The City of Vista is located in northern San Diego County and is bordered by the unincorporated community of Bonsall to the north; the City of San Marcos to the east; the City of Carlsbad to the south; and the City of Oceanside to the west.

As of 2014, the City of Vista has an estimated population of 96,120, which is projected to increase to 144,536 by 2050 (SANDAG Regional Growth Forecast, 2010).

The City of Vista is governed by a five-member City Council consisting of a directly-elected Mayor and four Councilmembers elected at-large.

The adopted Sphere of Influence for the City of Vista is larger than the City’s incorporated boundary and includes unincorporated territory within the adjacent Bonsall, Twin Oaks, and North County Metro Community Planning Areas of the County of San Diego.

The City of Vista provides fire protection and wastewater services city-wide. Police services are provided by contract with the San Diego County Sheriff. The Vista Irrigation District provides water service to the City of Vista and surrounding unincorporated areas.

Wastewater services are provided to the southwest portion of Vista and adjacent unincorporated territory by the Buena Sanitation District, a subsidiary district of the City of Vista. The Vallecitos Water District provides water and wastewater service to a small portion of northeast Vista. Trash hauling and disposal service is provided by contract with EDCO Disposal.