

SECTION 5: PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCESS and PROGRESS MADE SINCE 2008

Hazards Mitigation Plans need to remain active and relevant. To that end, these Plans are to be evaluated on an annual basis, and updated every five years. This section describes the process by which the City of Newport Beach has and will continue to maintain this document, including the integration of public awareness programs designed to make local residents and businesses more resilient to natural hazards. This section also provides an explanation of how the City of Newport Beach has and will continue to incorporate the mitigation strategies outlined in this Plan into existing planning mechanisms such as the City's General Plan, Capital Improvement Plans, and Building and Safety Codes. Finally, this section identifies the mitigation actions that were implemented and completed since the City's first Local Hazards Mitigation Plan was completed in 2008. Mitigation actions that are still being implemented on an ongoing basis are included in Section 4.

Evaluating and Updating the Plan Every Five Years

Section 201.6.(d)(3) of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations requires that local hazard mitigation plans be reviewed, revised if appropriate, and resubmitted for approval in order to remain eligible for benefits awarded under the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA). The City intends to continue updating the Plan on a five-year cycle from the date of initial plan adoption. It is anticipated that this update process will begin one year prior to expiration of the existing plan. The cycle may be accelerated, with updates issued in less than five years if one of the following events occurs:

- ◆ A Presidential Disaster Declaration that impacts the City of Newport Beach.
- ◆ A hazard event that causes loss of life.

The main purpose of the update process is to keep the Plan current, reflecting the latest planning process methods, community profile data, hazard data and events, vulnerability analyses, mitigation actions and goals. The updates should, at a minimum, include the following elements:

1. The update process will be convened through a committee that consists of at least one member of the General Plan Update Advisory Committee or staff to ensure consistency between Plans.
2. The hazard risk assessment will be reviewed on an annual basis and updated using best available information and technologies.
3. The evaluation of critical structures and mapping will be updated and improved as funding becomes available.
4. The mitigation actions will be reviewed and revised to account for any actions completed, deferred, or changed to account for changes in the risk assessment or new City policies identified under other planning mechanisms, as appropriate (such as the General Plan).
5. The draft update will be sent to appropriate agencies for comment.
6. The public will be given an opportunity to comment prior to adoption.
7. The Newport Beach City Council will adopt the updated Plan.

Some of these items are described in more detail in the sub-sections below.

Plan Adoption and Maintenance

The Newport Beach City Council, being the governing body with the authority to promote sound public policy regarding natural hazard mitigation, adopted the City's 2008 Hazards Mitigation Plan on October 14, 2008. The adopted Plan was then submitted, also in October 2008, to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). On January 21, 2014, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services submitted the Plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. This review addressed the federal criteria outlined in FEMA's Interim Final Rule 44 CFR Part 201. FEMA approved the City's 2008 Plan on March 15, 2009. With approval of the Plan by FEMA, Newport Beach gained eligibility for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds. As with the 2008 Plan, the City Emergency Services Coordinator is responsible for submitting the 2014 Plan Update to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Adoption and approval of the 2014 Plan Update will allow the City to continue being eligible for HMGP funds.

Coordinating Body

The City of Newport Beach Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee is responsible for coordinating implementation of the Plan's action items, undertaking the formal review process, and maintaining and updating the Plan. The City Manager, or designee, assigns representatives from City agencies, including, but not limited to, the current Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee members. At this time, the Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee consists of a representative from the following City Departments or agencies:

- ◆ City of Newport Beach Fire Department, Emergency Services Division
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Community Development Department, Planning Division
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Municipal Operations Department, and
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Public Works Department.

The Steering Committee is supported by a larger body of advisors representing several other agencies and organizations that have a vested interest in managing or reducing the natural hazards in the city of Newport Beach. This larger body, referred to as the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee, has responsibility for reviewing the Plan and providing input on the action items proposed and their prioritization. The current Advisory Committee members include representatives from the following local agencies and organizations:

- ◆ City of Newport Beach Fire Department
- ◆ City of Newport Beach, Fire Department, Emergency Services Division
- ◆ City of Newport Beach, Fire Department, Lifeguards
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Municipal Operations Department
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Community Development Department, Planning Division
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Community Development Department, Building Division
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Public Works Department
- ◆ City of Newport Beach Information Technology Division

In order to make this committee as broad and useful as possible, the City Mayor, or designee, may engage other relevant organizations and agencies, including:

- ◆ An elected official
- ◆ A representative from the Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ An insurance company representative
- ◆ Community planning organization representatives

- ◆ A representative from the City Manager’s office
- ◆ Representatives from professional organizations such as the Home Builders Association
- ◆ Representatives from local universities and community colleges, and
- ◆ Local residents.

Additional resources at the state and federal levels, in the form of ad-hoc committee members that could participate in Newport Beach’s Natural Hazards Mitigation program can be drawn from the following agencies:

- ◆ California Geological Survey
- ◆ Federal Emergency Management Agency
- ◆ California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
- ◆ Red Cross
- ◆ Salvation Army.

The Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee meets at least quarterly. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss progress in the implementation of the action items and maintain the partnerships that are essential for the sustainability of the Mitigation Plan.

Convener

As with the 2008 Plan, the Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee is responsible for Plan implementation. The City’s Emergency Services Coordinator facilitates the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team meetings, and assigns tasks such as updating and presenting the Plan to other City Departments, Stakeholder Groups, elected officials and the general public. Plan implementation and evaluation are a shared responsibility among all of the Hazard Steering Committee members. This update and future updates of the Plan require the participation of the Advisory Committee.

Continued Public Involvement

The City of Newport Beach is dedicated to involving the public directly in review and updates of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. To that end, the public will continue to be apprised, through the City’s website, of the City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and the action items that have been implemented, either by posting a digital copy of the Plan directly onto the website, and/or by publicizing the existence of the Plan, and identifying physical locations where hard-copies of the Plan are available for public review. Copies of the Plan will be kept at all of the appropriate agencies in the City, as well as at the Central Library and branches. The website will also provide an e-mail address and phone number of a point of contact to whom members of the public can direct their comments and concerns. The public will continue to have the opportunity to provide feedback on the Plan.

Economic Analysis of Mitigation Projects

FEMA’s approaches to identify the costs and benefits associated with natural hazard mitigation strategies, measures, or projects, fall into two general categories: benefit/cost analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis. Conducting a benefit/cost analysis for a mitigation activity can assist communities in determining whether a project is worth undertaking now, in order to avoid disaster-related damages later. Cost-effectiveness analysis evaluates how best to spend a given amount of money to achieve a specific goal. Determining the economic feasibility of mitigating natural hazards can provide decision-makers with an understanding of the potential benefits and costs of an activity, as well as a basis upon which to compare alternative projects.

Given federal funding, the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will use a FEMA-approved benefit/cost analysis approach to identify and prioritize mitigation action items. A copy of a Project Evaluation Worksheet modeled after the STAPPLE cost benefit analysis process preferred by FEMA, is included at the end of Chapter 4. For other projects and funding sources, the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee may use other approaches to understand the costs and benefits of each action item and develop a prioritized list. For more information regarding economic analysis of mitigation action items, please see Appendix C of the Plan.

Formal Review Process

The City of Newport Beach Hazards Mitigation Plan is to be evaluated on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of the programs contained therein, and to reflect any changes in land development or programs that may affect mitigation priorities. The evaluation process includes a firm schedule and time line, and identifies the local agencies and organizations participating in Plan evaluation. The convener, or designee, will be responsible for contacting the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee members and organizing the annual meeting. Committee members will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the mitigation strategies in the Plan.

The Committee will review the goals and action items to determine their relevance to changing situations in the City, as well as changes in State or Federal policy, and to ensure they are addressing current and expected conditions. The Committee will also review the risk assessment portion of the Plan to determine if this information should be updated or modified, given new available data. The coordinating organizations responsible for the various action items will report on the status of their projects, the success of various implementation processes, difficulties encountered, success of coordination efforts, and which strategies should be revised.

The convener will assign the duty of updating the Plan to one or more of the Steering Committee members. The designated committee members will have three months to make appropriate changes to the Plan before submitting it to the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee members, and presenting it to City Council. The Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee will also notify all holders of the City Plan when changes have been made. Every five years the updated Plan will be submitted to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review.

Implementation through Existing Programs

Given that this Hazard Mitigation Plan is a non-regulatory document its effectiveness depends on the City being able to implement the Plan by incorporating the outlined mitigation action items into existing City plans, policies and programs. The City of Newport Beach addresses statewide planning goals and legislative requirements through its General Plan, Capital Improvement Plans, and City Building and Safety Codes. Fortunately, many of the recommendation and action items in the Hazard Mitigation Plan are closely related to the goals and objectives of existing planning programs. Thus, several of the ongoing and recommended mitigation action items are either being implemented or can be implemented through existing programs and procedures.

More specifically, the City of Newport Beach Community Development, Fire, and Public Works Departments are responsible for administering the Building and Fire Codes, and other regulations designed to improve safety of the community, such as the policies in the Safety

Element of the General Plan. In addition, members of the Hazard Steering Committee work with other agencies at the state level to review, develop and implement Building and Safety Codes that are adequate to mitigate or reduce the damage posed by natural hazards. This ensures that life-safety criteria are met for new construction.

The goals and action items in the Mitigation Plan may be achieved through activities recommended in the City's Capital Improvement Plans (CIP). Various City departments develop CIP plans and review them on an annual basis. Upon annual review of the CIPs, the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will work with the City departments to identify areas that the Hazard Mitigation Plan action items are consistent with CIP planning goals and integrate them where appropriate.

The information on hazards, risk, vulnerability and mitigation methods provided in this updated Plan is based on the best data and technology available at the time this document was prepared. This Disaster Mitigation Plan and the City's General are to be viewed as complementary planning documents that, when used together, can help the City achieve the ultimate goal of reducing its risk to natural hazards. Many of the ongoing recommendations identified herein are mitigation actions also identified in the Safety Element of the General Plan and other adopted plans. The City will continue to coordinate implementation of the recommendations of the Hazard Mitigation Plan with other planning processes and programs including the City's Capital Improvement Program, the City's Building and Fire Codes, and the City's Emergency Operations Plan.

Within six months of formal adoption of the Mitigation Plan, the recommendations listed above will be incorporated into the process of existing planning mechanisms at the City level. The meetings of the Hazard Mitigation Steering and Advisory Committees will provide an opportunity for committee members to report back on the progress made on the integration of mitigation planning elements into City planning documents and procedures.

Progress Made Since Adoption of the 2008 Hazard Mitigation Plan

The City of Newport Beach is committed to reducing the impact that natural hazards can have on its residents, businesses, infrastructure, and critical and essential facilities. With adoption of the 2008 Disaster Mitigation Plan, several goals and action items were identified and targeted for implementation in the short-term, within the next five years. Those action items that were implemented and completed during the 2008-2013 timeframe are listed in Table 5-1 below. Action items that were implemented during the same time period, but that are still being implemented, or are to be implemented on an ongoing basis, as development or re-development occurs, are included in Section 4.

Action Item	Action No. in 2008 Plan
As part of the City's Master Plan, those sections of the water distribution network that are the oldest and therefore more likely to be weakened and corroded have been identified, and have been prioritized for replacement or strengthening.	Short-Term – Multi-Hazard #1
Sections of the water distribution network that are located in areas susceptible to liquefaction and slope instability have been identified, and have been prioritized for replacement	Short-Term – Multi-Hazard #1

and/or strengthening.	
Hoag Hospital has developed and implemented plans to use the water tank in their central plant should they need additional drinking water in the event of a natural disaster.	Short-Term – Multi-Hazard #3
The City moved its Civic Center, including the Fire Department's headquarters and its Emergency Operations Center, to a location that is not susceptible to liquefaction, tsunami runup, or flooding – a significant improvement over the location of the original Civic Center. The new structure was designed to withstand the peak ground motions anticipated in the region.	Short-Term – Multi-Hazard #8 Long-Term – Multi-Hazard #2
The City conducted seismic evaluations of critical and essential facilities to identify the vulnerabilities of public infrastructure and critical facilities, and developed an inventory of critical facilities that do not meet current seismic standards.	Short-Term – Multi-Hazard #10
Adopted a public notification system (reverse 9-1-1) designed to warn residents of a fire or other impending disaster, and provide evacuation instructions.	Multi-Hazard, not included in 2008 Plan
All unreinforced masonry buildings in the City have been retrofitted to minimize damage from seismic events.	Short-Term – Earthquake #2
The City has developed and implemented a response plan for evacuation of low-lying areas in the case of a tsunami warning. This effort includes the installation of warning sirens, signs identifying evacuation routes, and public education training	Short-Term – Flood #2
Developed a tsunami educational program for residents, visitors, and people who work in the tsunami- and rogue wave-susceptible areas. The brochures and other educational materials developed discuss what to expect, what to do in the event of a possible tsunami-generating earthquake, and how to make homes and businesses more flood resistant.	Short-Term – Flood #2
Repetitive flood properties in the City have been reviewed by FEMA to evaluate potential mitigation measures. Flood insurance has been recommended for all of these properties.	Short-Term – Flood #3
A database of parcels in the urban-wildland interface area has been developed and is being maintained.	Short-Term – Wildfire #1
Developed an educational program for Homeowner's Associations (HOAs) meetings and informational mailers that are sent to homeowners adjacent to the Fuel Modification Zone explaining the fire risk in the area and the fuel modification zone requirements.	Short-Term – Wildfire #1
Identified safe evacuation routes for areas at risk from debris flows and landslides.	Short-Term – Landslide #1