDC would not be built with the No Build Alternative; therefore, there would be no impacts to utilities, including relocation of facilities.

Figure 3.1.5-7 Fire Protection, Emergency, and Police Protection Services Locations in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor



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Map Created By: Cristina Alejandre August 6, 2009
Updated by Robert Wang, Division of Environmental Planning September 4, 2014

El Mirage, Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley Public Services
California Department of Transportation
District 7, Los Angeles

FIRE STATIONS
CHP AREA OFFICE
HOSPITALS
HDC
SHERIFF STATIONS
VARIATION

Figure 3.1.5-8 Fire Hydrant Locations in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor Project (Section 1)

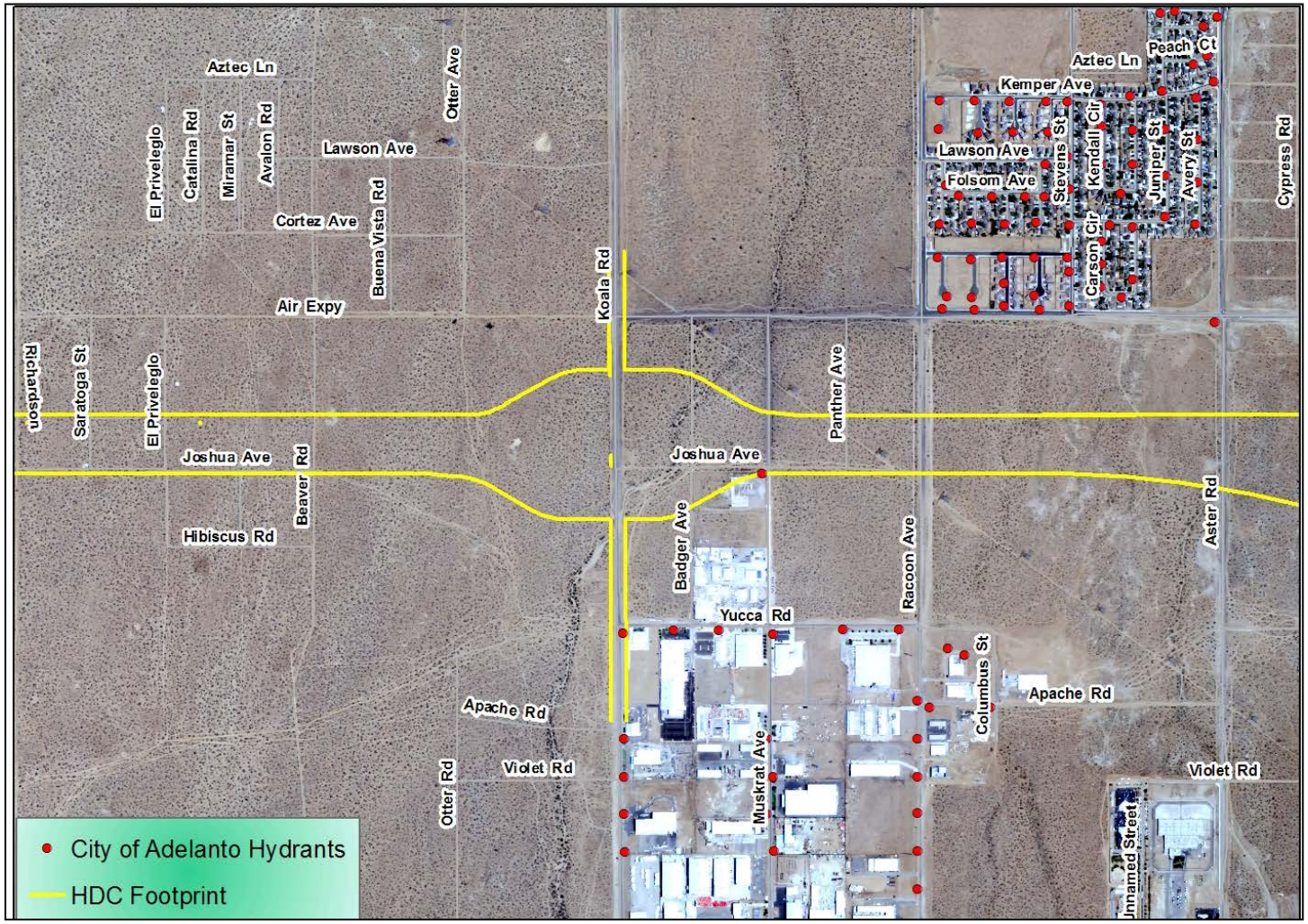


Figure 3.1.5-9 Fire Hydrant Locations in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor Project (Section 2)

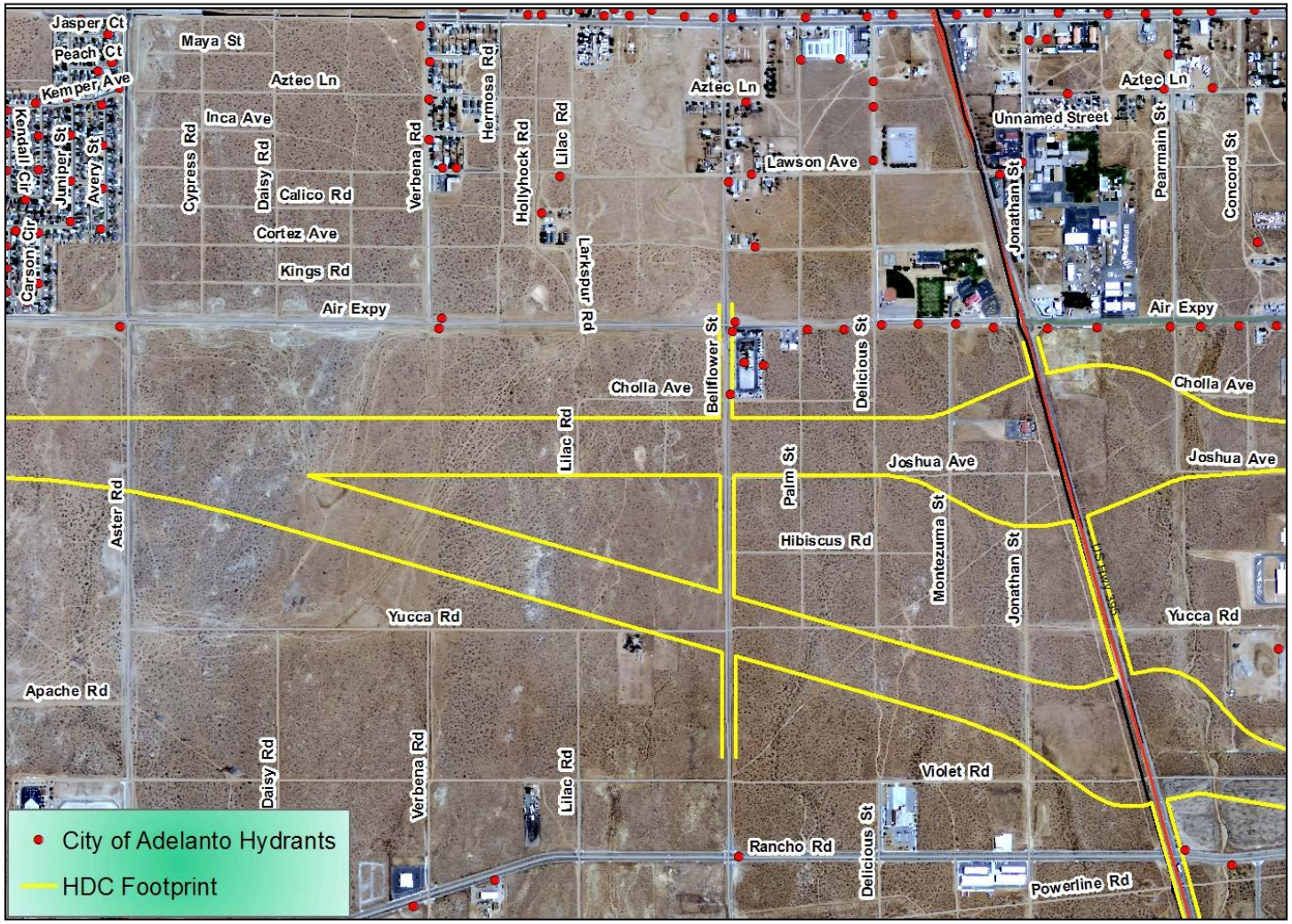


Figure 3.1.5-10 Fire Hydrant Locations in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor Project (Section 3)

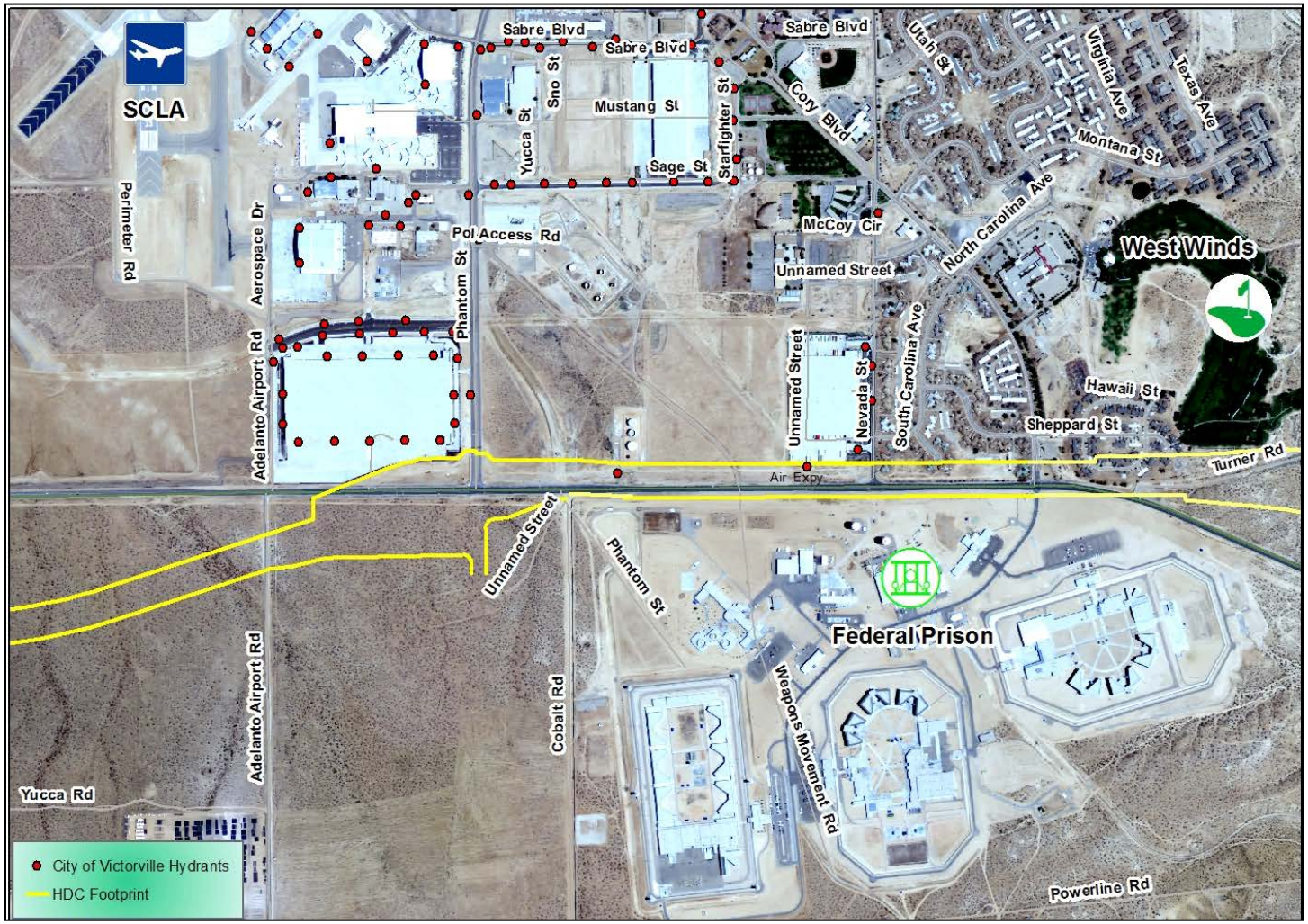
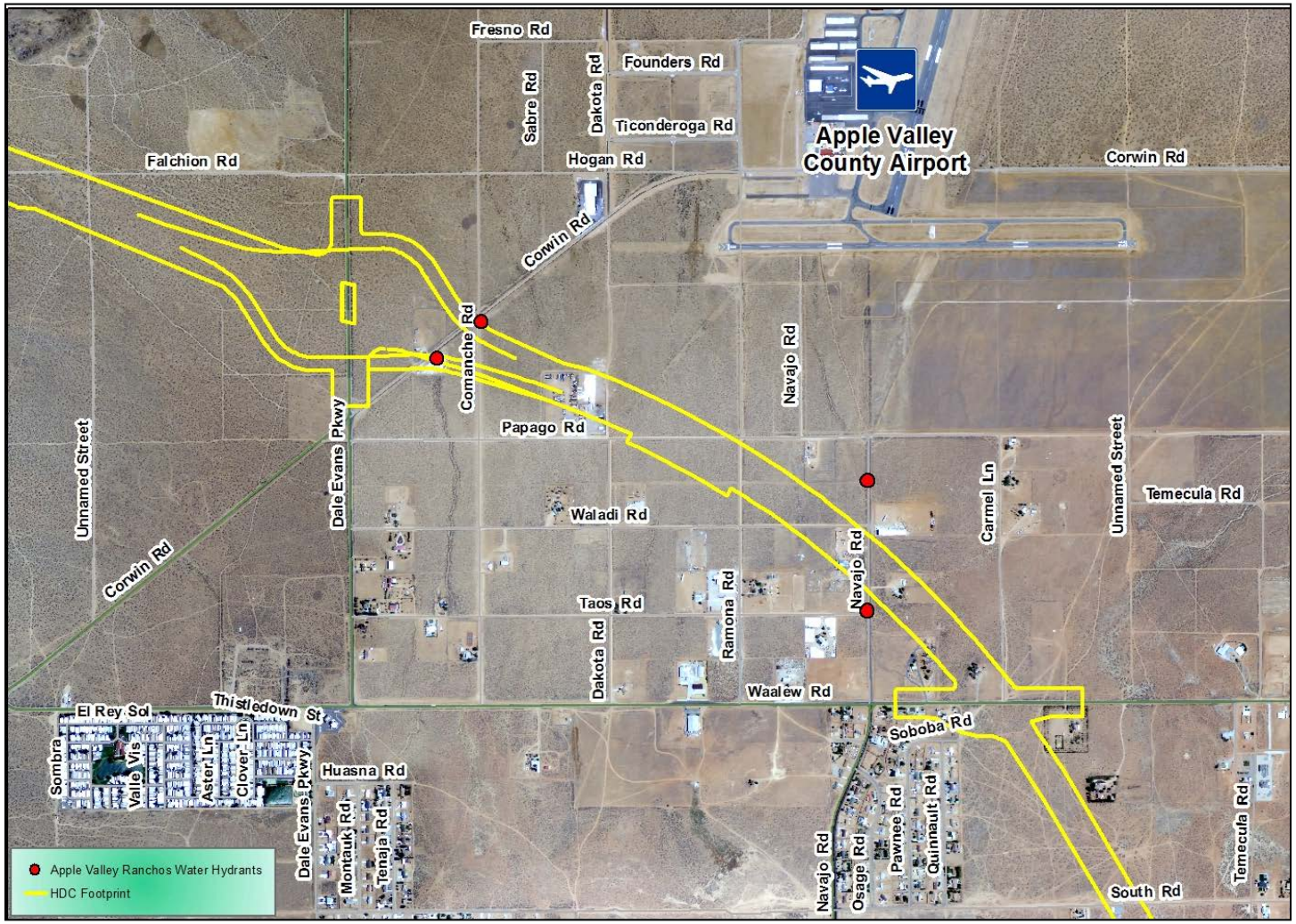


Figure 3.1.5-11 Fire Hydrant Locations in San Bernardino County Portion of the High Desert Corridor Project (Section 4)



Common to All Build Alternatives

Utilities are allowed in Caltrans ROW with an encroachment permit. Utility facilities (e.g., water lines, sewer laterals, electrical connections/lines/poles, natural gas service lines, streetlights, fire hydrants, and cable television lines and utility boxes) in the ROW would be subject to abandonment, removal, and/or relocation or replacement as a result of project construction.

Coordination with utility companies is a standard procedure during the design phase. Utility companies would be given enough notice to relocate their facilities before construction or at a later stage of construction as appropriate. Utility relocation would be done using standard engineering practices to avoid substantial service disruption.

It is estimated that the highway-only alternatives would have an impact on utilities at approximately 300 locations and the highway-plus-rail alternatives would have an impact on utilities at approximately 400 locations within the different communities along the alignment. Appendix J provides information on the owners, type of utility, and the general location of the utility affected by the project build alternatives.

Emergency Services

No Build Alternative

The HDC would not be built with the No Build Alternative; therefore, there would be no immediate impacts to emergency services. In the future, as levels of service on local roads deteriorate, response times of emergency response vehicles may increase.

Common to All Build Alternatives

The proposed project would not result in direct impacts to medical facilities, or fire or police stations. It is likely the proposed project may improve response times for emergency services to other areas that do not currently have direct access to a major travel route. The project may improve response times by allowing current traffic to access a different route, which would reduce congestion on existing local roadways.

However, the project could create the need for additional personnel and equipment in the areas of CHP and possibly emergency services. This need will be mitigated by the fact that the project will increase the economic vitality of the region, and it is anticipated to improve the overall local and regional fiscal conditions.

Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

Impacts to utilities and facilities, as well as emergency services, will be avoided as part of the project design. Implementation of standard conditions of approval and close coordination with the utilities/emergency service providers will further minimize impacts to utilities and facilities. Because there would be no impacts to utility systems or emergency services over the long term, no mitigation measures are required.

SC-UT-1 Caltrans will coordinate with all affected private and public service utilities during the design stage to identify any potential conflicts with

existing utilities. This process will include evaluation of ways to avoid utility relocations by refining the project design and/or protecting existing utilities in place. After seeking approval from utility providers, final relocation/protection in place measures will be incorporated into the final plans and specifications. Per Caltrans requirements, all linear underground utilities within Caltrans' ROW will be encased from ROW to ROW in either steel or concrete.

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