

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

### Regional Setting

The seat of Riverside County and the largest, most urbanized City of the Inland Empire region, the City of Riverside stretches from the banks of the Santa Ana River several miles south over a wide swath of alluvial plains, small hills, and valleys. The City's Planning Area, encompassing approximately 143 square miles, includes a broad array of land uses, ranging from high-density residential, and commercial to semi-rural to agricultural.

The City of Riverside is located in western Riverside County and is bounded on the north by the unincorporated Riverside County communities of Rubidoux and Jurupa and the cities of Colton and Rialto (San Bernardino County), on the east by Riverside County and the City of Moreno Valley, to the south by unincorporated Riverside County, and to the west by the Riverside County and the cities of Norco and Corona. **Figure 3-1, Regional Location** (same as Figure 2-1) shows the regional location.

State Route 91, a major regional freeway, traverses the City east to west; Interstate 215 runs in a north-south direction in the City's eastern third. The combined State Route 60/I-215 runs for several miles through the City.

### Environmental Topic Area Environmental Settings

Readers are directed to refer to each analysis section of the EIR (Sections 5.1 through 5.16) for detailed discussions of environmental setting relative to each environmental topic analyzed.

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