

CITY OF YUBA CITY
STAFF REPORT

Date: October 5, 2021
To: Honorable Mayor & Members of the City Council
From: Public Works Department
Presentation by: Diana Langlely, Public Works Director

Summary

Subject: Adoption of Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution to adopt the Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and direct staff to submit the Resolution to the California Office of Emergency Services and FEMA Region IX officials

Fiscal Impact: There is no direct fiscal impact to the City at this time; however, failure to adopt the plan will impact the ability to receive future funding for disaster mitigation

Purpose:

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, by restoring the City's eligibility for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding and facilitating Community Rating System (CRS) rating reductions.

Background:

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

The purpose of the LHMP is to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects on the Sutter County Planning Area, including the incorporated communities of Yuba City and Live Oak. The previous plan was adopted by City Council in December 2014 and has now expired.

On October 20, 2020, Council adopted a Resolution to participate in the update of the LHMP along with eight other local organizations within the Sutter County Planning Area. Staff participated in the Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee coordinated through Sutter County, and a draft document was submitted to FEMA and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for review and preliminary approval.

Analysis:

FEMA and Cal OES have reviewed the LHMP and determined that the plan is eligible for final approval pending adoption by Sutter County, which occurred on September 28, 2021, and all participating jurisdictions (Attachment 2). The final draft of the LHMP can be found on the City's website at www.yubacity.net/publicworks.

Fiscal Impact:

An adopted current LHMP is required for eligibility for FEMA disaster mitigation funding, which includes both projects for infrastructure improvements for anticipated hazard protection and repairs and cleanup following disaster occurrences. FEMA funding has been critical for City hazard recovery and preparation in the past, such as the utilities infrastructure repairs and facility generator upgrades necessitated by the 2017 Feather River high water incident.

In addition, the City of Yuba City is a member of the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) through FEMA. This rating system provides public agencies with credit points for implementing activities within the community exceeding minimum FEMA requirements, which determine the discount on flood insurance policies for residents within a Special Flood Hazard Area. The City currently has a CRS classification of 6, which allows for a 20% discount on flood insurance policies for the residents within that area. Adopting an LHMP assists the City in maximizing CRS credit points in order to maintain or improve that classification rating.

Alternatives:

Do not adopt the joint LHMP; this would make the City ineligible for future FEMA funding and affect customer flood insurance rates.

Recommendation:

Adopt a Resolution to adopt the Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and direct staff to submit the Resolution to the California Office of Emergency Services and FEMA Region IX officials.

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. FEMA Letter to Sutter County August 12, 2021

Prepared by:

/s/ Katherine Willis

Katherine Willis
Regulatory Compliance Administrator

Submitted by:

/s/ Dave Vaughn

Dave Vaughn
City Manager

Reviewed by:

Department

City Attorney

DL

SLC by email

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUBA CITY ADOPTING
THE SUTTER COUNTY LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

WHEREAS, an adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pre/post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City undertook all measures necessary by FEMA to update the existing Local Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted by the City Council in December 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City fully participated in the FEMA-prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, the California Office of Emergency Services and FEMA Region IX officials have reviewed the "Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update" and approved it contingent upon the official adoption of the participating governing bodies.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Yuba City hereby adopts the "Sutter County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update" as an official plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Yuba City staff will submit this resolution to the California Office of Emergency Services and FEMA Region IX officials to enable the Plan's final approval.

The forgoing 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 5th day of October, 2021.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Marc Boomgarden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ciara Wakefield, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
COUNSEL FOR YUBA CITY:

Shannon Chaffin, City Attorney
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP

ATTACHMENT 2



FEMA

August 12, 2021

Zach Hamill
Emergency Operations Manager
Sutter County Office of Emergency Management
1130 Civic Center Blvd, Suite E
Yuba City, CA 95993

Dear Mr. Hamill:

FEMA has completed its review of the *Sutter County LHMP Update* and has determined that this plan is eligible for final approval pending its adoption by Sutter County and all participating jurisdictions. Please see the enclosed list of approvable pending adoption jurisdictions.

Formal adoption documentation must be submitted to FEMA Region IX by at least one participating jurisdiction within one calendar year of the date of this letter, or the entire plan must be updated and resubmitted for review. FEMA will approve the plan upon receipt of the documentation of formal adoption.

Once the plan is approved, each participating jurisdiction must adopt the plan within five calendar years of the date of the approval. The adoption of the plan by each jurisdiction ensures that jurisdiction's continued eligibility for funding under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs. All requests for funding, however, will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility, and other requirements of the particular program under which applications are submitted.

If you have any questions regarding the planning or review processes, please contact the FEMA Region IX Hazard Mitigation Planning Team at fema-r9-mitigation-planning@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Alison Kearns
Risk Analysis Branch Chief
Mitigation Division
FEMA Region IX

Enclosure (1)

Sutter County Plan Review Tool, dated August 12, 2021

cc: Victoria LaMar-Haas, Hazard Mitigation Planning Chief, California Governor's Office of
Emergency Services
Jennifer Hogan, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, California Governor's Office of Emergency
Services

Status of Participating Jurisdictions as of August 12, 2021

Jurisdictions – Adopted and Approved

#	Jurisdiction	Date of Adoption

Jurisdictions – Approvable Pending Adoption

#	Jurisdiction
1	City of Live Oak
2	City of Yuba City
3	Levee District 1
4	Reclamation District 70
5	Reclamation District 1001
6	Reclamation District 1500
7	Reclamation District 1660
8	Sutter Butte Flood Control District
9	Levee District 9