

Chapter 7 Plan Implementation and Maintenance

Requirement §201.6(c)(4): [The plan maintenance process shall include a] section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.

Implementation and maintenance of the plan is critical to the overall success of hazard mitigation planning. This is Planning Step 10 of the 10-step planning process. This chapter provides an overview of the overall strategy for plan implementation and maintenance and outlines the method and schedule for monitoring, updating, and evaluating the plan. The chapter also discusses incorporating the plan into existing planning mechanisms and how to address continued public involvement.

Chapter 3 Planning Process includes information on the implementation and maintenance process since the 2011 Plan was adopted. This section includes information on the implementation and maintenance process for this Plan Update.

7.1 Implementation

Once adopted, the plan faces the truest test of its worth: implementation. While this plan contains many worthwhile actions, the participating jurisdictions will need to decide which action(s) to undertake first. Two factors will help with making that decision: the priority assigned the actions in the planning process and funding availability. Low or no-cost actions most easily demonstrate progress toward successful plan implementation.

An important implementation mechanism that is highly effective and low-cost is incorporation of the hazard mitigation plan recommendations and their underlying principles into other plans and mechanisms, such as general plans, stormwater plans, Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), Emergency Operations Plans (EOPS), evacuation plans, and other hazard and emergency management planning efforts for Sacramento County and participating jurisdictions. The County and participating jurisdictions already implement policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from hazards. This plan builds upon the momentum developed through previous and related planning efforts and mitigation programs and recommends implementing actions, where possible, through these other program mechanisms.

Mitigation is most successful when it is incorporated into the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. Implementation can be accomplished by adhering to the schedules identified for each action and through constant, pervasive, and energetic efforts to network and highlight the multi-objective, win-win benefits to each program and the Sacramento County community and its stakeholders. This effort is achieved through the routine actions of monitoring agendas, attending meetings, and promoting a safe, sustainable community. Additional mitigation strategies could include consistent and ongoing enforcement of existing policies and vigilant review of programs for coordination and multi-objective opportunities.

Simultaneous to these efforts, it is important to maintain a constant monitoring of funding opportunities that can be leveraged to implement some of the more costly recommended actions. This could include

creating and maintaining a bank of ideas on how to meet local match or participation requirements. When funding does become available, the participating jurisdictions will be in a position to capitalize on the opportunity. Funding opportunities to be monitored include special pre- and post-disaster funds, state and federal programs and earmarked funds, benefit assessments, and other grant programs, including those that can serve or support multi-objective applications.

Responsibility for Implementation of Goals and Activities

The elected officials and officials appointed to head each department within the County are charged with implementation of various activities in the plan. During the quarterly reviews as described later in this section, an assessment of progress on each of the goals and activities in the plan should be determined and noted. At that time, recommendations were made to modify timeframes for completion of activities, funding resources, and responsible entities. On a quarterly basis, the priority standing of various activities may also be changed. Some activities that are found not to be doable may be deleted from the plan entirely and activities addressing problems unforeseen during plan development may be added.

7.1.1. Role of Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) in Implementation and Maintenance

With adoption of this plan, the participating jurisdictions will be responsible for the plan implementation and maintenance. The Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator for each participating city and the County should outreach the plan periodically and update the CRS Activity 510 progress report annually to describe progress on the mitigation strategies. As such, Sacramento County with the City Sacramento will continue its relationship with each other, and with the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC)/Steering Committee, in manners such as:

- Act as a forum for hazard mitigation issues;
- Disseminate hazard mitigation ideas and activities to all participants;
- Pursue the implementation of high-priority, low/no-cost recommended actions;
- Ensure hazard mitigation remains a consideration for community decision makers;
- Maintain a vigilant monitoring of multi-objective cost-share opportunities to help the community implement the plan's recommended actions for which no current funding exists;
- Monitor and assist in implementation and update of this plan;
- Report on plan progress and recommended changes to the various governing boards or councils of all participating jurisdictions; and
- Inform and solicit input from the public.

The primary duty of the participating jurisdictions is to see the plan successfully carried out and to report to their community governing boards and the public on the status of plan implementation and mitigation opportunities. Other duties include reviewing and promoting mitigation proposals, considering stakeholder concerns about hazard mitigation, passing concerns on to appropriate entities, and posting relevant information on the County website (and others as appropriate).

7.2 Maintenance

Plan maintenance implies an ongoing effort to monitor and evaluate plan implementation and to update the plan as progress, roadblocks, or changing circumstances are recognized.

7.2.1. Maintenance Schedule

The Sacramento County Department of Water Resources (County DWR) is responsible for initiating plan reviews and consulting with the other participating jurisdictions. In order to monitor progress and update the mitigation strategies identified in the action plan, Sacramento County DWR and the individual jurisdictions will revisit this plan annually and following a hazard event. The HMPC should communicate often to review progress on plan implementation and each participating CRS community will provide annual evaluation reports for Activity 510. The HMPC will also submit a five-year written update to the State and FEMA Region IX, unless disaster or other circumstances (e.g., changing regulations) require a change to this schedule. With this plan update anticipated to be fully approved and adopted in early 2017, the next plan update for the Sacramento County Planning Area will occur in 2022.

7.2.2. Maintenance Evaluation Process

Evaluation of progress can be achieved by monitoring changes in vulnerabilities identified in the plan. Changes in vulnerability can be identified by noting:

- Decreased vulnerability as a result of implementing recommended actions;
- Increased vulnerability as a result of failed or ineffective mitigation actions; and/or
- Increased vulnerability as a result of new development (and/or annexation).
- Increased vulnerability resulting from unforeseen or new circumstances.

Updates to this plan will:

- Consider changes in vulnerability due to action implementation;
- Document success stories where mitigation efforts have proven effective;
- Document areas where mitigation actions were not effective;
- Document any new hazards that may arise or were previously overlooked;
- Incorporate new data or studies on hazards and risks;
- Incorporate new capabilities or changes in capabilities;
- Incorporate growth and development-related changes to infrastructure inventories; and
- Incorporate new action recommendations or changes in action prioritization.

Five Year Plan Update

Changes will be made to the plan to accommodate for actions that have failed or are not considered feasible after a review of their consistency with established criteria, time frame, community priorities, and/or funding resources. All mitigation actions will be reviewed as well during the monitoring and update of this plan to determine feasibility of future implementation. Updating of the plan will be by written changes and submissions, as the HMPC deems appropriate and necessary, and as approved by the appropriate governing boards or councils of the other participating jurisdictions. In keeping with the five-year update process, the

HMPC will convene public meetings to solicit public input on the plan and its routine maintenance and the final product will be adopted by the governing boards or councils.

Periodic Plan Review Process

For periodic LHMP updates, the CRS Coordinator for each CRS community will be responsible for coordinating, scheduling, and facilitating reviews and maintenance of the plan. The LHMP is intended to be a living document. Review of the document will normally occur on a periodic basis throughout each year, in preparation for the annual CRS Activity 510 update and outreach, to be conducted by the HMPC/Steering Committee in the following manner:

- Annual Plan updates will be advertised in a variety of media to advise the public of the date, time, and place for each review of the plan
- Examples of outreach efforts may include roundtable discussion, webinar, teleconference, email outreach, or surveys.
- Members of the HMPC, Steering Committee, federal, state, and local agencies, non-profit groups, local planning agencies, representatives of business interests, neighboring communities and others advising them of the date, time and place for the review will be notified by email.
- County/City/District officials could be noticed by email and telephone or personal visit and urged to participate.
- Members of the Communities' Planning Commission and other appointed commissions and groups could also be noticed by email and either by telephone or personal visit.
- Prior to the review, department heads and others tasked with implementation of the various activities might be queried concerning progress on each activity in their area of responsibility and asked to present a report at the review meeting.
- The local news media might be contacted and a copy of the current plan will be available for public comment at Sacramento County.
- A copy of the LHMP will be continually posted on the Internet as will the annual CRS Activity 510 report.

Criteria for Periodic Reviews

The criteria recommended in 44 CFR 201 and 206 will be utilized in reviewing and updating the plan. More specifically, the reviews should include the following information:

- Significant development plans
- Discuss any damaging natural events
- Review of any changes in federal, state, and local policies to determine the impact of these policies on the community and how and if the policy changes can or should be incorporated into the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Review of the status of implementation of projects (mitigation strategies) including projects completed.

7.2.3. Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Another important implementation mechanism that is highly effective and low-cost is incorporation of the hazard mitigation plan recommendations and their underlying principles into other County and City plans and mechanisms. Where possible, plan participants will use existing plans and/or programs to implement hazard mitigation actions. As previously stated in Section 7.1 of this plan, mitigation is most successful

when it is incorporated into the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. The point is re-emphasized here. As described in this plan's capability assessment, the County and participating jurisdictions already implement policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from hazards. This plan builds upon the momentum developed through previous and related planning efforts and mitigation programs and recommends implementing actions, where possible, through these other program mechanisms. These existing mechanisms include:

- County, City, and District general and master plans
- County and City Emergency Operations Plans and other emergency management efforts
- County and City ordinances
- Flood/stormwater management/master plans
- Community Wildfire Protection plans
- Capital improvement plans and budgets
- Other plans and policies outlined in the capability assessments in the jurisdictional annexes
- Other plans, regulations, and practices with a mitigation focus

Any HMPC members who are involved in these other organizations are invited to integrate their findings and recommendations of this plan with these other plans, programs, etc., as appropriate. As described in Section 7.1 Implementation, incorporation into existing planning mechanisms should routinely

- monitor other planning/program agendas;
- attend other planning/program meetings;
- participate in other planning processes; and
- monitor community budget meetings for other community program opportunities.

Hazard mitigation is not merely about planning, it should focus on implementation mitigation measures. In that light, a structure for periodic review of the plan assures the plan does not sit on a shelf. The successful implementation of this mitigation strategy should be constantly reviewed and new multi-objective opportunities that promote a safe, sustainable community should be considered.

Examples of incorporation of the LHMP into existing planning mechanisms include:

1. As recommended by Assembly Bill 2140, each community should adopt (by reference or incorporation) this LHMP into the Safety Element of their General Plan(s). Evidence of such adoption (by formal, certified resolution) shall be provided to CAL OES and FEMA.
2. Integration of wildfire actions identified in this mitigation strategy and those established in existing CWPPs, such as the American River CWPP. Key people responsible for development of the American River CWPP participated on the HMPC. Key projects were identified and integrated into the this LHMP. Actual implementation of these e projects will likely occur through the CWPP process.
3. Integration of flood actions identified in this mitigation strategy with implementation priorities in existing Watershed and Stormwater Drainage Plans. Key people responsible for development of the County's Watershed Master Plan, various jurisdictional watershed plans and stormwater drainage plans participated on the HMPC. Key projects were identified and integrated into this LHMP. Actual implementation of these projects will likely occur through the watershed and stormwater plans' process through the efforts of each responsible jurisdictions.

4. Integration of this LHMP Update into the County’s Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP). This LHMP is currently being used in the development of the CAP and conversely Risk and vulnerability data and climate adaptation strategies developed for the CAP were integrated into this 2016 LHMP Update.
5. Use of risk assessment information to update the hazard analysis in the Sacramento County Emergency Operations Plans, currently being updated.

Efforts should continuously be made to monitor the progress of mitigation actions implemented through these other planning mechanisms and, where appropriate, their priority actions should be incorporated into updates of the 2016 LHMP.

7.2.4. Continued Public Involvement

Continued public involvement is imperative to the overall success of the plan’s implementation. The update process provides an opportunity to solicit participation from new and existing stakeholders and to publicize success stories from the plan implementation and seek additional public comment. The plan maintenance and update process will include continued public and stakeholder involvement and input through attendance at designated committee meetings, web postings, press releases to local media, and through public hearings.

Public Involvement Process for Quarterly Reviews

The public should be noticed by various forms of media and social media. The public, elected officials, Planning Committee, special districts, and agencies are all invited to participate.

Public Involvement for Five-year Update

Federal law and the Community Rating System demand that the plan be updated on a 5-year cycle. CRS Activity 510 requires an annual report. When the HMPC reconvenes for the update, they will contact stakeholders participating in the 2016 planning process—including those that joined after the process began—to update the plan. In reconvening, a subcommittee may be established to develop strategies for public involvement and for disseminating information through a variety of media channels detailing the plan update process. The HMPC will coordinate this public outreach process with the public information program established pursuant to the 2013 guidelines from the CRS.