



AT A GLANCE

**25 FACILITIES
SUPPORTING
PUBLIC LIFE**

**7 RECENTLY RENOVATED
OR NEW FACILITIES**

**6 AGING FACILITIES
IN NEED OF UPDATES/
EXPANSION**



FACILITIES, SERVICES AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

EXISTING CONDITIONS	116
CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (CCN)	116
WATER	116
NATURAL GAS	116
SEWER	116
ELECTRIC, TELEPHONE, INTERNET AND CABLE TELEVISION	116
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	119
FACILITY CONDITIONS AND RELATED PLANNING EFFORTS	122
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES	124
POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS	126
PLAN ELEMENT ADVISORY BOARD RECAP	128
STRENGTHS	128
OPPORTUNITIES	128
PRIOR GOALS (2016)	128
FACILITIES GOALS	129

EXISTING CONDITIONS

For New Braunfels to remain a desirable, livable place, its community services and facilities must continue to provide a high quality of life amid a growing population. The momentum of the city's rapid growth provides an opportunity to meet these needs in innovative ways.

The Facilities, Services and Capital Improvements Plan Element considers the provision and location of public facilities and services. These include police, fire, emergency services, community safety and security, libraries, government buildings, community service centers for all generations, and sustainable solid waste and recycling goals.

Several facilities, some of which are owned by the City of New Braunfels, support municipal functions and public life. Currently, the community has:

- one police station,
- six fire stations,
- one City Hall/Municipal Court space,
- two recreation centers, Landa Recreation Center and Das Rec,
- one main library, as well as a smaller library within the Westside Community Center,
- one airport,
- two cemeteries,
- three hospitals, and
- one recycling center.



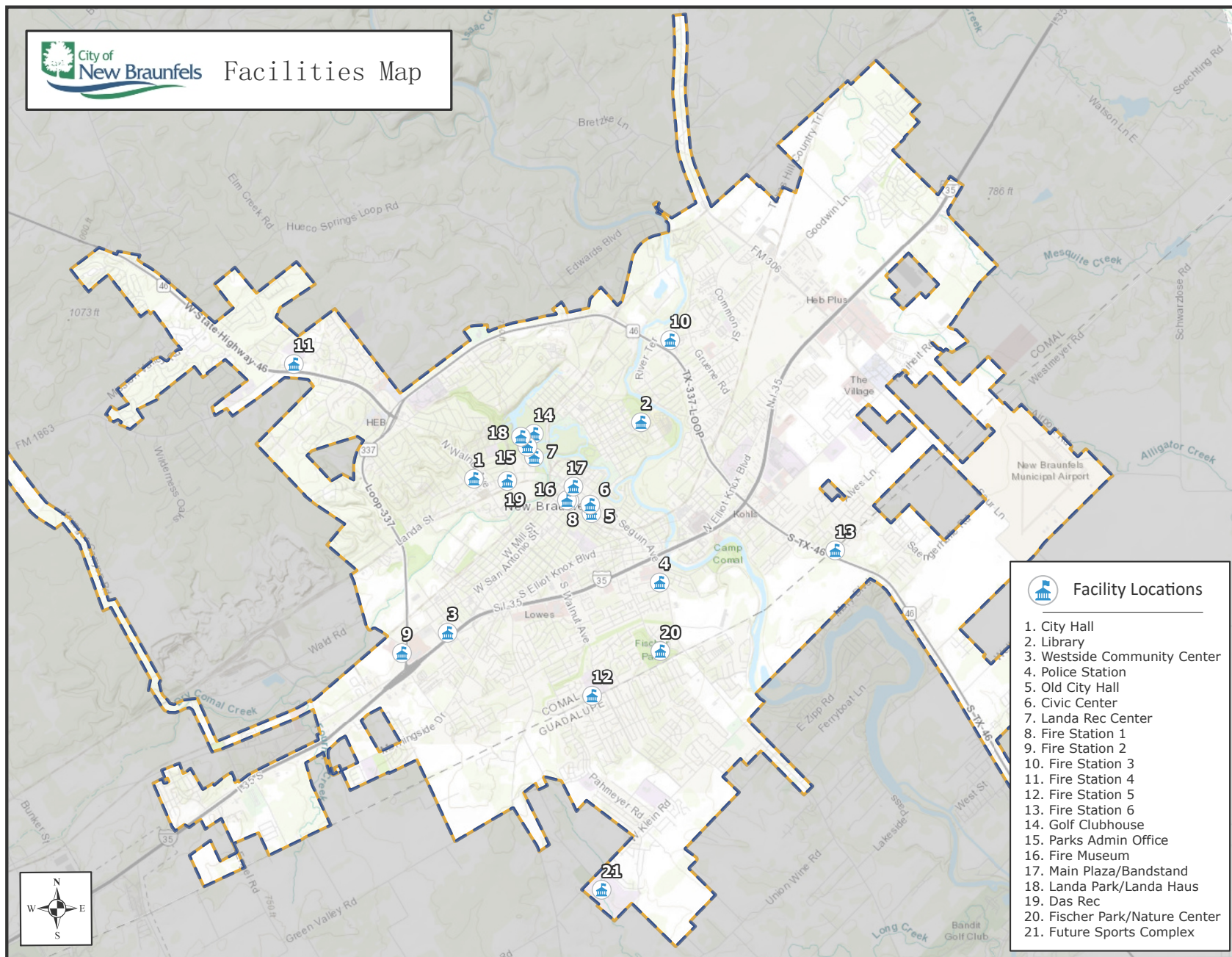


Figure 5: Facilities

CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (CCN)

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requires that entities providing water or sewer utility service must first have obtained a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CCN) that includes the area in which the consuming facility is located. The following is a summary of all of the entities providing utility, sewer and electric services In New Braunfels.

Water:

As indicated on the Facilities, Services and Capital Improvements map, there are several entities that provide water services for residents of New Braunfels. New Braunfels Utilities (NBU) provides water to most of the city. Other suppliers also include Crystal Clear Water Supply Corporation (serves areas northeast of the city), Springs Hill Water Supply Corporation (serves areas along SH 46 toward Seguin), Canyon Lake Water Service Company (serves areas along FM 306 west of the city), and Green Valley Special Utility District (serves areas southeast of the city).

Natural Gas:

CenterPoint Energy provides gas service to many areas, however, not all parts of the city receive natural gas service.

Sewer:

Sewer service is typically provided by New Braunfels Utilities (serves most of the city), however additional providers include the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA, serves the areas south of Klein Road and east of the Guadalupe River toward Seguin) and Green Valley Special Utility District (serves areas southeast of the city). Areas that do not have sewer service utilize on-site septic systems, which are permitted by the Health Department in the city limits and by the appropriate county outside the city limits. Minimum lot size for a septic system in the city limits is one-half of an acre. Minimum lot size in Comal County with a public water supply and in Guadalupe County is one acre. Minimum lot size in Comal County with on-site water (well) is five acres.

Package Wastewater Treatment Plant: Package wastewater treatment plants are pre-manufactured facilities that are used in small communities or individual properties to treat wastewater. These types of treatment plants are typically used with a limited number of people or in remote, rural locations. Some advantages are that they are easy to operate and install, odor free, low sludge yield, and are often better at handling organic loading and flow fluctuation. Some disadvantages are that they can not achieve denitrification or phosphorous removal, have limited flexibility to changing effluent requirements, require more energy and require more space than other processes. (EPA Wastewater Technology Fact Sheet Package Plants) Where wastewater treatment is needed outside of an existing CCN or wastewater service provider, a package wastewater treatment plant may be considered.

Electric, Telephone, Internet and Cable Television:

New Braunfels Utilities provides electric service to most of the city. Other electricity providers include the Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVCE, serves the area south of County Line Road) and Pedernales Electric Cooperative (serves the area to the west of the city along FM 306). AT&T is the primary telephone provider in New Braunfels, although many private homeowners are moving to solely cellular phone services provided by AT&T, Sprint, or Verizon just to name a few. The Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative serves the area to the west of New Braunfels, outside of the city limits. HughesNet provides satellite internet and phone service to the community. Spectrum provides cable television service to many areas of the city, while Direct TV is also available in many areas.

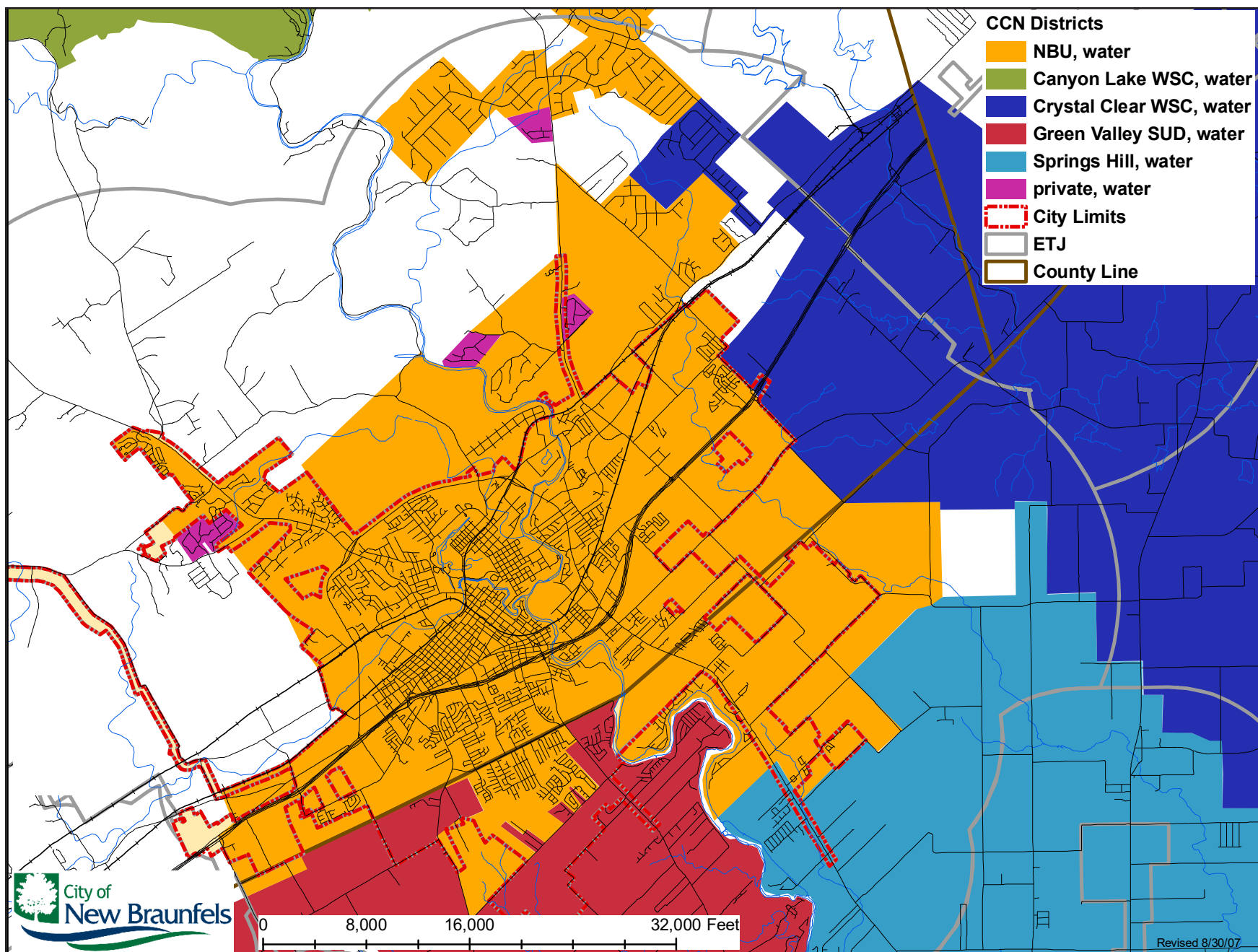


Figure 6: CCN Water Districts

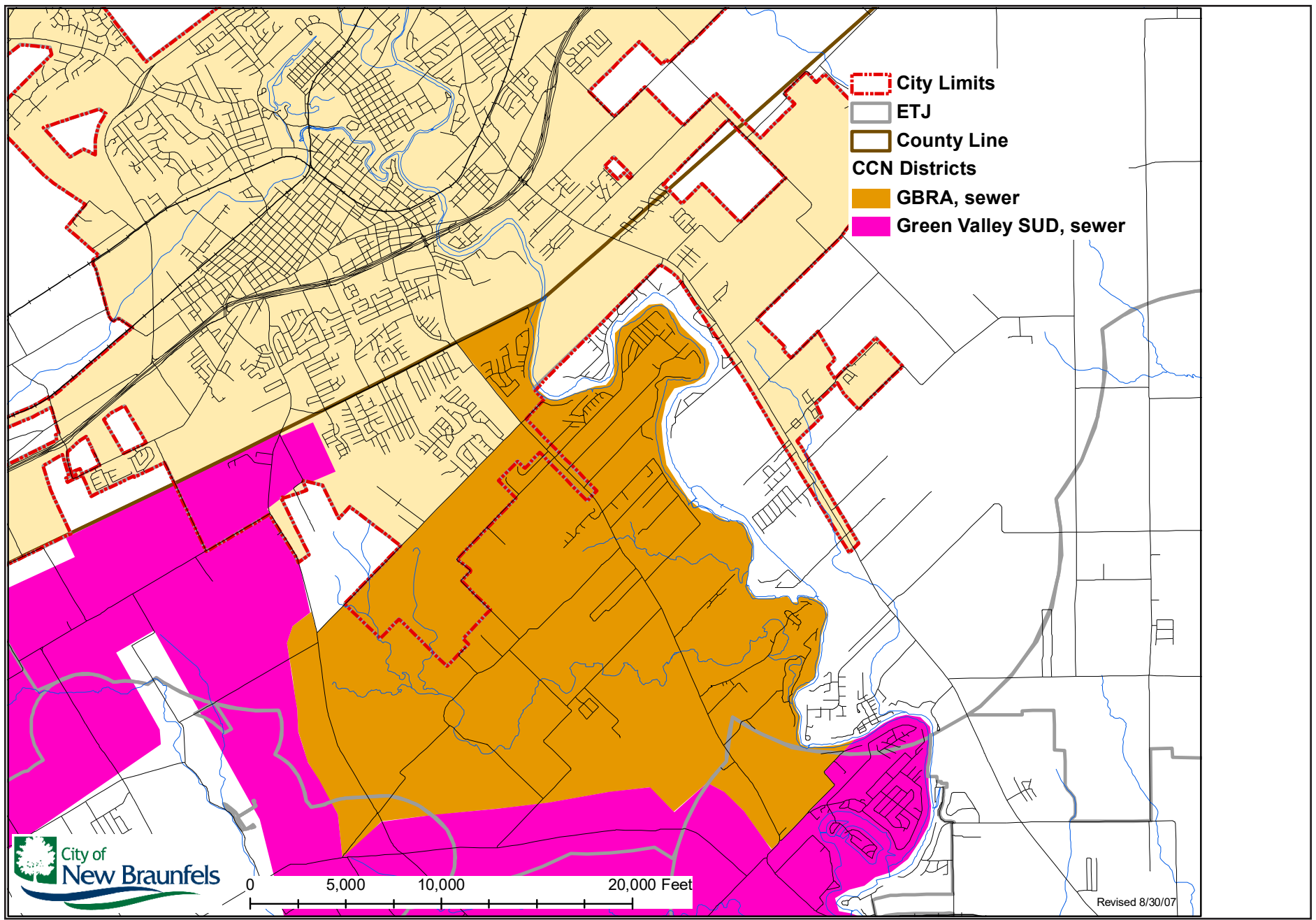


Figure 7: CCN Sewer Districts

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) provides prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation of City of New Braunfels emergency incidents. The Office is also responsible for the Alert Notification Siren System, Citizen Preparedness Training, Emergency Operations Center, Mitigation Planning, Situational Awareness Monitoring and Staff Training. NBCERT (New Braunfels Community Emergency Response Team) is an emergency preparedness program supported by the Department of Homeland Security. It was established by the Office of Emergency Management in 2010 with support from the City of New Braunfels. The Office of Emergency Management also provides programs for youth, which can be found on the City's website.

On a national scale, ISO Community Hazard Mitigation grades communities every ten years for their ability to prevent property loss from fire. The grading scale is from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best and 10 as no fire protection. Currently, New Braunfels is an ISO 1. ISO consists of 4 main categories: Water supply, Emergency communications (Dispatch), Fire Department, and Community Risk Reduction. Within Community Risk Reduction, a community receives maximum points if they operate under current Building and Fire Code editions adopted without amendments.

Other national standards include the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1710. This industry standard requires all fire stations to be within 4 minutes travel time of all structures within a jurisdiction. Secondary emergency access helps fulfill this standard and has been a part of fire codes for over 20 years. It ensures access for the Fire Department when the normal access routes have been blocked.



The following table describes facilities that are important to life in New Braunfels.

FACILITY	LOCATION	APPROX. SIZE	DESCRIPTION OF USES
Recycling Facility	488 S Castell Avenue		Drop off recycling for apartments, businesses and visitors
City Hall/Municipal Court	550 Landa Street	62,000 SF	Houses Public Works (Engineering, Watershed, Facilities), Capital Programs, Planning and Community Development, Fire Administration, Human Resources, Finance, IT/ GIS, Office of the City Manager, City Attorney, City Secretary, City Council Chambers, Emergency Operations Center, and Municipal Court
Civic/Convention Center	375 S Castell Avenue	50,000 SF	Meeting spaces including an exhibit hall, ballroom, and five flexible conference rooms
Westside Community Center and Library	2932 Interstate Highway 35 S	9,000 SF	Full court gymnasium, commercial kitchen, lunchroom, meeting rooms, public library branch
Das Rec (opening July 2018)	345 Landa Street	75,000 SF	Gymnasiums, multi-purpose rooms, fitness area, track, locker rooms, leisure and competition pools
Landa Recreation Center	164 Landa Park Dr.	18,000 SF	Seasonal programs, special events, gym and meeting room
New Braunfels Public Library	700 E Common Street	28,000 SF	Houses the New Braunfels Public Library
Police Station	1488 S Seguin Avenue	30,000 SF	Houses Police Department, Criminal Investigations Division, records, evidence and training
Fire Station #1	169 S Hill Street	9,500 SF	NB Fire Department currently has an ISO rating of 1. Next to museum, offers tours of station. Staffs 9 firefighters per shift. Houses aerial truck, engine company, personal water craft, rafts, Battalion Chief, Captain and Lieutenant, special operations truck, squad/light rescue vehicle, and two ambulances.
Fire Station #2	4120 Loop 337	2,700 SF	Houses brush truck, engine company, a Lieutenant, and one ambulance.
Fire Station #3	1333 Hanz Drive	3,000 SF	One of the busiest stations in the city. Houses an ambulance, utility truck, engine company, and a Lieutenant.

FACILITY	LOCATION	APPROX. SIZE	DESCRIPTION OF USES
Fire Station #4	2210 Alyssa Way	11,500 SF	Tremendous growth seen recently, houses firefighters, an ambulance, engine company, brush truck, tanker truck, and a Lieutenant.
Fire Station #5	1250 W County Line Road	4,700 SF	Houses firefighters, an ambulance, engine company, and a Lieutenant.
Fire Station #6	209 Stone Gate	10,200 SF	Houses engine company, two ambulances, brush truck, the Battalion Chief and a Lieutenant.
New Braunfels Regional Airport	2333 FM 758	4,000 SF	Airborne ambulance service, aircraft maintenance and sales, charter service, dining, instruction, fuel, hangar space, meeting and conference rooms, technical education opportunities.
New Braunfels Cemetery	297 S Grape Avenue	4.7 Acres	Historical plaque, driving path. Dedicated in 1845. The site of a subject marker from the Texas Historic Commission.
Comal Cemetery	301 Peace Avenue	25 Acres	Established in 1868. Designated as a Historic Texas Cemetery by the Texas Historic Commission in 2000. Building houses sexton's office and storage for maintenance equipment. Site of Soul Searching Night each year. Guadalupe River bank stabilization is a concern.
New Braunfels Fire Museum*	131 S. Hill Avenue	3,800 SF	Houses memorabilia from the fire department and its firefighters.
Sophienburg Museum and Archives*	401 W Coll Street	4,800 SF	History museum, privately-operated, open to the public
McKenna Children's Museum*	801 W San Antonio Street	61,000 SF	Children's museum, privately-operated, open to the public
New Braunfels Regional Rehabilitation Hospital*	2041 Sundance Parkway	55,000 SF	Inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation
Christus Santa Rosa Hospital*	600 N Union Avenue	109,000 SF	Full service hospital
Resolute Health Hospital*	555 Creekside Crossing	365,000 SF	Full service hospital, part of a wellness campus, offers specialty care services
Mesquite Creek Landfill*	1700 Kohlenberg Road		Drop off for solid waste, owned and operated by Waste Management

* Private facility.

FACILITY CONDITIONS AND RELATED PLANNING EFFORTS

The City of New Braunfels has several new facilities that are in excellent condition. The City recently opened a new City Hall/Municipal Courts building, Civic/Convention Center, and will soon be opening the new state of the art Community Recreation Center (Das Rec). Several facilities, including the Police Station, fire stations, Public Library and Landa Recreation Center, are undersized and not able to keep up with the City's tremendous growth. The following table describes the existing condition and planning documents for the City's buildings and facilities.

FACILITY	EXISTING CONDITION	PLANNING DOCUMENTS
Recycling Facility	Currently located at the Old City Hall location. Will need to be relocated when redevelopment happens as proposed in the draft South Castell Avenue Visioning Plan (2018).	South Castell Avenue Visioning Plan (2018)
City Hall/Municipal Court	New facility opened September 2016 to expand from 18,000 SF to nearly 66,000 SF	Old City Hall Master Plan (2016)
Civic/Convention Center	Renovated and expanded in 2007	16-17 Adopted Budget, Old City Hall Master Plan (2016), 17-21 Financial Forecast, Downtown Plan (2010), South Castell Avenue Development
Westside Community Center and Library	Acquired by the City in August 2011. Has seen an increase in attendance recently with expansion of programming/outreach.	16-17 Adopted Budget, 2019 Bond
Das Rec (Under construction)	Opening July 21, 2018	2013 Bond Program
Landa Recreation Center	Undersized. Built in 1890s as an industrial warehouse.	Landa Park and Arboretum Master Plan (2010)
New Braunfels Public Library	28,000 SF building. Would need to expand and add branches to keep up with population growth.	Library Master Plan (2014), 2019 Bond Program
Police Station	30,000 SF building. Renovated in 1997 from former lumber yard.	CIP (2013-2022), 16-17 Adopted Budget, 2019 Bond Program
Fire Station #1 (Central)	Built in 1987.	CIP
Fire Station #2	Built in 1975. Location no longer meets needs or current standards.	2019 Bond Program
Fire Station #3	Built in 1981. Facility no longer meets needs or current standards. Location is good. One of the busiest stations in the city.	2019 Bond Program
Fire Station #4	Began serving in Oct. 2012. Tremendous growth recently.	
Fire Station #5	Remodeled in 2006 to provide more room for firefighters. First station to have a sprinkler system. Tremendous growth recently.	

FACILITY	EXISTING CONDITION	PLANNING DOCUMENTS
Fire Station #6	Opened in Oct. 2008.	
Fire Station #7		
New Braunfels Regional Airport		CIP (2013-2022)
New Braunfels Cemetery	Dedicated in 1845. No new burials have been allowed since 1976, except for plots purchased before 1946. Vandalism, theft and deterioration are concerns. New wrought-iron fence built in 2017 surrounds property.	Historic Preservation Plan for Municipal Cemeteries (2010)
Comal Cemetery	Dedicated in 1868. First burial was in 1873. Currently contains more than 12,500 burials and is still active. The City provides for the sale of plots and maintenance. Asphalt drives, three entrances, chain link fence. Plot and grave conditions range from excellent to poor. Erosion of the Guadalupe River bank is a focus of concern.	Historic Preservation Plan for Municipal Cemeteries (2010), CIP, 2019 Bond Program
New Braunfels Fire Museum	Opened in 1995.	



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The following table summarizes the opportunities and challenges for the City's buildings and facilities.

FACILITY	OPPORTUNITY	CHALLENGES
City Hall/Municipal Court		
Civic/Convention Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased parking (Downtown MP-2010) Audio/visual enhancements. Add hotel as integrated facility (Old City Hall MP, 17-21 Financial Forecast) 	Funding, land acquisition
Westside Community Center and Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand, renovate, update Expand operating hours, programming efforts to meet demand. 	Funding
Das Rec (Under construction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing to meet demand Programming 	
Landa Recreation Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand, renovate, update 	Funding
New Braunfels Public Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology: install RFID on all materials, continue in the Edge Benchmarks Program, replace PCs with tablets, increase bandwidth Add staffing, tutoring rooms Expand Main Library and Parking, add Southside Branch Library (full-service), renovate existing main library space 	Will require an increase in staffing and Library budget.
Police Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Group 3 project in CIP – Police Dept. Facility) Remodel old municipal court space for use by Police Dept. Additional staffing to meet demand 	<p>Future growth of the City into the ETJ may result in the need for a satellite station.</p> <p>Requires additional funding</p>
Fire Station #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements from CIP (11-12) repairs and upgrades. 	
Fire Station #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move to Water Lane property. Update facilities 	Needs additional funding
Fire Station #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep location, but update facilities. Expand station – one of the busiest stations in the city. 	
Fire Station #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire stations in general need additional staffing and training facility. 	
Fire Station #5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire stations in general need additional staffing and training facility. 	
Fire Station #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire stations in general need additional staffing and training facility. 	
Fire Station #7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded. Additional fire station to keep up with growth in the vicinity of FM 306/IH-35 	
New Braunfels Regional Airport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIP improvements; expand terminal 	Funding

FACILITY	OPPORTUNITY	CHALLENGES
New Braunfels Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establish sacred and contemplative character • Enhance public accessibility with signage • Add a visitor gathering space • Provide visitor orientation • Preserve, repair, and conserve cemetery monuments, plot curbing and fencing • Re-establish historic patterns of cemetery vegetation • Further incorporate into tourism/history 	Work dependent on volunteers, funding
Comal Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stabilize erosion along the river bank • Improved visitor orientation • Preserve, repair and conserve cemetery monuments, plot curbing and fencing. • Re-establish historic patterns of cemetery vegetation. • Improve internal drive signage • Remodel or relocate sexton's office/maintenance shed 	Work dependent on volunteers, funding



POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

The following table summarizes the potential improvements to new and existing City facilities proposed in various plans by the City of New Braunfels:

FACILITY	OPPORTUNITY	PLANNING DOCUMENTS
Southeast Library Branch	17,000 SF library, full-service facility, open six (6) days a week. 1.5-acre site required, 1.7-2.0 acres desirable.	Library Master Plan (2014), 2019 Bond
Main Library Expansion	Expand building footprint to 1.31 acres and parking to 1.53 acres	Library Master Plan (2014)
Fire Station #7	Located on FM 306, location will require traffic signal interruption. Property acquired in conjunction with Town Center at Creekside Development.	CIP (2013-2022)
Fire Station #2 Relocation	Two acres at the Water Lane property. Old location no longer meets standards. Facility and equipment need upgrades.	2019 Bond, CIP (2013-2022)
Fire Station #3 Remodel	Existing facility needs updating/expanding.	2019 Bond, CIP (2013-2022)
Municipal Service Center and Fire Training Facility	Facilities and parking for Public Works Ops/Fire Training Building. Fire Training Field: paved area, exterior classroom, confined space trainer, live fire trainer, burn containers and firefighter props. Public Works: streets, drainage, solid waste and service center. Located on Orion between FM 1102 and Hunter Road.	2019 Bond, CIP (2013-2022), Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan
Police Department Facility	Remodel old municipal court space for use by Police Dept. Additional Staffing to meet demand.	CIP (2013-2022), 2019 Bond
Park Maintenance Service Center (Water Lane Development)	To provide safe, clean, efficient and compliant facility. To allow for safe storage of vehicles and materials and staff offices. Land purchased in 2012.	CIP (2013-2022)
Downtown Parking	Chase Bank Parking Lot. Close to Civic Center and commercial/retail district along San Antonio Street.	Downtown Implementation Plan (2010), CIP (2013-2022)
Westside Community Center Expansion	Expand operating hours, programming efforts to meet demand.	2019 Bond
South Castell Avenue Development Project	Three options for a combination of hotel, retail, housing and parking at the old City Hall location at 424 S Castell Avenue.	South Castell Avenue Visioning Plan (2018)



PLAN ELEMENT ADVISORY GROUP RECAP

STRENGTHS

- New Braunfels' collective spirit of volunteerism and community service help optimize large capital investments.
- Many existing community facilities, including City Hall, the Civic/Convention Center and the Central Texas Technology Center, effectively meet present and future civic needs.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Growth of basic infrastructure needs to keep pace with population growth.
- In particular, an improved and accessible data network could have far-reaching benefits to the community.

PRIOR GOALS (2016)

The Plan Element Advisory Group conducted an inventory of the 2006 Comprehensive plan goals and determined which ones were and were not achieved and identified the gaps that Envision New Braunfels could work to complete. Refer to the [Technical Report Appendix](#) for a matrix of the reviewed goals.



FACILITIES GOALS

1. Expand the capacity of existing infrastructure and services.



2. Promote investment in innovative infrastructure that keeps New Braunfels livable and economically competitive.



3. Ensure public facilities and spaces are available, welcoming, and accessible to all residents.



4. Emphasize energy efficiency, resource conservation, and environmental stewardship in public infrastructure investments.



5. Maintain adequate public safety services and facilities to keep pace with population growth.



6. With the City of New Braunfels currently at an ISO rating of 1 for fire protection, maintain that rating of 1 which ensures the safety of all residents and keeps property owner insurance rates low.



 INDICATES A STRATEGY THAT SUPPORTS THE PLAN ELEMENT GOAL


APPLICABLE STRATEGIES
REFER TO PAGE 178

1 
SUPPORT VIBRANT
CENTERS

2 
ACTIVATE
NEIGHBORHOODS

3 
BALANCE JOBS AND
HOUSING CHOICES

4 
INNOVATE IN PARKS AND
PUBLIC SPACES

5 
BOLSTER RESILIENT
INFRASTRUCTURE

6 
COORDINATE CITY
INVESTMENTS

7 
CONNECT ALL

8 
CULTIVATE LOCAL AND
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS