

## Section 6: Identification and Prioritizing Natural Hazards

The process used to identify and prioritize threats to the City was to research the history of events, their potential threat, and overall impact to the City. The above mentioned information gathered was presented to the steering committee for their review; in addition, the information helped gain input and recommendations from the steering committee.

The NHMP committee reviewed a general list of natural threats and agreed on three potential natural threats to the City. These threats are earthquakes, flooding, and severe weather occasions.

The NHMP committee used the criteria of frequency, intensity, and resulting injury and damage generated by a single event. The following list of hazards is in order of threat priority:

### **1. Earthquake**

Earthquakes do not have the frequency rate of other natural events. However, history shows the results of an event of significant magnitude is responsible for the loss of life, injuries, destruction of property, and a threat to the environment. Earthquakes can trigger other events; such as the loss of containment for a hazardous material, train derailment, and igniting fires. Geological studies place approximately 1/3 of the City in a liquefaction zone. The faults and fault zones near and around the City have the potential to generate an earthquake event of significant magnitude. Recovery and resumption from a major event can be lengthy and costly.

### **2. Floods**

The steering committee considered flooding as the next significant natural hazard. Flooding has a history dating back to the 1850's however, a wide range of county projects were completed dating from the 1930's to the mid 1990's. These projects including several dams, a flood control channel system, and extensive spreading grounds. Dam failure is considered remote, overflowing levees is considered remote, and the only significant threat would be urban flooding. During the last El Nino condition, which resulted in some urban flooding, the City was not impacted. There is a future potential for flooding, due to the large number of residential "infill" projects submitted to the City, which in turn increases the density and rapid water runoff during heavy rains.

### 3. Severe Weather Occasions

The Southern California, climate is generally mild and is characterized as Mediterranean. The steering committee reviewed the recent past history of the region around Temple City, which includes erratic, unpredictable, and unexpected shifts in weather patterns. With the exception of high winds during Santa Ana conditions and heavy rains during an El Nino condition, there has not been a significant event that has impacted the City.

#### **Non – Threatening Hazards**

The steering committee reviewed the following natural hazards and found that they do not represent a threat to the City.

**Figure 6-1. Non-Threatening Natural Hazards in Temple City**

Avalanche	No Impact – the City is not located in a mountainous region
Coastal Erosion	No Impact – the City is not located in or near a coastal region
Coastal Storms	No Impact – the City is not located in or near a coastal region
Dam Failure	No Impact – Although the Santa Fe Dam is in close proximity, the probability of failure and overflow is highly inconceivable.
Drought	No Impact – There is no history in the City and local water districts consider supplies adequate for the next 10 years.
Expansive Soils	No Impact – This is not a threat to the City with the exception of a seismic event that may cause liquefaction – which is covered in the earthquake hazard section.
Landslides	No Impact – The City is not located near any mountains and the only landslide potential would be from seismic activity, and that is minimal and located several miles southeast of the City
Tsunami	No Impact – The City is not located in or near a coastal region.
Volcano	No Impact – The general area in and around the City has no history of, or future potential for, volcanic activity.
Wildfire	No Impact – The City is not located near any urban/rural interface