

CITY OF YUBA CITY
STAFF REPORT

Date: October 20, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor & Members of the City Council
From: Department of Public Works
Presentation By: Diana Langley, Interim City Manager

Summary

Subject: Update to the 2013 Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution to establish a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and update the 2013 Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
Fiscal Impact: There is no direct fiscal impact to the City.

Purpose:

To be eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding and Community Rating System (CRS) rating reductions.

The eventual adoption of a Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan will qualify the City of Yuba City to become eligible for future federal disaster mitigation funding. It also affects the City's CRS classification, which is used to determine discounts associated with flood insurance rates for residents.

Background:

Mitigation planning is a process for state and local governments to identify community-level policies and actions that will mitigate and thus reduce the impacts of natural hazards.

The Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is intended to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects on the Sutter County Planning Area, which includes the incorporated communities of Yuba City and Live Oak.

According to a federal law, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments were required to complete a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) every five years in order to remain eligible for future federal disaster mitigation funding. Sutter County's last LHMP was completed in 2013.

Sutter County secured FEMA mitigation grant funding in 2019 to support an update of their LHMP. On July 28, 2020, the County awarded a contract in the amount of \$113,317 to Foster Morrison Consulting to prepare the LHMP.

Sutter County is partnering with the City of Yuba City and Live Oak and several special districts to update the 2013 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. A project kickoff meeting was held on September 9, 2020.

Analysis:

The 2013 Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan has expired. In the absence of a current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the City of Yuba City and other local jurisdictions within Sutter County are ineligible for federal disaster mitigation funding.

In addition, the adoption and implementation of an updated plan affects the City's Community Rating System (CRS) classification through FEMA.

It is critical that Sutter County, the City of Yuba City, the City of Live Oak, other local jurisdictions, and public stakeholders develop and adopt a new plan in order to qualify for future federal disaster mitigation funding. Further, the adoption of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan will reflect positively on the City's CRS classification, which improves discounts associated with flood insurance rates for residents.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no direct fiscal impact to the City.

Alternatives:

The City Council may choose not to participate in the planning and adoption of a Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. However, doing so would place the City and local jurisdictions ineligible to receive hazard mitigation funds and limit residents' ability to receive lower flood insurance ratings.

Recommendation:

Recommend City Council adopt a resolution committing to staff participation in the process of creating a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and supporting the update of the Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Attachment:

A. Resolution

Prepared By:

/s/ Katherine Willis

Katherine Willis
Regulatory Compliance Administrator

Submitted By:

/s/ Diana Langley

Diana Langley
Interim City Manager

Reviewed By:

Department Head

[DL](#)

Finance

[SM](#)

City Attorney

[SLC by email](#)

ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUBA CITY
INITIATING PLANNING PROCESS AND ESTABLISHING
HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE AND STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR UPDATE TO SUTTER COUNTY'S LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City, Sutter County, and the City of Live Oak are exposed to numerous natural and manmade hazards, including flood, drought, wildfire, severe weather, and other hazards, that increase the vulnerability to life, property, environment and the City of Yuba City's economy; and

WHEREAS, hazard mitigation planning will create an operational framework for reducing losses from these hazards; and

WHEREAS, hazard mitigation planning is a requirement of the Robert T Stafford Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and continued eligibility for certain sources of FEMA mitigation funding programs that support loss reduction activities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) Program which through certain activities reduces the effects of flood hazards and therefore the cost of flood insurance to residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City is currently maintaining a CRS classification rating of "6" thereby saving residents within the FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) twenty percent (20%) on the cost of flood insurance and those outside the SFHA a total of ten percent (10%) on the cost of flood insurance; and

WHEREAS, the CRS Program also requires the City to adopt a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan with a Floodplain Management Plan component to reduce repetitively flooded properties and flood loss in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City in conjunction with Sutter County, as the lead agency, is initiating its update to the 2013 Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) as required by FEMA's DMA 2000 and CRS on a 5-year basis in order to remain eligible for future federal disaster mitigation funding and to achieve the goals of CRS Activity 510 for Floodplain Management Planning; and

WHEREAS, the planning process for the 2021 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was initiated in September of 2020 and is anticipated to be complete by September 2021; and

WHEREAS, FEMA and the CRS Program encourage public participation and involvement from the public and other stakeholders throughout the planning process; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to create a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) with the responsibility to meet and fulfill the obligations of FEMA's DMA 2000 and the CRS Program Floodplain Management planning requirements through organizing to prepare the plan, involving the public, coordinating with other agencies, assessing the hazards, assessing the problem, setting goals, reviewing possible activities, drafting a mitigation action plan, adopting the plan and implementing, evaluating and revising the plan; and

WHEREAS, a multi-jurisdictional and public HMPC will be established to lead this mitigation planning effort. The HMPC will be widely advertised and open to all attendees and will consist of representatives of various city and county departments, other incorporated communities, special districts, other federal, state, and local agency stakeholders, and the public who could be affected by or interested in the impacts of natural hazards in Sutter County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to establish the overall HMPC as well as an HMPC Steering Committee comprised of 50% membership of public stakeholders for this purpose:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUBA CITY hereby supports the update of the 2021 Sutter County LHMP and establishes the creation of the new HMPC and steering committee comprised of representatives, as appointed, from:

- A. City of Yuba City Departments
 - a. City Manager
 - b. Development Services
 - i. Planning
 - c. Fire
 - d. Police
 - e. Community Service
 - i. Parks
 - ii. Recreation
 - iii. Animal Services
 - f. Public Works
 - g. Finance/Information Technology
- B. Sutter County Departments
- C. City of Live Oak Departments
- D. Other participating jurisdictions to include special districts and others seeking FEMA approval of the plan.
- E. Other private citizens, members of the public, and stakeholders including local, regional, state, and federal agencies and partners.
- F. Specific members of the HMPC Steering Committee will be appointed by Sutter County Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Manager, with input from the City of Yuba City, Public Works/Floodplain Manager. This Steering Committee will be comprised of representatives from the City of Yuba City and Sutter County as participating CRS communities; other eligible CRS communities within the County; and public stakeholders to comprise 50% membership on the Steering Committee.

The foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Yuba City at a regular meeting thereof held on the 20th day of October 2020.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Shon Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia Buckland, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
COUNSEL FOR YUBA CITY

Shannon Chaffin, City Attorney
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP