5.0 DESIGN GUIDELINES

This chapter identifies conceptual themes for site planning, architecture, and landscape design within the Specific Plan area. The guidelines are intended to ensure a cohesive and attractive development that meets the following objectives:

1. Demonstrates high-quality development that complements and integrates into the community and adds value to the city.
2. Creates a functional and sustainable development that ensures South Ontario Logistics Center is regionally competitive and appropriate within the Ontario Ranch community.
3. Illustrates the distinctive characteristics of its two zoning districts: Business Park (BP) District (Planning Area 1) and Industrial - General (IG) District (Planning Area 2).
4. Establishes criteria for building design and materials, landscape design, and site design that provide guidance to developers, builders, architects, landscape architects, and other professionals preparing plans for construction.
5. Provides guidance to City staff and the Planning Commission in the review and evaluation of future development projects in the South Ontario Logistics Center Specific Plan area.
6. Incorporates construction and landscape design standards that promote energy and water conservation strategies.
7. Implements the goals and policies of The Ontario Plan and the intent of the Ontario Development Code.

5.1 Site Design

Site design within Planning Area 1 (BP District) and Planning Area 2 (IG District) shall incorporate the following design features.

Key provisions include:

1. Provide a well-organized site plan that emphasizes pedestrian connectivity and attractive landscape areas for the public through the location and arrangement of buildings, circulation, and parking areas.
2. Orient buildings towards street frontages to create an inviting public perimeter.
3. Provide visible pedestrian access to buildings from the street, parking areas, and perimeter sidewalks through signage, prominent architectural features, and landscape design.
4. Employ enhanced paving, accent trees, and other landscape features that highlight major building entries.
5. Design drive aisles to minimize impact to pedestrians, provide adequate stacking space, and prevent queuing of vehicles onto public streets.

6. Locate visitor and short-term parking areas at the front and sides of buildings near primary building entrances.
7. Create small parking clusters through the design and placement of landscape areas, drive entrances, and/or buildings to avoid large, visually dominant parking lots.
8. Locate loading and storage areas away from streets when feasible, ensure adequate space for vehicle backing and maneuvering on-site, and provide adequate parking for loading vehicles so normal traffic flow is not impeded.
9. Screen parking areas and loading docks facing the street using landscape buffers planted with screen trees and drought-tolerant vegetation.
10. Orient and screen elements such as trash enclosures, loading bay doors, and service docks to minimize their visibility.
11. Locate service entrances to avoid conflict with front entries.
12. Place electrical rooms and transformers away from front entries and street views.

5.2 Architectural Design

The building design, materials, colors, and textures establish its theme and character. Architecture shall be compatible and complementary with other buildings within the Specific Plan area; however, design diversity is encouraged to provide visual interest. Although development within Planning Area 1 (BP District) and Planning Area 2(IG District) differ in building height and scale, similar design concepts apply as follows.

Key provisions include:

1. Ensure scale, massing, fenestration, materials, and colors are consistent with the building's architectural style and compatible with the overall design in the Specific Plan area.
2. Avoid blank walls by providing articulation on building elevations visible from the public right-of-way through elements such as cornices, parapets, expression lines, and changes in materials and/or colors.
3. Provide the greatest level of articulation on the front facades that are visible from the public rights-of-way and the main entrances.
4. Design entry features as a significant aspect of a building's overall composition through massing, detailing, architectural treatments, and/or special materials and colors.
5. Employ recessed or covered building entrances to provide shade and visual relief.
6. Design office buildings, business parks, and office areas of industrial or warehouse buildings with an emphasis on the use of windows, architectural details, and building articulation.
7. Integrate the design of industrial/warehouse office areas into the overall building composition so they create powerful architectural statements and not visually disjointed "add-ons".
8. Employ a minimum of four different colors, materials, and/or textures on each building.
9. Avoid terminating a change in material or color at a building edge; instead, select a logical termination point in relation to the architectural features or massing.
10. Paint exposed downspouts, service doors, and mechanical screens the same color as the adjacent wall.
11. Elevations to the front of buildings across Eucalyptus Ave shall be additionally enhanced due to residential land use designation across the street.

Planning Area 1 Architectural Design Examples

Planning Area 2 Architectural Design Examples

5.3 Landscape Design

Conceptual landscape plans encourage durable landscape materials and designs that enhance the aesthetics of structures, create and define public and private spaces, and provide shade and environmental benefits. The following guidelines ensure that intersection sight lines and pedestrian safety are preserved. Landscaping plans within the Specific Plan area shall comply with the City of Ontario "Landscape Development Guidelines", the "Standard Drawings" and "Traffic and Transportation Guidelines" for sight-distance.

Key provisions include:

1. Landscape and irrigate all areas of the site not covered by buildings, structures, paving, or impervious surfaces.
2. Design and grade projects to direct storm runoff from building roofs and paved areas into swaled landscape areas for retention/infiltration. Landscape areas may be used for storm water basins and swales at no greater than 40 percent of the available landscape area and may not obstruct the mature root zone of required tree locations.
3. Provide shade for expanses of paving, building walls, roofs, and windows with irrigated shade trees located in appropriate areas where space permits to reduce the impacts of heat gain.
4. Design parking lot landscaping to reduce associated heat buildup, improve aesthetics, and integrate with on-site landscape and adjacent streetscape.
5. Use landscaping to aid in the screening and buffering of mechanical equipment, trash collection areas, loading docks, and outside storage areas from public view.
6. Coordinate utilities with landscape plans by showing utilities on plans to ensure placement clear of required tree locations. Utilities such as backflow devices and transformers shall be screened using landscaping that provides at least 75 percent coverage. Backflow devices and transformers shall be located at least five feet from hardscape to ensure space for landscape screening.
7. Prepare landscape plans that meet the requirements of the Landscape Development Guidelines and provide for the efficient use of water. Plants shall be selected and planted based upon their adaptability to the climate and topographical conditions of the project site.
8. Select drought-tolerant plants such as colorful shrubs and groundcovers, ornamental grasses and succulents, evergreen and deciduous trees, and species native to Southern California or naturalized to the local arid climate.
9. Incorporate water conservation features in landscape and irrigation plans.
10. Place a landscape planter island every ten parking spaces for single row and every five for double row parking lots. Planter islands shall be at least five feet in width exclusive of curbs and the same length as the abutting parking space. Planter islands shall include at least one tree, appropriate shrubs, and groundcover. A tree shall be provided, one for every four parking spaces. Parking areas located behind screen walls shall not be subject to this provision.
11. Provide a minimum dimension of five feet exclusive of curbs for all landscape areas, except for vine pockets.

12. Space living plant materials less than or equal to the mature plant diameter. Non-living ornamental landscape materials may comprise a maximum of five percent of the landscape area requirements and shall be permeable.

5.3.1 Streetscapes

Streetscape design creates an aesthetically pleasing view for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, screens parking and loading areas from the public right-of-way, and integrates the development into the surrounding community. The following streetscape designs are conceptual only; final grading, plantings, and tree locations shall be determined on a project-by-project basis.

5.3.1.1 Grove Avenue Streetscape

Grove Avenue features a 28-foot wide landscaped median, 7-foot wide parkways, 5’ wide sidewalk, 5’ landscape buffer, within a 40’ neighborhood edge and a 20-foot wide landscape setbacks. An 8’ multipurpose trail is located on the east side. (Figure 5.1). Tree species along Grove Avenue include *Platanus acerifolia* ‘Bloodgood’ in the parkway, alternating Cercis occidentalis and Platanus acerfolia ‘Bloodgood’ groups behind the sidewalk and Pinus eldarica and Cercis occientalis in the median.

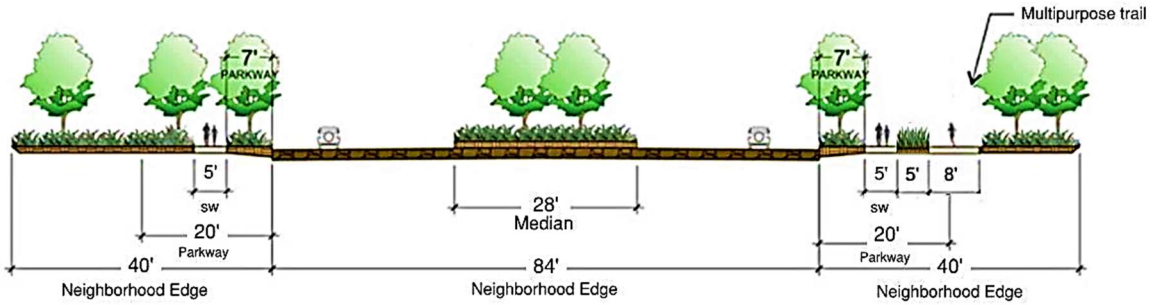

FIGURE 5.1: **GROVE AVENUE CONCEPTUAL STREETSCAPE**

5.3.1.2 Eucalyptus Avenue Streetscape

The typical Eucalyptus Avenue section will feature a 12-foot wide parkway and 23-foot wide landscape setback to create a 35-foot Neighborhood Edge. The parkway will include a 7-foot wide curb-adjacent landscape strip generally planted with trees and groundcover and a five-foot wide sidewalk. An eight-foot wide multi-purpose trail is located on the north side. A five-foot wide on-street Class II bike lane is located on the south side. Tree species along Eucalyptus Avenue will include Pistache trees in the parkway and

behind the sidewalk alternating with groups of Podocarpus gracilior trees. The Neighborhood Edge creates a buffer along the Specific Plan boundary as well as a visual statement (Figure 5.2).

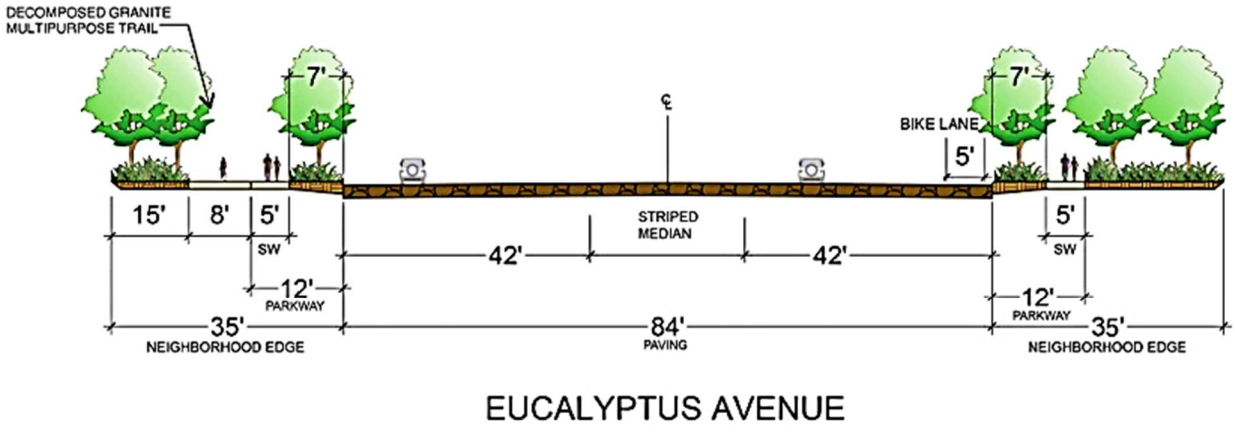

FIGURE 5.2: **EUCALYPTUS AVENUE CONCEPTUAL STREETSCAPE**

5.3.1.3 Merrill Avenue Streetscape

The typical Merrill Avenue section on the north side of the street will feature an eight-foot wide on-street Class II bike lane, 12-foot wide parkway, eight-foot wide multi-purpose trail and 23-foot wide landscape setback. The parkway will include a seven-foot wide curb-adjacent landscape strip and a five-foot wide sidewalk. Tree species along Merrill Avenue will include Quercus agrifolia in the parkway and behind the sidewalk alternating with Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy.' The parkway and landscape setback will combine to form the 35-foot Neighborhood Edge buffer

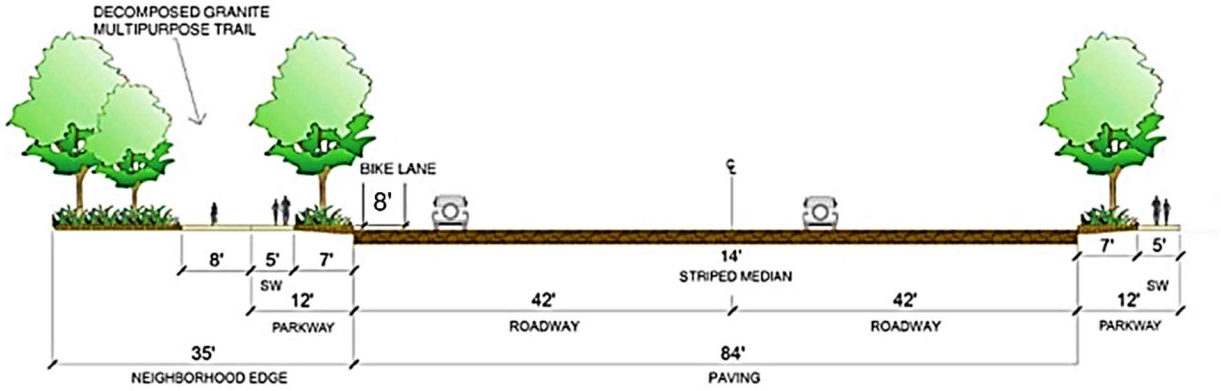

FIGURE 5.3: **MERRILL AVENUE CONCEPTUAL STREETSCAPE**

5.3.1.4 Bon View Avenue Streetscape

The Bon View Avenue section features 9-foot wide parkways with an 4-foot wide curb-adjacent landscape strip planted with trees and groundcover and a five-foot wide sidewalk (Figure 5.4). Tree species along Bon View Avenue include Chinese Pistache and Coast Live Oak.

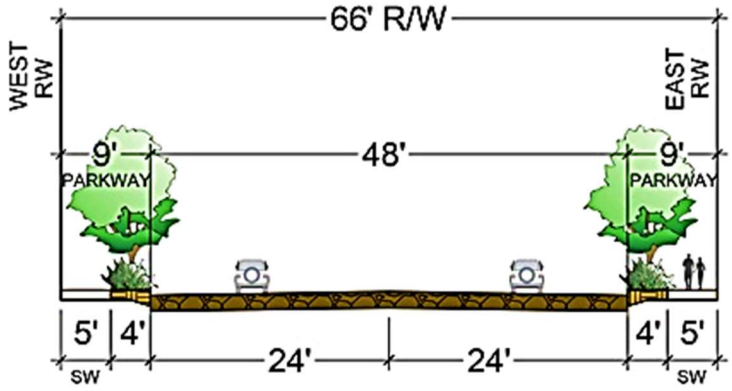

FIGURE 5.4: **BON VIEW AVENUE CONCEPTUAL STREETSCAPE**

5.3.2 Project Entries

The Specific Plan area includes multiple shared vehicular driveways accessible from Grove, Eucalyptus, Merrill, and Bon View Avenues. Figure 5.5 presents a typical conceptual entry design featuring enhanced paving; a landscaped setback with flowering accent trees, canopy trees, and drought-tolerant landscaping; a multipurpose trail; sidewalk; and landscaped parkway with street trees.

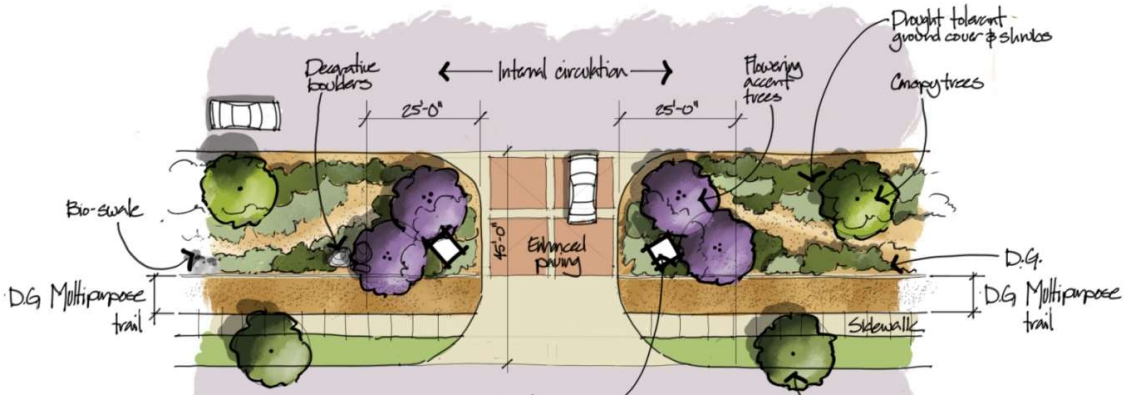

FIGURE 5.5: **CONCEPTUAL VEHICULAR ENTRY**

5.3.3 Plant Palette

The Plant Palette shown in Table 5.1 establishes a base palette for the Specific Plan area and includes a variety of groundcovers, shrubs, ornamental grasses, and evergreen and deciduous trees. The selection complements the design theme of the Specific Plan area and features water-efficient, drought-tolerant species native or adapted to the region. Similar plant materials may be substituted for the species listed in Table 5.1 if the alternative plants are appropriate to the climate and enhance the thematic setting.

Table 5.1: Plant Palette

Botanical Name	Common Name	Use
Chilopsis linearis	Desert Willow	Tree
Chitalpa tashkentensis	Chitalpa	Tree
Cupressus sempervirens	Italian Cypress	Tree
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	Tree
Juniperus s. 'Skyrocket'	Skyrocket Juniper	Tree
Koelreuteria bipinnata	Chinese Flame Tree	Tree
Lagerstroemia i. 'Muskogee'	Crape Myrtle	Tree

Table 5.1: Plant Palette

Botanical Name	Common Name	Use
Olea europaea	Olive	Tree
Pinus canariensis	Canary Island Pine	Tree
Pinus eldarica	Afghan Pine	Tree
Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistache	Tree
Platanus acerifolia	London Plane	Tree
Platanus racemosa	California Sycamore	Tree
Quercus agrifolia	Coast Live Oak	Tree
Schinus molle	California Pepper	Tree
Tristania conferta	Brisbane Box	Tree
Washingtonia filifera	California Fan Palm	Tree
Phoenix dactylifera	Date Palm	Tree
Acca sellowiana	Pineapple Guava	Shrub
Buxus j. 'Green Beauty'	Japanese Boxwood	Hedge
Callistemon 'Little John'	Dwarf Bottle Brush	Shrub
Carissa macrocarpa 'Tuttle'	Natal Plum	Shrub
Cistus 'Sunset Pink'	Sunset Pink Rockrose	Shrub
Dianella 'Little Rev'	Dwarf Dianella	Shrub
Dianella tasmanica	Dianella	Shrub
Dodonaea viscosa 'Purpurea'	Hopseed Bush	Shrub
Eleagnus pungens	Silverberry	Shrub
Leucophyllum f. 'Green Cloud'	Texas Ranger	Shrub
Ligustrum j. texanum	Texas Privet	Shrub
Pittosporum tobira 'Variegata'	Variegated Mock Orange	Hedge
Pittosporum t. 'Wheeleri'	Wheeler's Dwarf	Shrub
Rhaphiolepis i. 'Clara'	Indian Hawthorn	Hedge
Rhaphiolepis i. 'Springtime'	Indian Hawthorn	Hedge
Rhamnus californica	Coffeeberry	Shrub
Rhamnus c. 'Mound San Bruno'	Dwarf Coffeeberry	Shrub
Rosmarinus o. 'Tuscan Blue'	Rosemary	Shrub
Salvia c. 'Allen Chickering'	Allen Chickering Sage	Shrub
Salvia greggii	Autumn Sage	Shrub
Salvia leucantha	Mexican Sage	Shrub
Westringia fruticosa	Coast Rosemary	Shrub
Xylosma congestum	Shiny Xylosma	Hedge
Agave 'Blue Flame'	Blue Flame Agave	Accent
Aloe maculata	Soap Aloe	Accent
Aloe petricola	Stone Aloe	Accent
Aloe polyphylla	Spiral Aloe	Accent
Aloe striata	Coral Aloe	Accent
Echeveria 'Ruffles'	Ruffles Echeveria	Accent
Hesperaloe parviflora	Red Yucca	Accent
Acacia redolens 'Low Boy'	Dwarf Acacia	Groundcover
Baccharis p. 'Pigeon Point'	Dwarf Coyote Bush	Groundcover
Baccharis p. 'Centennial'	Coyote Bush	Groundcover
Carex pansa	California Meadow Sedge	Grass
Carex tumulicola	Foothill Sedge	Grass
Festuca mairei	Altas Fescue	Grass

Table 5.1: Plant Palette

Botanical Name	Common Name	Use
Lonicera j. 'Halliana'	Hall's Honeysuckle	Groundcover
Muhlenbergia capillaris	Pink Muhly	Grass
Myoporum parvifolium	Myoporum	Groundcover
Rosa 'Flower Carpet' - Red	Red Flower Carpet Rose	Groundcover
Rosmarinus o. 'Huntington Carpet'	Prostrate Rosemary	Groundcover
Salvia 'Bee's Bliss'	Bee's Bliss Sage	Groundcover
Senecio mandraliscae	Blue Fingers	Groundcover
Sesleria autumnali	Moor Grass	Grass
Trachelopspermum jasminiode	Star Jasmine	Groundcover
Distictus buccinatoria	Blood-Red Trumpet Vine	Vine

5.4 Walls and Fences

Walls and fences are important design features intended to both complement building and landscape architecture and provide functional elements. Any proposed entry gates shall be reviewed by the City of Ontario Traffic and Transportation Division prior to installation and shall be permitted only if approved.

Key provisions include:

1. Provide attractive, durable, and complementary wall and fencing materials consistent with the building design.
2. Offset and architecturally treat long expanses of wall surfaces every 100 feet with material changes, pilasters and posts, staggered walls, or landscape treatments to prevent visual monotony.
3. Soften the appearance of fencing with plants that reach the height of the wall or fence at maturity.
4. Construct sliding gates visible from a public street with tubular steel, vertical steel pickets, or high-density perforated metal screening painted to match or complement adjacent walls. Interior gates not visible to public view may be galvanized steel or chain link.
5. Prohibit chain link fencing visible from public street rights of way.

5.5 Buffering and Screening

To alleviate the unsightly appearance of loading and service areas, buffering and screening design features shall be used to enhance the overall development. Entry gates shall be reviewed and approved by the City of Ontario Traffic and Transportation Division prior to installation.

5.5.1 Parking Lots

1. Buffer parking lots adjacent to and visible from public streets using a combination of architectural wing walls, buildings, decorative screen walls, evergreen hedges, and landscape buffers.
2. Use plants for screening that are a minimum of three feet tall at the time of installation.

5.5.2 Loading and Service Areas (Truck Courts)

1. Screen loading docks and truck parking areas visible from Grove Avenue, Eucalyptus Avenue, Merrill Avenue and Bon View Avenue Screening may include portions of buildings, landscaping, evergreen hedges, and/or decorative walls.
2. Incorporate gated/screened entrances to loading areas into the overall architectural design of the development.
3. Design walls and fencing to be a minimum of eight feet high and a maximum of 14 feet high, as measured from finished grade to screen truck courts and hide views of the top of loading bays or trailers.
4. Utilize buildings, architectural wing walls, and/or landscaping to screen service areas.
5. Screen ground- and roof-mounted mechanical equipment from public view. Ground-mounted equipment shall be screened with decorative walls or landscaping. Building architecture shall be designed to screen roof-mounted equipment.
6. Ensure refuse containers are easily accessible by service vehicles yet screened from public view within the building's façade or within a walled enclosure.
7. Obtain a use permit for outdoor storage, which shall be limited to predefined areas. Storage areas shall be screened from public view by decorative walls or landscaping with a minimum height of eight feet and a maximum height of 14 feet. The height of outdoor storage shall not-exceed the height of screening.

Loading and Service Area Example

5.6 Lighting

Site lighting provides illumination for operations, safety, security, and ambiance in parking lots, loading dock areas, pedestrian walkways, building entrances, signage, and architectural and landscape features.

Key provisions include:

1. Choose lighting fixtures that complement the building architecture and promote consistency throughout the Planning Areas.
2. Install ground- or low-mounted fixtures to provide safety and convenience along pedestrian walkways, entrances, activity areas, steps, ramps, and special features.
3. Allow building-mounted accent lighting for general illumination provided there is no light spill or distraction onto roadways or adjacent properties. Plain shoebox or unshielded wall packs are not permitted.
4. Direct exterior lighting fixtures downward to avoid unnecessary light spill and glare.
5. Limit pole-mounted, building-mounted, or tree-mounted lighting fixtures to no more than 30 feet high to minimize light spill and glare.
6. Shield and direct pole-mounted lights away from public streets.
7. Ensure exterior lighting is consistent with the Chino Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
8. Design parking lot lighting plans to avoid placing fixtures in required tree locations.

5.7 Signage

Approval of a comprehensive sign program shall be required for development within the Specific Plan area. A sign program facilitates integration of signs with the overall site and building design to create a unified visual statement and provide for flexible application of sign regulations in the design and display of multiple signs.

Key provisions include:

1. Install entry monument signage to identify the South Ontario Logistics Center. Entry monuments shall be designed in accordance with City of Ontario Traffic and Transportation Guidelines for monument placement.
2. Employ signage to identify a center and tenants within a center, direct vehicular traffic, and provide on-site way-finding for pedestrians.
3. Employ signage within industrial sites to give direction to loading and receiving, visitor parking, and other special uses.
4. Provide a unifying sign theme in developments with multiple users.
5. Coordinate signage with the building design, materials, colors, size, and placement.
6. Design signage with backlit or internally illuminated individual channel letters. Can-type box signs with translucent backlit panels are discouraged.
7. Avoid covering significant architectural elements with signage.
8. Position flush-mounted signs with respect to architectural features and align with signs on other buildings to maintain a pattern.
9. Place street address signs perpendicular to approaching vehicular traffic.
10. Ensure signage located within a landscape planter is not blocked or damaged by plant materials.
11. Conserve energy by utilizing an automatic illumination shut-off mechanism when businesses are closed.
12. Construct signs from high-quality materials and avoid exposed wiring, ballasts, conduits, fasteners, raceways, or similar hardware.

Signage Examples

5.8 Sustainable Design Strategies

South Ontario Logistics Center is committed to sustainable design strategies that integrate principles of environmental stewardship into the design and construction process. Appropriate strategies shall be determined for each project within the Specific Plan area.

5.8.1 Sustainable Construction & Technology Concepts

1. Design and construct energy-efficient buildings to reduce air, water, and land pollution and environmental impacts from energy production and consumption.
2. Employ passive design including skylights, building orientation, landscaping, and strategic colors to improve building energy performance.
3. Reduce the heat island effect by providing shade structures and trees that produce large canopies. In addition, choose roof and paving materials that possess a high level of solar reflectivity.
4. Use recycled and other environmentally-friendly building materials wherever possible.
5. Incorporate skylights into at least two percent of warehouse/distribution building roof area to provide natural light and reduce electric lighting demand.
6. Use energy-efficient LED (or similar) products.
7. Provide interior or exterior bicycle storage consistent with the California Green Building Standards Code.
8. Use drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation and include plantings such as trees, shrubs, groundcovers and/or vines. Optional amenities include benches, trellises, thematic fencing, and decorative walkways.
9. Employ high-performance dual-pane window glazing in office storefronts.

5.8.2 Water Quality

1. Design landscape areas with retention/infiltration swales and basins, or employ bio-treatment when infiltration is infeasible, as required by the San Bernardino County MS4 Permit and Water Quality Management Plan. Modular wetlands, if proposed, shall be located outside of landscape areas.
2. Select native and drought-tolerant plants to reduce water demand.
3. Integrate permeable pavement and perforated curbs throughout the project area as feasible to allow stormwater to enter planter areas, assist with filtration, and control runoff.
4. Use captured runoff to augment irrigation systems whenever possible.
5. Employ irrigation systems that respond to changing weather conditions, irrigate by hydro zone, and use micro-irrigation techniques.

6. Use recycled water to irrigate landscape areas and for other appropriate uses. The use of recycled water for certain purposes is required by the City of Ontario Recycled Water Master Plan.

Sustainable Design Examples