



## Help Reduce Disaster Losses in Your Community by Participating in the Sacramento County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Sacramento County is developing a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update to their 2016 plan. The purpose of this LHMP Update is to assess risk to natural hazards, implement actions to reduce future losses, and maintain eligibility for federal mitigation funds in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Partners in this planning effort include the incorporated communities of the City of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Rancho Cordova and many special districts throughout the County.

### *What is Hazard Mitigation?*

*Hazard mitigation means any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards.*

### *Why is Natural Hazard Mitigation Important?*

Most people who live or work in Sacramento County have been affected by natural hazards in one way or another. Sacramento County and its residents are vulnerable to a variety of hazards including **floods, levee failure, drought, wildfire, and other severe weather events.**

The rising costs associated with disaster response and recovery have focused the attention of federal, state, and local governments on addressing natural hazards before they occur. Obviously, torrential rains and floods cannot always be prevented from occurring. Planning for natural hazards and implementing mitigation measures, however, can reduce the impact of such events when they do occur. Emergency response and recovery costs; property damage; personal injury and loss of life; and the overall economic and social impact on the community can all be reduced, and in some instances eliminated through natural hazard mitigation.

### *Hazard Mitigation Plan and Plan Update Process*

After securing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mitigation grant funding, Sacramento County is using the funds to support an update of the 2016 LHMP. This LHMP Update is being developed by a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of representatives from various County and City departments; neighboring jurisdictions; key federal, state, and local agency stakeholders; and the public.

The plan will address an updated list of hazards, will assess the likely impacts of these hazards to the people and assets of the Sacramento County planning area, and will also establish updated goals and prioritize projects to reduce the impacts of future disasters on people and property as well as to critical facilities and infrastructure.

Another benefit of mitigation planning is that it can also help lessen the cost of flood insurance to the residents of Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento through FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) Community Rating System.

### *National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System*

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions in meeting the goals of the CRS Program. The reduction in flood insurance premium rates is provided according to a community’s CRS classification. Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento are currently a CRS Class 2, which provides up to a 40 percent discount on flood insurance premiums for those located within the special flood hazard area (SFHA). Participation by these communities in CRS results in over \$2.8 million in annual savings to area residents on the cost of their flood insurance premiums.

### *Opportunities for Input*

Members of the community have a very important role in this process. Planning Committee and Public Meetings will be held throughout the plan development process starting fall 2020 through summer of 2021. All interested stakeholders and members of the public are welcome to attend either of these meetings.

A draft of the LHMP Update will also be available late spring 2021 for review and comment by the public and all interested stakeholders on the County website and in select public libraries.

For more information on this project and how you can get involved, go to [www.StormReady.org](http://www.StormReady.org) or click here: <https://waterresources.saccounty.net/stormready/Pages/Local-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan-2017-Update.aspx>

If you have questions or for additional information, please contact the following individuals:

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