



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: April 4, 2023

TO: Dean Albro, City Manager

FROM: Brian Fallon, Fire Chief
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SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution No. 6568(23) Adopting the City's Updated Local Hazard Mitigation Annex to the Santa Barbara County Multi Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt Resolution No. 6568(23) (Attachment 1) adopting the City of Lompoc Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (City Plan) (Attachment 2) to be annexed to the updated Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (County Plan).

Background:

Federal legislation has historically provided funding for disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) is legislation designed to improve the delivery of mitigation programs through sound and viable planning. The legislation reinforces the importance of mitigation planning and emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur. As such, DMA 2000 establishes a pre-disaster hazard mitigation program, outlining requirements for the post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

Section 322 of DMA 2000 specifically addresses mitigation planning at the state and local levels. It identifies requirements that allow HMGP funds to be used for planning activities and increases the amount of HMGP funds available to states that have developed a comprehensive, enhanced mitigation plan prior to a disaster. State, County, and local jurisdictions must have an approved mitigation plan in place prior to receiving post-disaster HMGP funds. Those mitigation plans must demonstrate that their proposed projects are based on a sound planning process that accounts for the risk to and the capabilities of the individual communities.

April 4, 2023

Adoption of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/Annex into the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Page 2 of 3

Local governments have certain responsibilities for implementing Section 322 of DMA 2000, including:

- Preparing and submitting a local mitigation plan,
- Reviewing and updating the plan every five years; and
- Monitoring projects.

DMA 2000 is intended to facilitate cooperation between state and local authorities, prompting them to work together. It encourages and rewards local and state pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance. This enhanced planning network is intended to enable local and state governments to articulate accurate needs for mitigation, resulting in faster allocation of funding and more effective risk reduction projects.

The California Disaster Assistance Act (AB 2140), passed in 2006, established limits and eligibility related to disaster assistance funding. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) is responsible for overseeing and coordinating emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and homeland security activities within the state. Per CalOES and pursuant to California Government Code, to be eligible for disaster funds following an emergency declaration, a local agency must maintain a current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Discussion:

The City Plan has been drafted as an annex to the updated County Plan. The City participated in the Countywide Mitigation Advisory Committee, reviewed all portions of the previous plan pertaining to the City, and incorporated relevant components into the updated City Plan.

The updated City Plan was prepared and formulated with citizen participation, responsible officials, other stakeholders, and support from CalOES and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The updated City Plan guides the City toward greater disaster preparedness and resistance.

The City Plan is consistent with the County Plan and has been approved by CalOES and FEMA (Attachment 3). The City's most recent annex to the County Plan was updated and approved in 2017. The updated City Plan is consistent with the Safety Element of the City's General Plan as required by State law.

Fiscal Impact:

The adoption of the proposed resolution has no direct fiscal impact to the city. However, in the event of a disaster, for the City to qualify for federal and state assistance, the City is required to have an approved mitigation plan in place prior to receiving post-disaster HMGP funds.

April 4, 2023

Adoption of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/Annex into the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Page 3 of 3

Conclusion:

The updated City Plan is consistent with the 2017 plan and the Safety Element of the City's General Plan. The updated City Plan has been prepared to meet FEMA and CalOES requirements thus continuing the City's eligibility for funding and technical assistance from state and federal hazard mitigation programs, such as the HMGP, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and Flood Mitigation Assistance programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Fallon, Fire Chief

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachments: 1) Resolution No. 6568(23)

2) City of Lompoc Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
(available on line at www.cityoflompoc.com)

3) Letter from FEMA dated March 23, 2023