

Executive Summary

Five -Year Action Plan Matrix

The City of Temple City's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan includes resources and information to assist City employees, residents, public and private sector organizations, and others interested in participating in planning for natural hazards. The mitigation plan provides a list of resources and activities that may assist the City in reducing risk and preventing loss from future natural hazards. The action items address multi-hazard issues, such as earthquakes, flooding and severe weather occasions.

How is the Plan organized?

The mitigation plan contains a five-year action plan matrix, background on the purpose and methodology used to develop the mitigation plan, a profile of the City, sections on three (3) natural hazards that could occur within the City, and a number of appendices. All of the sections are described in detail in Section 1, the plan introduction.

Who Participated in Developing the Plan?

The Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) is the result of the collaborative effort between City staff members, school districts, non-profit organizations, local residents and businesses, various Los Angeles County agencies, and adjacent local municipalities. Public participation has played a key role in the development of the goals and action items. The public was invited to participate in the development of the City's NHMP, and the NHMP was reviewed at two Planning Commission Meetings, as well as two City Council Meetings. In addition, a draft version of the NHMP was placed on the City's website for comments.

A City Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee (NHMP Committee) guided the process of the development of the plan. The NHMP Committee was created based on letters sent to local businesses, school districts, Los Angeles County agencies, and adjacent municipalities, requesting their participation in assisting with the development of the NHMP. The City's NHMP Committee was comprised of the representatives acknowledged at the beginning of this document.

What is the NHMP Mission?

The mission of the City's NHMP is to promote sound public policy designed to protect the citizens, critical facilities, private property, infrastructure, and the environment from natural hazards. This can be accomplished by increasing public awareness, documenting the resources for risk reduction and loss-prevention, and identifying activities to guide the City towards building a safer, more sustainable community.

What are the NHMP Goals?

The NHMP goals describe the overall direction that the City agencies, organizations, citizens and local school districts can take toward mitigating risk from natural hazards. The goals are stepping-stones between the broad direction of the mission statement and the specific recommendations outlined in the action items.

1. Protect Life and Property

- Implement activities that assist in protecting lives by making homes, businesses, infrastructure, critical facilities, and other property more resistant to losses from natural hazards.
- Reduce losses and repetitive damages for chronic hazard events while promoting insurance coverage for catastrophic hazards.
- Improve hazard assessment information to discourage new development in high hazard areas and encourage preventative measures for existing development in areas vulnerable to natural hazards.

2. Public Awareness

- Develop, educate and create outreach programs to increase public awareness of the risks associated with natural hazards.
- Provide information on tools, partnership opportunities, and funding resources to assist in implementing mitigation activities.

3. Partnerships and Implementation

- Strengthen communication and coordinate participation among and within public agencies, citizens, non-profit organizations, business, and industry to gain a vested interest in implementation.
- Encourage leadership within public and private sector organizations to prioritize and implement local and regional hazard mitigation activities.

4. Emergency Services

- Establish policy to ensure mitigation projects for critical facilities, services, and infrastructure.
- Strengthen emergency operations by increasing collaboration and coordination among public agencies, non-profit organizations, business, and industry.
- Coordinate and integrate natural hazard mitigation activities, where appropriate, with City emergency operations plans and procedures.

5. Public Participation

- Public input during development of the mitigation plan assisted in creating plan goals. Meetings with the NHMP committee, served as methods to obtain input and identify priorities in developing goals for reducing risk and preventing loss from natural hazards in the City.

How Are the Action Items Organized?

The action items are a list of activities in which City agencies and citizens can use to reduce risk. Each action item includes an estimate of the timeline for implementation. Short-term action items are activities that the City agencies may implement with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. Long-term action items may require new or additional resources or authorities, and may take between one and five years to implement. Some long-term action items may require more than five years to implement.

The action items are organized in a matrix format, which lists all of the multi-hazard and hazard-specific action items included in the mitigation plan. In addition, data collection, research and public participation/comment process resulted in the development of the following plan components:

Coordinating Organization. The coordinating organization is the public agency with regulatory responsibility to address natural hazards, or that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, or oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Coordinating organizations may include local, county or regional agencies that are capable of or responsible for implementing activities and programs.

Timeline. Action items include both short and long-term activities. Each action item includes an estimate of the timeline for implementation. Short-term items are activities, which City agencies are capable of implementing with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. Long-term action items may require new or additional resources or authorities, and may take between one and five years (or more) to implement.

Ideas for Implementation. Each action item includes ideas for implementation and potential resources, which may include grant programs or human resources. The matrix includes the page number within the mitigation plan where this information can be found.

Plan Goals Addressed. The plan goals addressed by each action item are included as a way to monitor and evaluate how well the mitigation plan is achieving its goals once implementation begins. The plan goals are organized into the following five areas:

1. Protect Life and Property
2. Public Awareness
3. Natural Systems
4. Partnerships and Implementation
5. Emergency Services

Partner Organizations. The partner organizations are not listed in the individual action items or within the NHMP matrix. Partner organizations are listed agencies or public/private sector organizations that may be able to assist in the implementation of action items by providing relevant resources to the coordinating organization. The partner organizations listed in the Resource Directory of the City's NHMP are potential partners recommended by the City's NHMP Committee, but may not have been contacted during the development of the NHMP. Partner organizations should be contacted by the coordinating organization to establish commitment of time and resources to action items.

Constraints. Constraints may apply to some of the action items. These constraints may be a lack of City staff, lack of funds, or vested property rights, which might expose the City to legal action as a result of adverse impacts on private property.

How Will The Plan Be Implemented, Monitored, and Evaluated?

The Maintenance section of this document details the formal process that will be used to ensure that the Temple City Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan remains an active and relevant document. The plan maintenance process includes a schedule for monitoring and evaluating the plan annually. In addition, a complete plan review/revision will occur every five years. This section describes how the City will integrate public participation throughout the plan maintenance process. Finally, this section includes an explanation of how the City intends 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 & Safety Codes.

Plan Adoption

Adoption of the NHMP by the local jurisdiction's governing body is one of the most important requirements for the approval of the plan. Once California's Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved the NHMP, the City Council will then be responsible for adopting the final approved NHMP. The City Council has the responsibility and authority to promote sound public policy regarding the mitigation of natural hazards. The City Council will have the authority and necessity to review and re-adopt the plan as necessary. The NHMP will

be revised to meet changes in the natural hazard risks and exposures that pose a threat to the community. The approved NHMP will be significant in the future growth and development of the City.

Coordinating Body

A City's NHMP Committee will be responsible for coordinating implementation of plan action items and undertaking the formal review process. The City Council will assign representatives from City agencies, including, but not limited to, the current NHMP Committee members.

Convener

After the City Council adopts the City's NHMP, and the City's NHMP Committee will meet and take responsibility for the NHMP implementation. The City Manager will serve as a convener to facilitate the NHMP Committee meetings, and will assign tasks such as updating and presenting the NHMP to the members of the committee. NHMP implementation and evaluation will be a shared responsibility among all of the City's NHMP Committee Members.

Implementation through existing programs

The City addresses statewide planning goals and legislative requirements through its General Plan, Capital Improvement Plans, and Los Angeles County Building Codes. The NHMP provides a series of recommendations that are closely related to the goals and objectives of these existing planning programs. The City will have the opportunity to implement recommended mitigation action items through existing programs and procedures.

Economic analysis of Mitigation projects

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) approach towards identifying the costs and benefits associated with natural hazard mitigation strategies or projects fall into two general categories: benefit/cost analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis. Conducting 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.

Formal review process

The City's NHMP will be evaluated on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of the programs, reflect changes in land development, and/or land use programs that may affect mitigation priorities. The evaluation process includes a firm schedule and time

line, as well as identifying the local agencies and organizations, who will be participating in the NHMP evaluation. The convener will be responsible for contacting the City's NHMP Committee members and organizing the annual meeting. Committee members will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the mitigation strategies in the NHMP.

Continued public involvement

The City is dedicated to involving the public directly in the continual review and updates of the NHMP. Copies of the NHMP will be made available at City hall, Civic Center, Live Oak Park and the Temple City branch of the Los Angeles County Library. The existence and location of these copies will be posted on the City's website, as well as the City's quarterly newsletter. The NHMP will also include a phone number and address of the City's Community Development Department, who will be responsible for keeping track of public comments on the NHMP. In addition, copies of the NHMP and any proposed changes will be posted on the City's website at www.templecity.us.