Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

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April 05, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

HEARING ON THE GENERAL PLAN SAFETY ELEMENT UPDATE
PROJECT NO. PRJ2021-002039 PLAN AMENDMENT NO. RPPL2021011001
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. RPPL2021005522
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

SUBJECT

The recommended action is to adopt the General Plan amendment for the comprehensive update to the Safety Element and an amendment to the Land Use Element, collectively known as the Project.

The Safety Element is a mandated element of the General Plan. It serves as a policy guide to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, economic loss, and social dislocation resulting from natural and human-made, climate-induced hazards, such as earthquakes, fire, flood, extreme heat, and drought. The Safety Element was last updated with the General Plan Update in October 2015.

Taking lessons-learned from recent natural and climate-induced hazards, the Project includes stronger policies to more effectively reduce the potential risk of hazards. The Project amends the Safety Element to be consistent with state requirements regarding climate adaptation and resilience strategies; identification of evacuation routes; identification of residential developments with limited emergency evacuation routes; and identification of evacuation locations. The Project also amends the Safety Element goals and policies regarding emergency response, and updates policy maps, such as Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones and FEMA Flood Hazard Zones Policy Maps, to reflect the most current data available.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING,

1. Indicate your intent to adopt the Negative Declaration associated with Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2021005522, finding that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment;

2. Indicate your intent to approve the Project (Plan Amendment No. RPPL2021011001) as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC);

3. Find that the Project is consistent with the goals, policies, and principles of the General Plan; In the interest of public health, safety, and general welfare and in conformity with good zoning practice, and consistent with other provisions of Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code (County Code); and

4. Instruct County Counsel to prepare the final documents for the Project and bring them back to the Board for their consideration.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will ensure that the County is in compliance with Senate Bill (SB) 1035, SB 379, Assembly Bill (AB) 747, AB 1409, and Government Code section 65302(g), which require updates to the Safety Element.

On December 15, 2021, the RPC held a public hearing and voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Project and instructed staff to include any revisions required by the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation and State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. On December 15, 2021, the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) submitted the Project to the Department of Conservation for a final review; no comments were received. On January 18, 2022, CAL FIRE presented the Project to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Resource Protection Committee for review. The Committee did not have any new recommendations for the Project. A summary of the RPC proceedings is included as Attachment 8. The RPC's resolution is included as Attachment 9.

Key Components

1. Goals and Policies – The Project includes new and revised goals and policies in the Safety Element for seismic and geotechnical hazards; climate adaptation and resiliency; flood; fire; extreme heat and drought; human-made hazards; and emergency response (Attachment 2). Policies have been strengthened to more effectively address and reduce risks from hazards. A minor grammatical edit was made to page 7 of Attachment 2 after the RPC proceedings.

The Project also includes a new policy in the Land Use Element (Attachment 3) to support Safety Element Policies S 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, and 4.20, which restrict development in flood and fire hazard zones. Policy LU 1.10 prohibits plan amendments that increase the density of residential land uses within mapped fire and flood hazard areas.

An implementation guide will be developed after the adoption of the Project to provide additional clarification for policies pertaining to subdivision development.

2. Data Table – In compliance with Senate Bill 99, the Project includes Table 12.3 in the Emergency Response section of the Safety Element (Attachment 2), which identifies unincorporated communities with residential developments with limited egress.

3. Implementation Programs – The Project adds six new implementation programs for the Safety Element (Attachment 2) to address wildfire planning, climate-adapted landscaping, community capacity and resiliency, shaded corridors, oil and gas operations, and the continued implementation of the OurCounty Sustainability Plan.

4. Appendices – The Project includes minor updates to Appendix C (Land Use Element Resources) and Appendix H (Safety Element Resources) of the General Plan.

Technical update to Appendix C (Attachment 4) - Figure C.1 and Table C.1 – to reflect mapping changes based on the most current data available and the change in name of the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas to Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas (SERA). Resource categories Oak Woodlands and Savannahs, Cold Creek/Dark Canyon Resource Management Area, Significant Watersheds, and Wildlife Migration Corridor/Habitat Linkages were deleted because the data were included in the new SERA layer.

Amendment to streamline and cite primary sources in Appendix H (Attachment 5).

5. Policy Maps – The Project includes two new policy maps in the Safety Element (Attachment 6) for County Floodways/Floodplains and Possible Evacuation Routes.

Additional Changes for Clarification and Consistency

1. Clarifying language was added to page 1 of Attachment 2 to refer to the latest version of the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan and All-Hazards Mitigation Plan.

2. A minor grammatical edit was made to page 7 of Attachment 2.

3. Policy S 4.1 was revised to remove the redundant public infrastructure connection requirement, add secondary egress route and street networks requirements, and add general clarifying language.

4. Policy S 4.20 was revised to make the policy consistent with Policy S 4.1.

5. Policy LU 1.10 was revised to make the policy consistent with Policy S 4.1.

6. Santa Catalina Island was identified as a Tsunami Hazard Area on page 10 of Attachment 2 as part of the administrative update of Figure 12.3.

7. A minor edit was made to page 9 of Attachment 5 to update the name of the Watershed Emergency Response Team.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Project promotes Goal II, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities. The Safety Element Update policies align with Strategy II.2.3, Prioritize Environmental Health Oversight and Monitoring, which aim to strengthen the County's capacity to effectively prevent, prepare for, and respond to environmental and natural hazards, and reduce impacts to frontline communities. The Project is also aligned with Strategy II.3, Make Environmental Sustainability Our Daily Reality, as it envisions and implements a comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing the environmental, economic, and social well-being of communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Adoption of the Project will not result in any significant new costs to DRP or other County departments and agencies.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

SB 1035 (Jackson, 2018) requires safety elements to be updated on the housing element update cycle. The concurrent update of these two elements ensures new information relating to hazards and climate adaptation is considered when updating the Housing Element. The Housing Element was adopted by the Board on November 30, 2021.

Other legislation enacted since the last update to the Safety Element include:

1. SB 379 (Jackson, 2015) – This bill addresses climate adaptation and resilience strategies through the inclusion of goals, policies, and objectives based on a climate vulnerability assessment.
2. AB 747 (Levine, 2019) – This bill identifies evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios.
3. SB 99 (Nielsen, 2019) – This bill identifies residential developments in hazard areas that have fewer than two emergency evacuation routes.
4. AB 1409 (Levine, 2021) – This bill identifies evacuation locations.

Prior to the adoption of the Safety Element Update, state law requires consultation with key state agencies to ensure that all information known to the agencies are incorporated into the Safety Element Update. DRP consulted with CAL FIRE, California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation, and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

A public hearing by the Board is required pursuant to Section 22.232.040 of the County Code and Section 65856 of the California Government Code. Required notice (Attachment 10) has been given pursuant to the procedures and requirements set forth in Section 22.222.120.B.1 of the County Code. These procedures exceed the minimum standards of Sections 6061, 65090, and 65856 of the California Government Code relating to notice of a public hearing. Additionally, more than 460 members of the public have been notified via email. The email notification is included as Attachment 11.

Finally, approval of the Project will meet the following findings:

1) The amendment is consistent with the principles of the General Plan;
2) Approval of the amendment will be in the interest of public health, safety, and general welfare and in conformity with good zoning practice; and
3) This amendment is consistent with other provisions of Title 22.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

A Negative Declaration determination has been made as the appropriate environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act and the County environmental guidelines. The Negative Declaration and Initial Study (Attachment 7) concluded that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant impact on the environment. A Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration was filed with the State Clearinghouse on November 10, 2021. The formal public review period of 30 days for the Negative Declaration was held from November 15, 2021, to December 15, 2021.

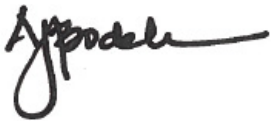
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the Project will not significantly impact County services.

CONCLUSION

For further information, please contact Iris Chi of the Environmental Planning and Sustainability Section at (213) 974-6461 or ichi@planning.lacounty.gov.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy J. Bodek, AICP
Director

AJB:CC:TH:IC:el

Enclosures

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Fire
Public Works
Office of Emergency Management

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	The Project is a comprehensive update to the Safety Element and an amendment to the Land Use Element. Safety Element is a mandated element of the General Plan. It serves as a policy guide to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, economic loss, and social dislocation resulting from natural and human-made, climate-induced hazards, such as earthquakes, fire, flood, extreme heat, and drought. The Project will comply with state legislation that require identification of climate change adaptation and resilience strategies, evacuation routes and locations, and residential developments with limited access in hazard areas. The Safety Element was last updated with the General Plan Update in October 2015.
REQUEST:	Approval and adoption of the Project and Negative Declaration environmental document
LOCATION:	Countywide (unincorporated areas)
STAFF CONTACT:	Iris Chi, 213-974-6461, ichi@planning.lacounty.gov
RPC HEARING DATE:	December 15, 2021
RPC RECOMMENDATION:	Approval and recommendation to the Board to consider adoption of the Safety Element Update and associated environmental document.
MEMBERS VOTING AYE:	Commissioners Shell, Duarte-White, Louie, Moon, and Hastings

MEMBERS VOTING NAY: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

MEMBERS ABSTAINING: None

KEY ISSUES: The Project amends the General Plan to update the Safety Element as required by State legislations Senate Bill (SB) 1035, SB 379, Assembly Bill (AB) 747, AB 1409, and Government Code section 65302(g). The Safety Element includes new and revised goals and policies for seismic and geotechnical hazards; climate adaptation and resiliency; flood; fire; extreme heat and drought; human-made hazards; and emergency response. Policies have been strengthened to more effectively address and reduce risks from hazards.

MAJOR POINTS FOR: The Project includes stronger policies to more effectively reduce the potential risk of hazards. The Project also amends the General Plan to be consistent with state requirements regarding climate adaptation and resilience strategies; identification of evacuation routes; identification of residential developments with limited emergency evacuation routes; and identification of evacuation locations. The Project also amends the Safety Element goals and policies regarding emergency response, and updates policy maps, such as Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones and FEMA Flood Hazard Zones Policy Maps, to reflect the most current data available.

MAJOR POINTS AGAINST: Proposed policies may prohibit development in hazard areas under certain conditions.

Chapter 12: Safety Element

I. Introduction

Development in Los Angeles County has extended into areas with environmental hazards, such as hillsides, floodplains, and seismic areas. If this pattern of growth continues, it will further increase the vulnerability of Los Angeles County residents to seismic, geotechnical, flood, and fire hazards. In addition, studies suggest that climate change will increase the risk of natural hazards, particularly related to wildland fires ~~and~~, extreme heat, inland flooding and extreme precipitation, coastal flooding, and drought.

The purpose of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, ~~and~~ property damage, economic ~~damage~~ loss, and social dislocation resulting from natural and ~~man-made~~ human-made hazards. The California Government Code requires the General Plan to address "the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence, liquefaction, and other seismic hazards...; flooding; and wildland and urban fires." The Safety Element addresses only limited aspects of ~~man-made~~ human-made disasters, such as hazardous waste and materials management~~, in particular, those aspects related to seismic events, fires, and floods~~. In general, hazardous materials management is addressed in the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Plan (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 18755.5).

The Safety Element works in conjunction with the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP), which is prepared by County's Chief Executive Office - Office of Emergency Management (CEO OEM). The OAERP strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability, and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in Los Angeles County. ~~To access the OAERP, and to find more information on the OEM, please visit the CEO's web site at http://lacoa.org/oaerp.htm.~~

CEO OEM also prepares the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, which provides policy guidance for minimizing threats from natural and human-made hazards in Los Angeles County. The All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, which has been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA), includes a compilation of known and projected hazards in Los Angeles County. The All-Hazards Mitigation Plan also includes information on historical disasters in Los Angeles County. ~~For more information on~~ To access the latest OAERP and the County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, please visit the CEO's web site at ~~http://lacoa.org/hazmit.htm~~ https://lacounty.gov/emergency/county-of-los-angeles-all-hazards-mitigation-plan/

II. Seismic and Geotechnical Hazards

Background

Since ~~1800~~ 1700, over ~~90~~ 78 significant earthquakes with a magnitude of 6.5 or greater have occurred in ~~the Los Angeles region~~ California. In the Los Angeles region, ~~T~~there are over 50 active and potentially active fault segments, an undetermined number of buried faults, and at least four blind thrust faults capable of producing damaging earthquakes in Los Angeles County.

The California Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act of 1972 and Section 113 of the County Building Code prohibits the location of most structures for human occupancy across the traces of

active faults, and lessens the impacts of fault rupture. In addition, the California Seismic Hazards Mapping Act of 1990 regulates developments as defined by the Act. Seismic Hazard Zone maps depict areas where earthquake induced liquefaction or landslides have historically occurred, or where there is a high potential for such occurrences. Liquefaction is a process by which water saturated granular soils transform from a solid to a liquid state during strong ground shaking. A ~~landsliding~~ landslide is a general term for a falling, sliding, or flowing mass of soil, rocks, water and debris.

The main provisions of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning and Seismic Hazard Mapping Acts are to:

- Require the California Geological Survey to prepare maps depicting earthquake fault zones, liquefaction hazard zones and earthquake-induced landslide zones.
- Require property owners (or their real estate agents) to disclose that their property lies within identified hazard zones; and
- Prohibit new construction of projects within identified hazard zones until a comprehensive geotechnical study has been completed.

Figure 12.1 identifies the County's Seismic Hazard Zones. In addition to depicting faults within Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones, Figure 12.1 also depicts faults that are considered active based on published ~~and unpublished~~ information. For more details on active faults in Los Angeles County, please refer to Appendix H.

Figure 12.1: Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones Policy Map

Issues

1. Seismic Hazards

Earthquakes can cause ground rupture, liquefaction and ~~landsliding~~ landslides. In addition, flooding in low-lying coastal areas can result from a tsunami that is generated by a large offshore earthquake or sub-marine landslides. Widespread and localized earthquake induced effects place structures or utility corridors at-risk, and if damaged, can result in fires, failure of large dams, or the release of toxic, flammable, or explosive materials. The General Plan prohibits new projects, as defined by the Alquist-Priolo Act and Seismic Hazards Mapping Acts, until a comprehensive geotechnical study has been ~~completed~~ approved.

2. Geotechnical Hazards

More than 50 percent of the unincorporated areas are comprised of hilly or mountainous terrain. ~~The vast majority of~~ Most hillside hazards include mud and debris flows, active deep-seated landslides, hillside erosion, and man-induced slope instability. These geotechnical hazards include artificially-~~saturated~~ or rainfall-saturated slopes, the erosion and undercutting of slopes, earthquake induced rock falls and shallow failures, and natural or artificial compaction of unstable ground. The County's Hillside Management Area Ordinance regulates development in hillsides that have natural slope gradients of 25 percent or steeper, and these potential hazards are analyzed as part of the permitting process.

Goals and Policies for Seismic and Geotechnical Hazards

Goal S 1: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life and property damage due to seismic and geotechnical hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Geotechnical Hazards	Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.
	Policy S 1.2: Prohibit ~~the~~ construction of ~~most~~ structures for human occupancy adjacent to active faults ~~until~~ unless a comprehensive fault study ~~is approved~~ that addresses ~~the potential for fault rupture has been completed~~ seismic hazard risks and proposes appropriate actions to minimize the risk is approved.
	Policy S 1.3: Require developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landslides, in Hillside Management Areas through siting and development standards.
	Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

III. Climate Adaptation and Resilience

Background

Climate change has exacerbated existing hazards and introduced new hazards, such as extreme heat, extreme precipitation, and drought in Los Angeles County. Adaptation and resilience strategies are adjustments in natural or human systems in response to existing or expected climate impacts to reduce harm. This section includes adaptation and resilience strategies applicable to all hazards in compliance with Senate Bill 379. Hazard-specific adaptation and resilience strategies can be found in the individual hazard sections of this Element.

The 2021 Los Angeles County Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) assesses how people and infrastructure in Los Angeles County may be vulnerable to climate change. Vulnerability in this context is generally defined as a combination of increased exposure to climate hazards; high sensitivity, or susceptibility, to negative impacts of exposure; and adaptive capacity, or ability to manage and recover from exposure. The CVA analyzes five climate hazards: extreme heat, wildfire, extreme precipitation and inland flooding, coastal flooding, and drought. The CVA assesses the severity that climate hazards will impact in two points in time: today and at mid-century under Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 8.5. RCP 8.5 is one of the scenarios adopted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to project the concentration of greenhouse gas emissions based on differing volumes of emissions in the future. RCP 8.5 is considered the "business as usual" projection, which assumes that global greenhouse gas emissions will continue to increase in the absence of climate change policies until at least the end of the 21st century. The CVA evaluated the RCP 8.5 scenario for a worst-case evaluation of how climate hazards may worsen over time. The key takeaways from the CVA are:

- Extreme heat will increase in frequency, severity, and duration.
- Wildfires will become larger, more frequent, and more destructive.
- Rainfall patterns will change, with drier springs and summers and wetter winters. The concentration of rainfall over short periods will increase the likelihood of inland flooding.
- A rise in sea level of up to 2.5 feet by mid-century will lead to more frequent and severe coastal flooding.
- Drought and mega-drought will become more likely because of rising temperatures and shifting precipitation patterns.

Additional details from the CVA can be found at https://ceo.lacounty.gov/cso-actions/.

Frontline communities - populations that often experience the earliest and most acute consequences of climate change, face historic and current inequities, and have limited resources and/or capacity to adapt - are at immediate risk from climate-induced hazards. When disadvantaged communities are also in the frontlines of such hazards, it makes it harder for these communities to recover from the damages. A hazard event may require residents to vacate homes due to unsafe conditions, and the costly and lengthy rebuilding process may prevent communities ~~who~~ that were already at a disadvantage ~~to~~ from recovering completely. The lack of a social safety net can also make it difficult for disadvantaged communities to navigate reducing the harms of hazards. A strong social structure is imperative for communities to build resiliency and adapt to climate change, and a physical space like a resilience hub can serve as an anchor for a community. This Element contains policies that provide additional support to frontline communities through supportive planning, education, and services.

Resilience hubs

Resilience hubs are community-serving facilities ~~augmented to~~ that support residents and coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, or after a natural hazard event. They provide the physical space and social safety net for a community in the event of a hazard and its secondary impacts, such as heat waves, wildfire smoke, floods, and earthquakes. Resilience hubs can be designed to operate independent of the electrical grid by relying on solar power and battery storage as a backup source of electricity. These alternative sources of power allow the hubs to provide support to residents who are impacted by the hazards. Resilience hubs can also be used as a space to promote meaningful engagement and programming that empower communities to build resilience to climate hazards, especially for frontline communities ~~who~~ that are directly impacted by climate hazards and/or ~~its~~ their secondary impacts.

Microgrids

Microgrids are smaller distributed energy sources that have localized grids that can disconnect from the traditional grid to operate autonomously. Microgrids can become a more flexible and efficient electric grid by integrating renewable energy resources, such as solar. Microgrids can strengthen grid resilience and help mitigate grid disturbances during Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) due to dangerous wind conditions that may exacerbate wildland fire ignition potential. A microgrid can provide life-saving reprieve in the event of a hazard, especially for sensitive populations that are dependent on electricity for survival.

Issues

1. Climate Change and Social Vulnerabilities

Social vulnerability encompasses the conditions that affect people's sensitivity and exposure to the impacts of climate change that may put people at greater risk of harm. Although climate hazards pose a risk to all Los Angeles County residents, various factors can make certain populations more susceptible to harm than others. These factors include inequities in infrastructure and access to the benefits of education, living wages and income, economic opportunity, social capital, healthcare, and/or other services; institutionalized bias or exclusion from political and decision-making power; inequities in environmental and living conditions and health status; and differences in individual health, age, and ability. The CVA includes a Social Vulnerability Assessment to identify the conditions that contribute to a community's social vulnerability for individual climate hazards. To access the CVA, please visit: https://ceo.lacounty.gov/cso-actions/.

2. Climate Change and Physical Vulnerabilities

Physical vulnerability is the susceptibility and limitations of physical infrastructure in the context of climate hazards and extreme events. Climate change has the potential to damage physical infrastructure and disrupt services or limit accessibility. The CVA explores the vulnerability of key infrastructure systems to understand how climate change will affect them by mid-century. In the CVA, climate hazard exposure and infrastructure sensitivities to climate hazards are combined to determine physical vulnerability to climate change. The Physical Vulnerability Assessment in the CVA aims to highlight infrastructure systems that are most vulnerable to different climate hazards and prioritize and bring attention to those that should be the focus of investment and policy advancements.

Disruption to infrastructure can create cascading impacts that can heighten the severity of a climate event and impact other interconnected sectors that serve critical needs. The Cascading Impacts Assessment in the CVA examines potential cascading impacts in Los Angeles County caused by climate-related disruption affecting linked systems and socially vulnerable populations. To access the CVA, please visit: https://ceo.lacounty.gov/cso-actions/.

3. Secondary Impacts of Climate Hazards

Secondary impacts are the effects that occur directly as a result of the primary impacts of climate-induced hazards. Secondary impacts may be felt during and after the hazard event and outside of the immediate area of impact. Examples of secondary impacts are smoke and hazardous air quality from a wildland fire, increased mosquito activity after a flood event, mudslides after extreme precipitation falling on a recent burn area, or poor air quality due to extreme heat events increasing production of smog. Effective emergency response planning will need to consider how secondary impacts may affect the impacted and adjacent communities.

Goals and Policies for Climate Adaptation and Resiliency~~e~~

Goal S 2: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to climate hazards and climate-induced secondary impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Climate Adaptation and Resiliency	Policy S 2.1: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids that are driven by renewable energy sources to increase local energy resilience during grid power outages, reduce reliance on long-distance transmission lines, and reduce strain on the grid when demand for electricity is high.
	Policy S 2.2: Plan for future climate impacts on critical infrastructure and essential public facilities.
	Policy S 2.3: Require new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.
	Policy S 2.4: Promote the creation of resilience hubs in frontline communities that are ~~at~~ highly vulnerable~~ility~~ to climate hazards and ensure that they have adequate resources to adapt to climate-induced emergencies.
	Policy S 2.5: Promote the development of community-based and workplace groups such as Community Emergency Response Teams to improve community resilience to climate emergencies.
	Policy S 2.6: Promote climate change and resilience awareness education about the effects of climate change-induced hazards and ways to adapt and build resiliency to climate change.
	Policy S 2.7: Increase the capacity of frontline communities to adapt to climate impacts by focusing planning efforts and interventions on communities facing the greatest vulnerabilities and ensuring representatives of these communities have a role in the decision-making process for directing climate change response.

~~III~~IV. Flood and Inundation Hazards

Background

Federal, state, and local agencies share and coordinate responsibilities for flood protection in Los Angeles County. The two main federal agencies include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which implements federal flood protection policies, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is responsible for managing the state's waterways. Locally, the Los Angeles County ~~Department of~~ Public Works (~~D~~PW) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District work to reduce flood risk in Los Angeles County. ~~One~~There are numerous ways in which ~~D~~PW and the Flood Control District manage flood risk. PW maintains a vast system of dams, reservoirs, debris basins/inlets, flood basins, channels and storm drains, and coordinates operations of this system with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' operations of its flood management facilities. PW also regulates development in flood hazard areas in accordance with ordinances and standards that meet or exceed those of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). ~~is through the development of the~~ Development and implementation of documents like the Los Angeles County Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan and Sediment Management Strategic Plan aim to reduce adverse impacts of flood hazards for ~~Los Angeles County~~ unincorporated Los Angeles County~~areas~~.

For more information on the Los Angeles County Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan, please visit https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/NFIP/FMP/. For more information on the Sediment Management Strategic Plan, please visit ~~http://dpw.lacounty.gov/lacfcd/sediment/Default.asp~~ https://dpw.lacounty.gov/lacfcd/sediment/stplan.aspx.

For a comprehensive list of agencies responsible for flood management, protection, as well as financial assistance, please refer to Appendix H.

Flood Hazard Zones

Flood Hazard Zones are areas subject to moderate or minimal flood hazards that are identified on an official Flood Insurance Rate Map issued by FEMA. Flooding in Los Angeles County can be earthquake induced or can result from intense rainfall. Figure 12.2a shows the County's Flood Hazard Zones, which are 1% Annual Chance of Flood (100-Year) and 0.2% Annual Chance of Flood (500-Year) floodplains designated by FEMA.

In addition to the Flood Hazard Zones, DWR's Awareness Floodplain Mapping Program identifies potential flood hazard areas that are not part of the regulated floodplain. For the available awareness floodplain maps for the unincorporated areas, please refer to Appendix H.

Figure 12.2~~a~~: FEMA Flood Hazard Zones Policy Map

Since 1980, the County has been a voluntary participant in the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As a participant, the County is responsible for regulating development in Flood Hazard Zones in unincorporated Los Angeles County and planning for floodplain management activities that promote and encourage the preservation and restoration of the natural state of the floodplain. As a compliance requirement of the NFIP, the County enforces regulations to ensure that buildings are erected at a safe elevation and to prevent potential damage to properties.

In 1980, the County also identified flood hazard areas associated with the County Capital Flood, which are shown on County Floodway Maps that were adopted into the County Code (Title 11, Chapter 11.60). The County Floodway Maps are used in conjunction with the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps to regulate development in flood hazard areas to meet or exceed NFIP standards. Figure 12.2b

shows the mapped ~~floodplains and~~ floodways and floodplains associated with the County Capital Flood floodplains, which are undeveloped areas that may flood based on a 50-year (2% annual chance) rainfall frequency falling on a watershed that have undergone a burn and four years of post-fire recovery. ~~These County Floodway Maps are used in conjunction with the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps to regulate development in flood hazard areas to meet or exceed NFIP standards.~~

Figure 12.2b: County ~~Floodplains and~~ Floodways and Floodplains Policy Map

The County provides information on Flood Hazard Zones from FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps to property owners for use in resolving flood insurance matters with insurance companies and lending institutions. The County conducts educational outreach to communities in the unincorporated areas on how to mitigate flooding impacts on properties. Through these and other efforts, the County reduces flood insurance costs for residents who are required to purchase flood insurance by lowering a community's overall rating system number.

To view FEMA and County flood zone information on PW's Flood Zone Determination web site, please visit https://pw.lacounty.gov/floodzone. For more information on flood hazards, please visit the ~~D~~PW web site at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/nfip. Please also visit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Levee Database at http://nld.usace.army.mil.

Regulations

Table 12.1. Flood-Related Land Use and Building Regulations in the Los Angeles County Code

Reference	Summary
Title 11, Health and Safety, Chapter 11.60	County Floodway Maps – basis of all County regulation of activities within County floodways
Title 20, Utilities, Section 20.32	Sewer permits
Title 20, Utilities, Section 20.94	Natural watercourses, swales, and man-made drainage channels, prohibition of activities in waterways

Issues

1. ~~Flood Hazards and the Impacts of~~ Climate Change and Flood Hazards Impacts

Climate change is expected to produce longer and more severe droughts due to higher average temperatures, as well as greater and more frequent floods. The water systems in Los Angeles County are designed to balance flood protection during the winter and spring months with water storage during the dry months. While the average amount of annual precipitation in California is not projected to significantly change due to climate change, there is a greater ~~frequency of~~ chance for wet and dry extremes ~~is expected~~ to occur more frequently. ~~- a condition known as precipitation whiplash.~~ However, it is too early to quantify the frequency of extreme storm events. More studies to determine the impact of climate change on extreme storm events will be needed before evaluating the adequacy of flood control systems in Los Angeles County. With increased rainfall, facilities that handle stormwater can become overburdened and lose the capacity to protect communities from inland flooding. This can result in greater and more frequent floods in areas within river floodplains or adjacent

to drainage systems, low-lying areas, where heavy rainfall can collect, and areas with inadequate storm drain infrastructure. Infrastructure at risk include bridges, tunnels, and coastal highways. In particular, the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are vulnerable to coastal flooding, and if impacted, could result in economic repercussions across the region.

2. Dam or Aqueduct Failure

Catastrophic dam or aqueduct failure can devastate large areas and threaten residences and businesses. There are 85 dams in Los Angeles County that hold billions of gallons of water in reservoirs, and seismic activity can compromise dam structures and result in catastrophic flooding (https://fmds.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=dam_prototype_v2). The Division of Safety of Dams of the California Department of Water Resources has jurisdiction over large dams throughout the State and enforces strict safety requirements and annual inspections. Additionally, dam inundation areas have been mapped by dam owners and submitted to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal/OES) to ensure effective emergency planning and adequate preparations in the event of a catastrophic event (https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Division-of-Safety-of-Dams/Inundation-Maps). The California State Water Project provides information on aqueducts located in ~~the~~ Los Angeles County ~~region~~ (https://water.ca.gov/swp/).

3. Tsunami Hazard Areas

~~Large sub-marine landslides have the potential to generate destructive tsunamis~~ Coastal areas are vulnerable to tsunamis. Tsunamis are a series of powerful waves that originate from geologic disturbances in the ocean. Generated by large earthquakes below the ocean floor, underwater landslides, volcanic activity, and meteor strikes, tsunamis grow significantly in mass and height as they approach land and have the potential to cause injury and damage along adjacent coastal areas in Southern California. The travel time for a locally generated tsunami, from initiation at the source to arrival at coastal communities, can be 5 to 30 minutes. Tsunamis can last for hours and resemble a flood or surge. Figure 12.3 identifies Tsunami Hazard Areas in Los Angeles County, which include Marina del Rey, Santa Catalina Island, and portions of the Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone.

Figure 12.3: Tsunami Hazard Areas Map

The likelihood for the catastrophic inundation of low-lying coastal areas ~~as a result of a tsunami~~ from tsunamis in Los Angeles County is low. However, the risk of losing vital commerce associated with the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach warrants adequate risk reduction measures from tsunamis. The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach have completed a Tsunami Hazard Assessment to guide disaster planning and mitigate damage from a potential tsunami at their facilities. In addition, the County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan includes risk reduction measures for the coastal areas. To learn more about tsunamis, please visit the California Geological Survey Tsunami Program: www.tsunami.ca.gov.

~~Figure 12.3 identifies Tsunami Hazard Areas in Los Angeles County, which include Marina del Rey and portions of the Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone.~~

~~**Figure 12.3: Tsunami Hazard Areas Map**~~

~~The inundation of water caused by a catastrophic dam or aqueduct failure can devastate large areas and threaten residences and businesses. There are 103 dams in Los Angeles County that hold billions of gallons of water in reservoirs, and seismic activity can compromise dam structures and result in catastrophic flooding. The Division of Safety of Dams of the California Department of Water Resources has jurisdiction over large dams throughout the State and enforces strict safety requirements and annual inspections. Additionally, dam inundation areas have been mapped by dam owners and~~

~~submitted to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal/OES) to ensure effective emergency planning and adequate preparations in the event of a catastrophic event.~~

~~Climate change is expected to produce longer and more severe droughts due to higher average temperatures, as well as greater and more frequent floods. The water systems in Los Angeles County are designed to balance flood protection during the winter and spring months with water storage during the dry months. Increased rainfall and an earlier melting of the snowpack could result in overburdened facilities that cannot adequately protect communities from floods. In addition, consideration needs to be made for floods caused by sea level rise.~~

4. Coastal Flooding

~~Figure 12.4 shows the areas along the coastline that can potentially be impacted due to sea level rise flooding. While these impacts are likely to occur over a long period of time,~~ ~~s~~Sea level rise can affect and alter the impacts of flood inundation of low-lying coastal areas. While these impacts are likely to occur over a long period of time, ~~I~~impacts related to sea level rise include the flooding of septic systems and the intrusion of salt water into the fresh water supply. ~~Although~~ ~~c~~Coastal habitats can adapt to gradual changes in sea level, however, an accelerated rise in sea level will negatively impact coastal habitats. Wetlands~~, in particular,~~ are at risk of being inundated. Figure 12.4 shows the areas along the coastline that can potentially be impacted due to coastal flooding.

Figure 12.4: Sea Level Rise Impact Areas Map

Goals and Policies for Flood and Inundation Hazards

Goal S ~~2~~3: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to flood and inundation hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Flood Hazards	Policy S ~~2~~3.1: Strongly ~~D~~discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones, unless it solely provides a public benefit.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.2: Strongly ~~D~~discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts, unless it solely provides a public benefit.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.3: ~~Consider climate change adaptation strategies in flood and inundation hazard planning.~~ Promote the use of natural, or nature-based flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.4: Ensure that developments located within the County's Flood Hazard Zones are sited and designed to avoid isolation from essential services and facilities in the event of flooding.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.5: Ensure that ~~the mitigation of flood related property damage and loss limits impacts to~~ biological and ~~other~~ natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a flood event.
	~~Policy S 23.6: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.~~
	Policy S ~~2~~3.~~7~~6: ~~Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals and fire stations, outside of Flood Hazard Zones, where feasible.~~ Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

~~IV~~V. Fire Hazards

Background

Fire Hazard Severity Zones

While all of California is subject to some degree of fire hazard, there are specific features that make some areas more hazardous. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is required by law to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors. These zones, referred to as Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ), influence how people construct buildings and protect property to reduce risk associated with wildland fires.

Los Angeles County faces wildland fire threats due to its topography, rainfall patterns, and fire-adapted vegetation. The at-risk areas are designated as FHSZs per Government Code Sections 51175–51189. FHSZs in the unincorporated areas are classified as Very High, High, and Moderate in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and Very High in Local and Federal Responsibility Areas (LRA and FRA). SRA are areas where the State has financial responsibility for wildland fire protection and prevention. ~~Incorporated c~~Cities and federal ownerships are not included. LRA are areas where the local government is responsible for wildfire protection. FRA are lands that are administered by federal agencies that are responsible for wildfire protection. The ~~Forestry Division of the~~ ~~Los Angeles~~ County of Los Angeles Fire Department (Fire Department) provides the wildfire protection in LRAs ~~within~~ in District and Fee-for Service cities and all unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County ~~and assists and supports the implementation of the CAL FIRE FHSZ model designation in Los Angeles County~~. A map of SRA, LRA, and FRA boundaries can be viewed here: https://gis.data.ca.gov/datasets/CALFIRE-Forestry::state-responsibility-area/explore?location=34.211922%2C-118.099748%2C10.43.

~~In an effort to~~To reduce the threats to lives and property, the Fire Department has instituted a variety of regulatory programs and standards. These include vegetation management, pre-fire management and planning, the fuel modification ~~P~~plan ~~R~~review ~~P~~program, and brush clearance inspection program. In addition to these programs, the Fire Department and ~~D~~PW enforce fire and building codes related to development in FHSZs. The Fire Department implements ~~the~~ Title 32 (Fire Code) requirements in FHSZs.

Figure 12.5 identifies the FHSZs in Los Angeles County. For more information on the County's fire prevention and safety programs, please visit the ~~Los Angeles County~~ Fire Department's web site at http://www.fire.lacounty.gov.

Figure 12.5: Fire Hazard Severity Zones Policy Map

California Strategic Fire Plan

The State Board of Forestry and ~~the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (~~CAL FIRE~~)~~ have ~~drafted~~ completed a comprehensive document for wildland fire protection in California, the California Strategic Fire Plan (Fire Plan). The Fire Plan acknowledges the persistence of wildfires in California and addresses how local, state, federal, and private entities can work together to increase resilience to adapt to this risk. The Fire Department Forestry Division's Fire Plan Unit ~~is in charge of implementing the California~~ annually prepares and implements the Los Angeles County Strategic Fire Plan ~~in Los Angeles County~~, a parallel document to the State Fire Plan. The planning process defines a level of service measurement, considers assets at risk, incorporates the cooperative inter-dependent relationships of wildland fire protection providers, provides for public stakeholder involvement, and creates a fiscal framework for policy analysis. The Fire Plan assessment process utilizes weather, assets at risk, fuels, and input from the various regions, bureaus, divisions, and battalions to help target critical areas and prioritize projects.

The Fire Department is one of six contract counties that maintain a contractual relationship with CAL FIRE and implements the ~~California~~ Fire Plan within unincorporated Los Angeles County through the Strategic Fire Plan. The Strategic Fire Plan~~, which is prepared by the Fire Department,~~ identifies and prioritizes pre- and post-fire management strategies and tactics to reduce loss of life, property, and natural resources. It also includes a map of existing Fire Department helispots fuel reduction projects, water resources, motorway maintenance maps, and a description of the road and fuel maintenance functions of the Fire Department. ~~The Strategic Fire Plan is updated annually.~~ This Safety Element incorporates the Strategic Fire Plan by reference ~~and as amended annually~~. For more information, please visit the following web site: http://www.fire.lacounty.gov.

Regulations

Fuel Modification Plan Review Program

Fuel modification plans are required for development projects within areas designated as a Fire Hazard Severity Zone within the State Responsibility Areas or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone within the Local Responsibility Areas, as described in Title 32, Fire Code~~, Section 4908~~. The fuel modification plan identifies specific zones within a property that are subject to fuel modification. A fuel modification zone is an area ~~strip~~ of land where combustible native or ornamental vegetation has been modified and/or partially or totally replaced with drought-tolerant, low-fuel-volume plants. The County of Los Angeles Fuel Modification Guidelines can be found at http://www.fire.lacounty.gov.

Fire prevention items addressed in ~~the County Fire Code~~Title 32 include provision of fire apparatus access roads, adequate road widths, requirements for all-weather access and fire flow, fire hydrant spacing, and clearance of brush around structures located ~~in~~ on hillside areas that are considered primary wildland fire risk areas. Table 12.~~1~~2 references fire-related land use and building regulations, including fuel modification, in the Los Angeles County Code.

Table 12.~~1~~2. Fire-Related Land Use and Building Regulations in the Los Angeles County Code

Reference	Summary
~~Title 32, Fire, Section 4907.1~~	~~Defensible space around structures in State Responsibility Areas, per Title 14, Section 1270 of the California Code of Regulations~~
~~Title 32, Fire, Sections 4908, 1117.2.1~~	~~Fuel modification~~
~~Title 32, Fire, Section 325~~	~~Clearance of brush and vegetative growth~~
Title 20, Utilities, Section 20.16.060	Fire flow and fire hydrant requirements, including in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones
Title 21, Subdivisions, Chapter 21.24, Part 1	~~Access road requirements for fire equipment access and public evacuation~~ Streets and access routes requirements, including fire apparatus access, and public evacuation
~~Title 21, Subdivisions, Section 21.44.250~~	~~Storm drain, sewer, or fire access easement designations on subdivision maps~~
Title 21, Subdivisions, Section 21.24.220	Fire-protection access easements

Title 26, Building, Chapter 7A	~~Buildings within a Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area~~ Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure
Title 30, Residential, Section R337	Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure
~~Title 32, Fire, Section 105.7.9.1~~	~~Fire Department approval for land development projects.~~
Title 32, Fire, Section 325	Clearance of brush and vegetative growth
~~Title 32, Fire, Section 328.10~~	~~Land development plan reviews located within VHFSZs.~~
Title 32, Fire, Section 503	Specifications for fire access roads in developed areas, including dimensions and markings.
Title 32, Fire, Section 4907.1	Defensible space around structures in State Responsibility Areas, per Title 14, Section 1270 of the California Code of Regulations
Title 32, Fire, Sections 4908, 1117.2.1	Fuel modification
Title 32, Fire, Appendix B and Appendix C	Fire flow requirements and fire hydrant locations

Conservation and Wildland Areas

Significant Ecological Areas and Oak Woodlands

~~Many of the~~ Overlapping with fire hazard zones are areas that contain biological resources ~~in the unincorporated areas~~, including ~~those within~~ oak woodlands, Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) and Coastal Resource Areas (CRAs)~~, as well as oak woodlands, overlap with fire hazard areas~~. The General Plan's Conservation and Natural Resources Element includes a map and goals and policies related to SEAs and CRAs.

Oak woodlands play an important role in reducing wildfire risk ~~of wildfires~~. The native oak woodland understory ~~of oak woodlands~~ typically contains less flammable vegetation ~~than~~ compared to other types of trees. Oak trees are also harder to ignite and not as prone to rapid combustion. Well-maintained oak stands prevent slope failure, reduce erosion, and can slow down a wildfire. As described in the Conservation and Natural Resources Element, DRP will work to expand documentation of oak woodlands as part of the implementation of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan.

~~General descriptions of the biological resources and designation criteria for each SEA and CRA are contained in the Technical Appendix.~~ The SEA Program also includes the SEA Ordinance, an implementing ordinance, ~~the SEA Ordinance,~~ ~~which~~ that is part of ~~the County's~~ Title 22 (~~p~~Planning and ~~z~~Zoning) ~~code~~. The SEA Program Guide contains additional detail about the biological resources

present in each SEA, along with additional information to assist the County in managing resources within the SEAs. General descriptions of the biological resources and designation criteria for each SEA and CRA are contained in Appendix E.

~~In addition, as described in the Conservation and Natural Resources Element, DRP will work to expand documentation of oak woodlands as part of the implementation of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan. Oak woodlands play an important role in reducing risk of wildfires. The native understory of oak woodlands typically contains less flammable vegetation than other types of trees. Oak trees are also harder to ignite and not as prone to rapid combustion. Oak stands that are well maintained prevent slope failure, reduce erosion and can slow down a wildfire.~~

As part of the project planning review process, the Fire Department complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CAL FIRE ~~p~~Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for chaparral vegetation management programs, and the County's Oak Tree and ~~Significant Ecological Areas~~ SEA ordinances to consider project impacts to wildlife habitats, ~~and~~ endangered species and cultural resources.

Integrated Vegetation Management Program

Vegetation management, as it relates to wildland fire, refers to the total or partial removal of high fire hazard grasses, shrubs, or trees. This includes thinning to reduce the ~~amount of~~ fuel loads and modification of vegetation arrangement and distribution to disrupt fire progress. In addition to fire hazard reduction, vegetation management has other benefits. These include increased water yields, habitat restoration and improvement, reduction of invasive exotic plant species, and open access for recreational purposes.

The Vegetation Management Program (VMP) is a cost-sharing program that focuses on the use of prescribed fire, hand crews, mechanical, biological, and chemical means, for addressing wildland fire fuel hazards, habitat restoration and other resource management issues on State Responsibility Area and Local Responsibility Area lands.

A VMP allows private landowners, and state and conservancy entities to enter into a contract with CAL FIRE to accomplish a combination of fire protection and resource management goals, including in open space areas. The Fire Department Forestry Division's Vegetation Management Unit and the Air and Wildland Division's Prescribed Fire Office implement VMP projects.

Pest, Disease, and Other Forest Health Issues

The County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner / Weights and Measures (ACWM) maintains a vast network of insect traps throughout much of Los Angeles County. The network is designed to serve as an early warning system for some of California's most feared insect pests, including species such as the gypsy moth, gold-spotted oak borer (GSOB), and invasive shot-hole borer (ISHB), which have the potential to damage fragile wildland and watershed areas. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department Forestry Division assists the ACWM with detection and mitigation of insect and plant diseases, pests, and invasive species.

The County also collaborates with state, local, and educational agencies on the detection, management, and mitigation of insect and plant diseases, pests, and invasive species~~ such as the golden spotted oak borer and polyphagous shot hole borer~~.

~~**Circulation and Access**~~

~~The Fire Department Strategic Fire Plan includes a map of existing Fire Department helispot fuel reduction projects, water resources, motorway maintenance maps, and a description of the road and fuel maintenance functions of the Fire Department.~~

~~Section 503 of Title 32 provides additional specifications for fire access roads in developed areas, including dimensions and markings.~~

Issues

1. Climate Change and Wildfire Impacts

Climate change has resulted in wildland fires that last longer and occur more frequently due to higher temperatures and extended drought. In 2007 and 2008, wildland fires burned over 147,000 acres, destroyed 570 residences, and damaged an additional 42 residences in the unincorporated areas. In 2009, the Station Fire broke out in the Angeles National Forest, which burned nearly 160,000 acres and destroyed approximately 76 residences. This fire, the largest in recorded history for Los Angeles County, occurred months before low-moisture and strong Santa Ana winds, which often exacerbate wildland fires in the fall and spring months. In more recent years, fire season has become longer, affecting all jurisdictions in the State. Wildfires from neighboring jurisdictions pose new challenges for Los Angeles County. In 2018, the Woolsey Fire began in Ventura County and crossed into Los Angeles County, burning nearly 97,000 acres of the Santa Monica Mountains, and destroying 1,643 structures. In 2020, California endured the 2020 Fire Siege that saw multiple fires burning up and down the State at the same time. During this unprecedented year, the Bobcat Fire, which started in the San Gabriel Mountains, burned over 115,000 acres, destroying over 170 structures, and becoming the second largest in recorded history for Los Angeles County. Appendix H contains descriptions of these and other recent wildfires.

As wildfires have become intense, all-year phenomena due to climate change, the risk of injury to residents and damage to property and infrastructure have increased. Secondary impacts, such as smoke from wildfires, have also significantly impacted the health of Los Angeles County residents. As these risks are projected to increase, there is a need to develop adaptation strategies, such as emergency and evacuation planning for communities located in high fire risk areas, retrofitting older homes to current fire code standards, and updating communications and energy infrastructure.

~~1~~2. The Increasing Costs of Wildland Fires

Although fires are a natural part of the wildland ecosystem, ~~development in wildland areas increases the danger of wildfires to residents, property, and the environment~~ development in wildland areas put more residents and their homes/businesses at risk of adverse impacts from wildfires, increases adverse fire-related environmental impacts, and increases the burden on public services to protect residents, homes/businesses, and the environment. Increased fire frequency is the primary threat to wildland ecosystems, which are adapted to an infrequent fire return interval. Frequent fires cause habitat type conversion and the presence of invasive species.

Wildland fire threats are increasing, in part due to climate change causing heavier (dead) fuel loads but also due to further encroachment of development into wildland areas. Increased development and land uses at the urban periphery introduces structures, roads, vehicle traffic, and people into areas ~~which~~ that were previously undeveloped, and increases the probability of ignitions within wildland areas. Nearly all wildfire ignitions in ~~the~~ Los Angeles County in recent times were human-caused, often by electrical equipment, vehicles, fireworks, debris burning, smoking, campfires, or arson. According

to the National Interagency Fire Center, Southern California experienced 5,295 human-caused wildfires resulting in 927,722 acres burned in the year 2020 alone. The rise in temperatures and prolonged periods of drought increase the fire ignition potential and may increase the frequency and duration of wildfires. Wildfires also have negative impacts on air quality. As exposure to smoke and particulate matter has immediate and long-term public health impacts, populations may suffer from eye irritations, respiratory problems, and complications to existing lung and heart conditions. Wildfires also have major economic impacts and have the potential to cost the County millions of dollars every year.

Although multiple regulations are in place to ensure that adequate infrastructure~~, such as peak load water supplies and necessary disaster routes are~~ is incorporated into new developments, older communities with aging and substandard infrastructure may face greater risks from wildland fires. ~~In addition, current~~ Future regulations ~~cannot ensure that all~~ will need to consider the increased risk for existing developments ~~that locate~~ located in FHSZs ~~are protected~~ from larger and more frequent wildland fire threats.

For a timeline of recent fires and their countywide impacts, as well as their impacts on the unincorporated areas, please refer to Appendix H.

3. The Wildland Urban Interface

Recent fires throughout the State have established that communities and homes located in and near wildlands with vegetative 'fuels' are at much higher risk of loss due to wildfire. These areas, known as the wildland urban interface (WUI), are characterized by the geographical intersection of two land types: human development and undeveloped wildlands. WUIs are common throughout ~~the~~ Los Angeles County, particularly in rural and mountainous areas, and can also include urban communities that are located near open space, conservation areas, and national forests. Development in the WUI is broken down into two classes: interface and intermix. Interface represents relatively dense development adjacent to wildlands, with a clear boundary between them. Intermix represents less dense, or sparse, development interspersed within wildland areas.

Development within the WUI, particularly for residential homes, represents a significant proportion of growth across the State. Development within the WUI has increased over the last several decades due to a variety of factors, including peoples' interest in living near open space amenities. According to a 2018 study authored by the Department of Forest Ecology & Management, University of Wisconsin-Madison and the U.S. Forest Service, titled "Rapid Growth of The U.S. Wildland Urban Interface Raises Wildfire Risk," Los Angeles County had over 561,000 housing units and 1.5 million residents within the WUI countywide in 2010. According to the report's County Summary Statistics data, published in 2019, this represents 16% of ~~the~~ Los Angeles County's total housing and population. Based on this data, it is estimated that every 10 years an additional 50,000 homes are built in the WUI in Los Angeles County. A large portion of the homes built within the WUI are within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). Thus, increasing climate-related wildfire conditions combined with the scale of existing and potential development within the WUI and VHFHSZ represent an enormous risk to a significant proportion of Los Angeles County residents.

Development within the WUI and VHFHSZ increases the likelihood of fire spreading between developed and undeveloped areas. Particularly within a densely populated area such as Los Angeles County, wildfire ignitions often start near development and can rapidly spread into nearby wildlands. Conflagrations can then spread through vegetated areas and threaten multiple communities over a wide geographical area. As communities grow further out into undeveloped areas, the ability for fire protection agencies to protect homes is diminished and the resources to maintain adequate infrastructure required for evacuation and emergency response is stretched thin. This results in greater risk to communities and increased costs for residents and agencies for fire protection.

As wildfire risks mount due to climate change, communities that have developed within the WUI and VHFHSZ face significant challenges related to natural resource management and hazard mitigation. Expanding development boundaries exacerbate wildfire risk by degrading natural resources through impacts to biological communities and watersheds. Other conditions such as topography, hydrology, vegetation types, and climate contribute to the risk factors associated with development in the WUI. As climate-related impacts to precipitation and vegetation occur and development persists, the boundaries of the WUI will continue to change into the future.

~~2~~4. Urban Fire Considerations

Due to the intensity of development, population density, and the difficulties of containment, the County must also devote major resources to controlling potential fire hazards in its urbanized areas. Fire safety and suppression are especially critical in industrial areas and high-rise buildings. The County must also consider performance standards and use exemptions that minimize urban fire risks, such as regulating certain commercial uses that have high fire risks in mixed use developments.

~~3~~5. Fire Prevention, Response and Recovery

The Fire Department serves unincorporated area~~s of~~ Los Angeles County as well as 60 ~~incorporated~~ cities. The Fire Department has a contractual agreement with CAL FIRE to provide wildland fire protection on SRAs. The Gray Book staffing agreement identifies resource allocations that CAL FIRE considers necessary for the protection of SRA and provides funding accordingly. In Los Angeles County, the Gray Book provides funding for 23 stations and fire prevention activities.

In emergency services, mutual aid is an agreement among emergency responders to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. This may occur due to an emergency response exceeding capabilities of local resources, such as a disaster or a multiple alarm fire. Mutual aid may be ad hoc, requested only when such an emergency occurs, or may be a formal standing agreement for cooperative emergency management on a continuing basis, such as ensuring resources are dispatched from the nearest fire station, regardless of the incident's jurisdictional boundary. Agreements sending the closest resources are regularly referred to as "automatic aid agreements."

Los Angeles County currently has ~~5~~ five new operational fire stations in the Santa Clarita Valley as of 2021. Nineteen new stations are planned for development within the next ~~5~~ five years in the Antelope Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, and Santa Monica Mountains.

Appendix H references the relevant County codes, as well as programs and functions of the Fire Department and other agencies in fire prevention, fire/emergency response, and recovery as required by CAL FIRE. Additional information can be found in the Strategic Fire Plan~~, which is updated annually~~.

6. Community Resilience and Fire-Resistant Planning

As wildfires increase in frequency and intensity due to climate change, the capacity of fire agencies to respond to heightened fire risks within their own jurisdictions and to provide mutual aid to other areas is becoming increasingly strained. As such, communities in FHSZs can reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, and economic loss by increasing their resilience to wildfire. Adaptive measures include hardening homes, installing fire-retardant landscapes, maintaining defensible space, increasing fuel breaks, maintaining clear emergency access routes, evacuation planning, and adopting community wildfire protection plans. Residents living in existing development with inadequate access/evacuation routes are strongly encouraged to implement such adaptive measures, as it could increase their safety during a wildfire event. The Fire Department provides resources through the Ready! Set! Go! brochure

to provide residents with critical information on creating defensible space around homes, retrofitting homes with fire-resistant materials, and preparing residents to safely evacuate well ahead of a wildfire. Additional information can be found at the Fire Department's web site: http://fire.lacounty.gov/rsg/.

Goals and Policies for Fire Hazards

Goal S ~~3~~4: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to fire hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Fire Hazards	Policy S ~~3~~4.1: ~~Discourage high density and intensity development in VHFHSZs.~~ Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless ~~entirely~~ the new subdivision is generally surrounded by existing ~~built~~ or entitled development or is located in an existing approved specific plan~~, will connect to public infrastructure,~~; meets secondary egress route requirements; and the ~~level of service~~ capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation. Discourage new subdivisions in all other FHSZs.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.2: ~~Consider climate change implications in fire hazard reduction planning for FHSZs.~~ New subdivisions shall provide adequate evacuation and emergency vehicle access to and from the subdivision on ~~both public and private roads~~ ~~which~~ streets or street systems that are evaluated for their traffic access or flow limitations, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end, one-way, or single lane conditions.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.3: ~~Ensure that the mitigation of fire related property damage and loss in FHSZs limits impacts to biological and other resources.~~ Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a wildfire event.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.4: Reduce the risk of wildland fire hazards through ~~the use of~~ meeting minimum State and local regulations ~~and performance standards, such as~~ for fire-resistant building materials, vegetation management, fuel modification, and other fire hazard reduction programs.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.5: Encourage the use of ~~low-volume and well-maintained vegetation~~ climate-adapted plants that ~~is~~ are compatible with the area's natural vegetative habitats.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.6: Ensure ~~adequate~~ that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum State and local regulations for~~, including~~ ingress, egress, ~~and~~ peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within ~~for all projects located in~~ FHSZs.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.7: ~~Site and design developments located within FHSZs, such as in areas located near ridgelines and on hilltops, in a sensitive manner to reduce the wildfire risk.~~ Discourage building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on and below slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides and debris flows.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations, such as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.9: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles Fire Department Strategic Fire Plan, as amended.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.10: ~~Map oak woodlands in Los Angeles County as part of implementation of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan.~~ Encourage the planting of native oaks in strategic locations and near existing oak woodlands, including those to be mapped in the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan, to protect developments from wildfires, as well as to lessen fire risk associated with developments.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.11: Support efforts to address unique pest, disease, exotic species and other forest health issues in open space areas to reduce fire hazards and support ecological integrity.

	Policy S ~~3~~4.12: Support efforts to incorporate systematic fire protection improvements for open space, including the facilitation of safe fire suppression tactics, standards for adequate access for firefighting, fire mitigation planning with landowners and other stakeholders, and water sources for fire suppression.
	Policy S 4.13: Encourage the siting of major landscape features, ~~such as~~ including but not limited to large water bodies, productive orchards, and community open space at the periphery of new subdivisions to provide strategic firefighting advantage and function as lasting firebreaks and buffers against wildfires, and the maintenance of such features by respective property owners.
	Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.
	Policy S 4.15: Encourage rebuilds and additions to comply with fire mitigation guidelines.
	Policy S 4.16: Require local development standards to meet or exceed SRA Fire Safe Regulations, which include visible home and street addressing and signage and vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads; all requirements in the California Building Code and Fire Code; and Board of Forestry Fire Safe Regulations.
	Policy S 4.17: Coordinate with agencies, including the Fire Department and ACWM, to ensure that effective fire buffers are maintained through brush clearance and fuel modification around developments.
	Policy S 4.18: Require Fire Protection Plans for new residential subdivisions in FHSZs that minimize and mitigate potential loss from wildfire exposure, and reduce impact on the community's fire protection delivery system.
	Policy S 4.19: Ensure all water distributors providing water in unincorporated Los Angeles County identify, maintain, and ensure the long-term integrity of future water supply for fire suppression needs, and ensure that water supply infrastructure adequately supports existing and future development and redevelopment, and provides adequate water flow to combat structural and wildland fires, including during peak domestic demand periods.
	Policy S 4.20: Prohibit new ~~large~~ and intensification of existing general assembly uses in VHFHSZs unless ~~entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure,~~ the use is located in an existing approved specific plan or meets secondary egress route requirements and the ~~level of service~~ capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation. Discourage ~~large~~ new general assembly uses in all other FHSZs.

~~V~~VI. Extreme Heat and Drought

Background

Extreme Heat

Extreme heat occurs when temperatures are much hotter and/or humid than average for a particular location and time of year for at least two to three days. Heat waves, which are prolonged periods of extreme heat, are becoming more common. Natural land cover provides cooling functions but in many areas of Los Angeles County development has replaced those areas serving as a contributor to the urban heat island effect. The urban heat island refers to areas that are artificially hotter due to surfaces that absorb heat (like roofs and pavements) and a lack of vegetation, particularly trees. Dense concentrations of impervious pavement and buildings cause the absorption and retention of heat throughout the day and fails to cool by night.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health provides information and resources on how individuals can prepare for and tackle the effects of extreme heat: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/climatechange/ExtremeHeat.htm.

Drought

A drought is an extended period of time, typically a season or more, when an area experiences below average precipitation resulting in a water shortage. Droughts can cause altered weather patterns, damaged natural ecosystems, reduced soil moisture, diminished water courses, crop damage, and general water shortage. It is difficult to monitor since it has a creeping effect through its slow absence of precipitation rather than the occurrence of a hazard event. When drought conditions persist and/or intensify, a drought emergency can occur where conditions of disaster or extreme peril pose a threat to the safety of people and property.

Water in Los Angeles County is already a precious resource, and climate change poses significant challenges to maintaining supplies both for humans and the environment. Los Angeles County gets its water from different sources, such as the Colorado River, groundwater basins, captured stormwater, and recycled water. Heavy reliance on imported water means that the regional effects on water sources can directly affect Los Angeles County. More frequent and intense periods of drought throughout the State of California and neighboring states could reduce the availability of imported water and drive an increasing use of groundwater. Local aquifers must be maintained sustainably to avoid over drafting of water and permanently decreasing the groundwater table.

Regulations

Los Angeles County Cooling Centers

The County operates cooling centers for residents to find respite during extreme heat days. Libraries, community and senior centers, and County parks all serve as cooling centers. At times, excessive heat results in the need for extended hours and additional centers. When this occurs, the County extends hours or open additional centers in select locations. To view locations and hours of cooling centers, please visit: https://ready.lacounty.gov/heat/.

Low-Impact Development Ordinance

The Low-Impact Development (LID) Ordinance requires development occurring in unincorporated Los Angeles County to incorporate LID strategies in the project design to enhance pollutant removal and groundwater recharge benefits beyond conventional stormwater quality control measures as of January 1, 2009. LID strategies work to mimic the natural hydrology of the site by retaining precipitation on-site to the maximum extent possible. LID strategies are designed to protect surface and

groundwater quality, maintain the integrity of ecosystems, and preserve the physical integrity of receiving waters by managing stormwater runoff at or close to the source. The benefits of reduced stormwater runoff volume include reduced pollutant loadings and increased groundwater recharge and evapotranspiration rates.

Water Conservation Ordinance

The Water Conservation Ordinance mandates water conservation requirements for unincorporated Los Angeles County. Such requirements include watering of lawns and landscapes, indoor plumbing and fixtures, washing of vehicles, serving drinking water at public eating places, and maintaining decorative fountains. This ordinance was last amended on March 19, 2015 in response to the ongoing drought at that time. Amendments to the Water Conservation Ordinance included an increase in fines for violating this ordinance.

Issues

1. Climate Change and Extreme Heat Impacts

Climate change exacerbates conditions to produce extreme heat days. Extreme heat is projected to increase in frequency and severity and have widespread effects on people and infrastructure. Extreme heat can result when heat collects in urban areas without the cooling qualities of parks, overhead tree canopies, and other vegetated areas. Heat collects in inland valleys, and in the arid valleys on the eastern side of the San Gabriel Mountains. The areas that already experience heat will continue to see rising temperatures. Populations, such as seniors, people living in poverty, those with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers are more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. In addition, energy infrastructure, and parks and open space, which are also critical for helping people cope with heat, are vulnerable to extreme heat. Temperatures are projected to rise 95th-percentile daily maximum temperatures—or the temperature threshold at which 95 percent of all days in a year have cooler maximum temperatures.

Extreme heat is projected to increase in frequency, severity, and duration, with the largest increases occurring in the Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valleys. Seasonal temperatures can be most extreme in the northern areas of Los Angeles County, where 95th-percentile daily maximum temperatures of over 100℉ are common during the summer months.

Extreme heat is a public health concern as it negatively affects sensitive populations. Extreme heat days also place a strain on the electrical grid and may lead to rolling blackouts and brownouts. Interruptions in the electrical system may prevent people to run cooling mechanisms and life-sustaining equipment.

2. Climate Change and Drought Impacts

Drier springs and summers are projected for Los Angeles County as low precipitation years are expected to coincide with warm years. Together with lower snowpack in California, the risk and severity of drought is expected to increase. Drought reduces the availability of water from wells, increases water prices, decreases water quality, and reduces power generation from hydropower. Although the groundwater basins of Los Angeles County are regulated to prevent the permanent lowering of groundwater tables, a state or region-wide drought can make it difficult to replenish the local groundwater basins to maintain or increase groundwater levels during and after a drought. Prolonged periods of drought coupled with rising temperatures can also weaken the health of forests, rendering them susceptible to insect outbreaks and increasing their likelihood to ignite, while reductions in the irrigation of landscapes can produce harmful dust.

Goals and Policies for Extreme Heat and Drought Hazards

Goal S 5: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to extreme heat and drought impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Extreme Heat	Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.
	Policy S 5.2: Encourage the addition of shade structures in the public realm through appropriate means, and in frontline communities.
	Policy S 5.3: Encourage the use of cooling methods to reduce the heat retention of pavement and surfaces.
	Policy S 5.4: Ensure all park facilities, including recreational sports complexes, include a tree canopy, shade structures, and materials with low solar gain to improve usability on high heat days and reduce heat retention.
	Policy S 5.5: Encourage alternatives to air conditioning such as ceiling fans, air exchangers, increased insulation, and low-solar-gain exterior materials to reduce peak electrical demands during extreme heat events to ensure reliability of the electrical grid.
	Policy S 5.6: Coordinate with demand-response/paratransit transit services prior to expected extreme heat days to ensure adequate capacity for customer demand for transporting to cooling centers.
	Policy S 5.7: Coordinate with local transit agencies to retrofit existing bus stops, where feasible, with shade structures to safeguard the health and comfort of transit users.
	Policy S 5.8: Enhance and sustainably manage urban forests that provide shade and cooling functions.
	Policy S 5.9: Promote greater awareness of the impacts of extreme heat exposure on the most vulnerable populations, such as seniors, people living in poverty, those with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers.
Drought	Policy S 5.10: Protect and improve local groundwater quality and supply to increase opportunities for use as a potable water source during drought periods.
	Policy S 5.11: Encourage the conservation of water by employing soil moisture sensors, automated irrigation systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and weather-based irrigation controllers.
	Policy S 5.12: Encourage water efficiency in buildings through upgrading appliances and building infrastructure retrofits.
	Policy S 5.13: Encourage the use of drought tolerant landscaping in ~~for~~ new developments to reduce reliance on potable and recycled water resources.
	Policy S 5.14: Encourage the installation of grey water reuse systems in new developments.

VII. Human-made Hazards

Background

This Element also addresses limited aspects of human-made ~~disaster~~hazards, such as oil and gas well management and mitigation. Tens of thousands of Los Angeles County residents live in close proximity to an oil well; nearly 73 percent of whom are people of color. There are approximately 1,600 active and idle oil wells located within ~~the~~ unincorporated Los Angeles County. Over half of those wells are within the Inglewood Oil Field, the largest urban oil field in the nation, located in the Baldwin Hills community ~~in the County's Second Supervisorial District~~.

The County's Oil and Gas Strike Team identified a total of 637 idle wells (i.e., wells that have not operated for two years or more) and 2,173 wells that were plugged and abandoned according to the standards at the time of abandonment. Of the 2,173 abandoned wells, the Strike Team identified 128 "higher priority" abandoned oil wells based on proximity to frontline communities and based on the risk of well leakage. The lead regulatory agency, California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM), publishes annual reports regarding the status of idle wells and may have additional information on idle wells that should be considered priorities.

To find information about well stimulation treatment permits, well stimulation disclosures, well maintenance data, well records, and underground injection control projects, please visit: https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem/for_operators/Pages/WellSTAR.aspx.

Regulations

Baldwin Hills Community Standards District

The Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) was adopted in 2008 to better regulate oil drilling operations and prioritize the public health and safety of its residents living near oil wells. The Baldwin Hills CSD established stricter regulations, safeguards, and controls for oil and gas production activities at the Inglewood Oil Field. The CSD requires that the County conduct a comprehensive review of the CSD at least every five years to determine if the provisions of the CSD are adequately protecting the health, safety, and general welfare of adjacent communities. The review shall consider whether additional provisions should be added, appended, or removed and to evaluate if proven technological advances that would further reduce impacts of oil operations on neighboring land uses should be incorporated into the provisions of the CSD.

Issues

1. Abandoned and unsealed oil and gas wells

Abandoned and unsealed wells can leak pollutants into the groundwater, soil, and air, which can expose residents to harmful emissions. According to CalGEM, 800 oil companies have dissolved over the years without scheduling wells for proper plugging and abandonment, or paying sufficient State fees to cover the costs. Inadequate monitoring of drilling operations failed to ensure that all idle wells are properly abandoned after two years of inactivity. These circumstances can lead to unfettered oil and gas pollution, with significant public health and safety consequences.

2. Public health risks for adjacent communities

Living in close proximity to oil drilling operations can result in negative public health risks that includes asthma, cardiovascular disease, low birth weight, and reproductive health impacts. A 2018 Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Report found that even at a distance of 1,500 feet, oil wells still pose a safety risk to nearby communities. Health impacts can result from the particulate

matter and toxic pollutants from oil and gas operations, such as volatile organic compounds, released from oil and gas extraction. Health protections and mitigation measures at oil production sites are not standardized across the County, which often results in low-income and marginalized communities disproportionately suffering from poor health due to the lack of strictly-enforced regulatory controls.

3. "Just transition" of oil and gas extraction workforce

The County is currently working on a Just Transition Strategy for the oil and gas extraction workforce. Developing a framework for capping and plugging oil wells, remediating sites and returning lands to beneficial uses ensures that the physical infrastructure of the fossil fuel industry is remediated as the just transition of its workforce is implemented. As the County continues to support clean energy goals, it is anticipated that the number of idle and abandoned wells will grow. The Just Transition Strategy needs to align policy efforts with the training and readiness of a workforce to support the proper abandonment of wells. Collaboration amongst environmental, labor, and business stakeholders is imperative to closely examine this issue and identify opportunities to incorporate incentives, enforcement protocols, funding strategies and legislative advocacy to ensure that inactive wells are properly plugged and abandoned in a timely manner to eliminate potentially dangerous emissions and climate pollution.

Goals and Policies for Human-made Hazards

Goal S 6: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to human-made hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Human-made Hazards	Policy S 6.1: Assess public health and safety risks associated with existing oil and gas facilities in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.
	~~Policy S 6.2: Prohibit all new oil and gas extraction wells in all zones, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits.~~
	~~Policy S 6.3: Designate all existing oil and gas extraction activities, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits, as legal nonconforming uses in all zones.~~
	Policy S 6.~~4~~2: Coordinate with State and regional air quality agencies to ensure funding and implementation of annual inspections, ongoing air monitoring, and health impact assessment data continue to be collected and used to prioritize and facilitate the timely phase out of existing wells.
	Policy S 6.~~5~~3: Support State and federal policies and proposals that increase funding sources to help plug, abandon, remediate and revitalize idle and orphaned well sites, and advocate for increased funding that will provide critical relief to the County and its residents.

~~V~~VIII. Emergency Response

Background

Emergency Responders

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for organizing and directing the preparedness efforts of the Emergency Management Organization of Los Angeles County. OEM is the day-to-day Los Angeles County Operational Area coordinator for the County. The emergency response plan for the unincorporated areas is the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP), which is prepared by OEM. The OAERP strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability, and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in Los Angeles County. To access the OAERP, and to find more information on the OEM, please visit the CEO's web site at ~~http://lacoa.org~~ https://ceo.lacounty.gov/emergencydisaster-plans-and-annexes/.

Disaster Response

Figure 12.6 shows the County's disaster routes. For more information on disaster response, please refer to the County OAERP.

Figure 12.6: Disaster Routes Map

Identifying Possible Evacuation Routes

Assembly Bill 747 (Levine, 2019) requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. Evacuation routes are determined by emergency responders who decide at the time of the emergency the routes that should be used for evacuation after assessing the conditions and location of the emergency to avoid endangering the lives of others, personal injury, or death. Evaluating a route for safety and viability is situational, context-specific, and subject to change. Figure 12.9 identifies roads that are public, paved, and through-ways, which may be used for evacuation if they are viable routes during an actual emergency. These evacuation routes are not all inclusive and may not be the most suitable routes since actual emergency events necessitate day-of-event conditions and risks assessments.

More information on the methodology to identify possible evacuation routes can be found in Appendix H.

Figure 12.9: Possible Evacuation Routes Map

Identifying Communities with Residential Developments with Limited Egress

Evacuation planning is also addressed in Senate Bill 99 (Nielsen, 2019), which focuses on identifying residential developments in hazard areas that have fewer than two emergency evacuation routes. Table 12.3 lists the communities in unincorporated Los Angeles County that are both subject to a hazard and have at least one residential development within the community that has a single possible evacuation route. These residential communities can be viewed in the Residential Developments with Limited Egress map application, which can be accessed at the following link: http://bit.ly/SE-SB99.

More information on the methodology to identify ~~possible evacuation routes~~ and communities with residential developments with fewer than two evacuation routes can be found in Appendix H.

Table 12.3: Unincorporated Communities with Residential Development(s) with Limited Egress*

Antelope Valley Planning Area			
Acton	Angeles National Forest	Crystalaire/(Little Rock/Juniper Hills)	Del Sur
Elizabeth Lake	Fairmont/W. Antelope Valley	Green Valley/Bouquet Canyon	Hi Vista
Lake Hughes	Lake Los Angeles	Lakeview/Anaverde	Leona Valley
Littlerock/Juniper Hills	Llano	Longview/(Pearblossom/Llano)	Neenach
North Lancaster	Paradise	Pearblossom/Llano	
East San Gabriel Valley Planning Area			
Avocado Heights	Bassett	Charter Oak	Covina Islands
East Azusa (CSA: Azusa)	Glendora Islands	Hacienda Heights	La Verne
North Claremont (also see Padua Hills)	North Pomona	Northeast La Verne	Padua Hills
Pellissier Village			
Gateway Planning Area			
East Whittier	La Habra Heights Islands	Long Beach Island	North Whittier
Northwest Whittier	Cerritos Islands		
Metro Planning Area			
Florence-Firestone	East LA: Belvedere Gardens	East LA: City Terrace	East LA: Eastmont
East Rancho Dominguez			
San Fernando Valley Planning Area			
Kagel / Lopez Canyon			
Santa Clarita Valley Planning Area			
Agua Dulce	Alpine	Castaic	Castaic Junction/Castaic
Forest Park/ Canyon Country	Hasley Canyon/ Castaic	Newhall	Placerita Canyon
Santa Monica Mountains Planning Area			
Agoura	Calabasas	Malibu Vista	Cornell
Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon	Malibou Lake	Malibu Bowl	Malibu Highlands

Malibu/Sycamore Canyon	Monte Nido	Seminole Hot Springs	Sunset Mesa
Triunfo Canyon	Pepperdine University		
South Bay Planning Area			
Alondra Park	Del Aire	El Camino Village	Hawthorne Island
La Rambla	Lennox		
West San Gabriel Valley Planning Area			
East Pasadena	East Pasadena-Northeast San Gabriel	Kinneola Mesa/East Pasadena	La Crescenta-Montrose
Mayflower Village/Arcadia	North El Monte/Monrovia		
Westside Planning Area			
Baldwin Hills/ Ladera Heights	Franklin Canyon	Ladera Heights	Marina del Rey
**A community listed in this table may contain as few as one residential development with limited egress. A listing here is not an indicator that an entire community is affected by limited egress.*			

Identifying Evacuation Locations

Assembly Bill 1409 (Levine, 2021) requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation locations. The County departments responsible for emergency response and logistics have identified facilities that can serve as potential evacuation centers, shelters, and temporary evacuation points. These facilities are surveyed and assessed by the Department of Public Social Services to ensure ADA accessibility and the facilities have the capacity to serve as a potential evacuation location. The potential evacuation locations are activated depending on the location, nature, and scale of the emergency and are announced on the Los Angeles County Emergency Response web site (https://lacounty.gov/emergency/), OEM's social media pages, and the County's 2-1-1 call line. The real-time information and mapping provided on the County Emergency Response web site ensures people are evacuating to the correct location activated by emergency responders based on the latest conditions of the emergency.

The Los Angeles County Operational Area Emergency Response Plan Tsunami Annex provides a list of potential tsunami evacuation sites (https://ceo.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/OEM/Tsunami%20Annex.pdf).

~~*Los Angeles*~~ *County* *of Los Angeles* *Fire Department*

The Fire Department provides fire, safety, and emergency medical services to the unincorporated areas. The Strategic Fire Plan includes the County of Los Angeles Fire Department Operations Bureau Map, which indicates that emergency services are available in all unincorporated areas of the County. Additionally, many cities within Los Angeles County utilize Fire Department services. There are three major geographic regions in the Fire Department service area, which are divided into nine divisions and 22 battalions, as seen in Figure 12.7.

Figure 12.7: Fire Department Battalions and Stations Map

The Fire Department operates multiple divisions including Air and Wildland, Fire Prevention, and Forestry. In addition, the Health Hazardous Materials Division's mission is to "protect the public health and the environment...from accidental releases and improper handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes through coordinated efforts of inspections, emergency response, enforcement, and site mitigation oversight."

The Fire Department is a special district and receives most of its revenue from the unincorporated areas from a portion of the ad valorem property tax paid by the owners of all taxable properties. This revenue source varies from one tax rate area to another, and is specifically earmarked for the Fire Department. The Fire Department's Special Tax, which was approved by voters in 1997, is a supplemental revenue source that pays for essential fire suppression and emergency medical services. In addition, in 1990, the Board of Supervisors adopted a Los Angeles County Developer Fee Program to fund the acquisition, construction, improvement, and equipping of fire station facilities in the high growth areas of the unincorporated areas.

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department has one of the premier firefighter training programs in the nation. ~~The Class Specifications can be found at http://dhrdcap.co.la.ca.us/classspec/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.detail&cs_id=22.~~ For wildland firefighters, the Department follows the National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) qualifications for operational, logistical, planning and financial positions. For more information, please visit http://www.nwcg.gov/.

For more information on the Fire Department's programs and divisions, please visit their web site at http://fire.lacounty.gov.

~~Los Angeles~~ County <u>of Los Angeles</u> Sheriff's Department

The ~~Los Angeles~~ County <u>of Los Angeles</u> Sheriff's Department (LASD) is the largest sheriff's department in the country. In addition to specialized services, the LASD is divided into 10 divisions, including the Office of Homeland Security, which focuses on potential threats related to local homeland security issues, such as terrorism or bioterrorism. The LASD provides law enforcement services to more than one million people living within 90 unincorporated communities, as well as to more than four million residents living within 40 contract cities. In addition, LASD provides law enforcement services to nine community colleges, Metro, and 48 Superior Courts. In addition to proactive enforcement of criminal laws, the LASD also provides investigative, traffic enforcement, accident investigation, and community education functions.

The Training Bureau consists of seven different programs ~~which~~ <u>that</u> are designed to provide academy recruits and in-service personnel with the most up-to-date, innovative, creative<u>,</u> and realistic learning experiences available to ~~present day~~ law enforcement. The featured programs are:

I. Recruit Training Unit
II. Advanced Officer Training Unit
III. Weapons of Mass Destruction Detail
IV. Field Operations Training Unit
V. Education-Based Discipline Unit
VI. Weapons Training
VII. Tactics and Survival Training Unit (Laser Village)
VIII. Emergency Vehicle Operations Center
IX. Professional Development Unit

The LASD budget is approved by the Board of Supervisors through the utilization of state and local tax dollars. These funds are augmented by revenue generating contracts and grant allowances.

The passage of tax limitation measures, decline in the popular support for bond measures, and reductions in state and federal assistance, has~~s~~ve hampered the capability of local governments to fund public safety. The LASD partnered with the City of Santa Clarita and the Board of Supervisors to establish the Law Enforcement Facilities Fee. The Law Enforcement Facilities Fee is a fee program that applies to certain projects in the Santa Clarita Valley and aims to mitigate project impacts on law enforcement service and facilities.

Figure 12.8 identifies the location of LASD's service areas. The Field Operation Regions are centered on 25 patrol stations that are dispersed throughout Los Angeles County.

For the location and detailed information of each station, and further information on the LASD Office of Homeland Security, please visit the LASD web site at http://www.lasd.org.

Figure 12.8: Sheriff's Department Service Areas Map

Emergency Response Across County Agencies

Emergency response is handled in the field through incident command posts, As described in the OAERP, the County's Emergency Operations Center provides centralized support to field responders to coordinate overall County response.

Cross-Jurisdictional Emergency Response

In emergency services, mutual aid is an agreement among emergency responders to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. This may occur due to an emergency response that exceeds local resources, such as a disaster or a multiple-alarm fire. Mutual aid may be ad hoc, requested only when such an emergency occurs. It may also be a formal standing agreement for cooperative emergency management on a continuing basis, such as ensuring that resources are dispatched from the nearest fire station, regardless of which side of the jurisdictional boundary the incident is on. Agreements that send closest resources are regularly referred to as "automatic aid agreements." Current agreements are:

- Los Angeles County Operational Area Mutual Aid Plan;
- California Fire Master Mutual Aid Agreement;
- California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management (CFMA) and Stafford Act Response Agreement; ~~and~~
- California Fire Assistance Agreement~~.~~; and
- Public Resources Code 4129

~~Over the last several decades an~~ The expansion of communities, homes, and other improvements into wildland areas has created a significant challenge for the ~~fire service~~ agencies responsible for providing fire protection in those areas.

~~Wildland~~ Fires in the wildland-urban interface ~~fires~~ often overtax the local fire agency, resulting in the activation of mutual aid and automatic aid agreements to augment jurisdictional resources. Nearly every wildland-urban interface fire includes responses from a variety of wildland and municipal fire agencies. Los Angeles County's Operational Area Emergency Response Plan conforms to California's

Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which is intended to facilitate communication and coordination among all responding agencies. The system unifies all elements of California's emergency management community into a single integrated system and standardizes key elements. SEMS incorporates the use of the Incident Command System (ICS), California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, and other forms of multi-agency or inter-agency coordination.

Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communication System (LA-RICS)

The Los Angeles region's first responders ~~currently~~ use a patchwork of often incompatible radio technologies and frequencies. This uncoordinated system means that neighboring agencies and systems cannot easily communicate with one another.

In April 2005, the Regional Interoperable Steering Committee was formed to explore the development of a single, shared communications system for all public safety agencies in the greater Los Angeles region. As a result, Los Angeles County, 82 municipalities, and ~~3~~ three other public sector entities in the region drafted a Joint Powers Agreement that established the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communication System (LA-RICS) Joint Powers Authority to create a regional, area-wide, interoperable public safety communications network. ~~The Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communication System (~~LA-RICS~~)~~ is a modern, integrated wireless voice and data communication system designed and built to serve law enforcement, fire service, and health service professionals throughout Los Angeles County.

The Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system creates a unified web of communication, eliminates barriers to multi-jurisdictional responses and allows police, firefighters and paramedics to communicate directly with users outside of their agency. Construction of this network of approximately 60 LMR communication sites to provide narrowband data radio communications coverage for emergency responders throughout the County is underway.

The Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) provides police and firefighters with the capability to send and receive large amounts of data. The PSBN was completed on October 1, 2015 and is currently in use by various agencies throughout Los Angeles County. It consists of 63 fixed towers and 15 temporary sites that use Long-Term Evolution (LTE) technology. In July 2018 the network was transferred to AT&T for integration into the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband (NPSBN) under FirstNet.

~~The new system~~ LA-RICS will provide day-to-day communications within agencies and allow seamless interagency communications for responding to routine, emergency, and catastrophic events. LA-RICS will replace the patchwork system with a single countywide network, improve overall traffic capacity and coverage, and provide a dedicated broadband network for first responders. More information about LA-RIC~~s~~S is available at http://www.la-rics.org/.

Homeland Security

The Fire Department's Homeland Security/Hazardous Materials Section was created in 1995 in response to Presidential Decision Directive 39, outlining the need for the Fire Department to plan, organize, and direct its members in preparing and responding to any large-scale terrorist incident in the Los Angeles County Operational Area.

The Homeland Security Section was born out of necessity in response to the community's concerns that emergency responders need to be fully equipped and trained to deal with a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive event. ~~Today, a~~All County firefighters and other emergency responders have the necessary personnel protective equipment and the training to respond safely and effectively ~~to an event of this type~~. The Fire Department is also represented on the Federal Bureau of Investigations' Los Angeles Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Issues

1. The Need for Adequate Emergency Response Services

A catastrophic natural or human-made disaster has the potential to severely strain the emergency response and recovery capabilities of federal, state, and local governments, and profoundly impact the regional and state economy. It is imperative that there are adequate resources available for emergency response. For example, to fulfill all its functions effectively and efficiently ~~fulfill all of its functions~~, the Fire Department requires a staff level of one deputy sheriff per each 1,000 population.

Effective emergency response requires that the County provide public alerts and warnings for disasters. In addition, there is a need for preparedness communications ~~about~~ regarding threats ~~that face~~ to communities throughout Los Angeles County.

2. The Cost of Increased Hazard Events

A full accounting of long-term and complex costs from hazard events span areas of ecosystems, infrastructure, economy, and individuals. Resources required to address hazard events include direct, rehabilitation, indirect, and additional costs. Direct costs are the most immediate and typically include those to address the hazard event at the time it occurs such as fire suppression, loss of real property, and damage to utilities. Following a hazard event, rehabilitation costs to bring an area back may include debris removal, reconstruction, and ecosystem restoration. Many indirect costs relate to the economy where business and tax revenues are lost. Finally, health impacts and loss of life are additional costs that may be incurred during a hazard event. Emergency responders along with many other service providers pivot during hazard events to address the hazard and provide support to those affected by the event. Increased frequency and severity of hazard events can cause major disruptions where there may not be sufficient human-power or resources to quickly recover.

~~2.~~ 3. Creating Efficiencies Through Collaboration and Coordination

Continued growth and development in Los Angeles County will significantly affect the Fire Department and LASD operations. Coordination among various County departments is necessary to ensure adequate emergency response. Collaboration can also ensure that development occurs at a rate that keeps pace with service needs. ~~In order to~~ To maintain an adequate emergency response system, it is important for the County to discourage development in hazardous areas, including Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, Flood Hazard Zones, and Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones.

4. Support Community-Driven Planning and Adaptation Efforts

Community members play a huge role in prevention and planning measures. Grassroots and community-based organizations can effectively encourage partnerships within their communities to develop personal evacuation plans and Community Wildfire Protection Plans, establish ~~R~~resilience ~~H~~hubs, and conduct education to encourage community members to prepare for exposure to hazards. Community members can prepare for disasters through home retrofits, developing family emergency plans, subscribing to alert systems, and identifying neighbors that may need assistance during an emergency.

Goals and Policies for Emergency Response

Goal S 4<u>7</u>: Effective County emergency response management capabilities.	
Topic	**Policy**
Emergency Response	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.1: Ensure that residents are protected from the public health consequences of natural or <u>hu</u>man-made disasters through increased readiness and response capabilities, risk communication, and the dissemination of public information.
	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.2: Support County emergency providers in reaching their response time goals.
	Policy S 47.3: Coordinate with other County and public agencies, such as transportation agencies~~,~~ and health care providers, on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning.
	Policy S ~~4~~<u>7</u>.4: Encourage the improvement of hazard prediction and early warning capabilities.
	Policy S ~~4~~<u>7</u>.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.
	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.6: Ensure that essential public facilities are maintained during ~~natural~~ disasters, such as flooding~~.~~<u>, wildfires, extreme temperature and precipitation events, drought, and power outages.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.7: Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals, where feasible, outside of hazard zones identified in the Safety Element to ensure their reliability and accessibility during disasters.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.8: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, as amended.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.9: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood and fire protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and fire hazards.</u>

~~VII~~IX. Safety Element Implementation Programs

1. Mass Debris Management Plan Implementation and Update
2. At-Risk Properties Hazard Fund and Strategies
3. Floodplain Management Plan Implementation ~~and Update~~
4. Climate-Adapted Landscape Program
5. Community Capacity and Resilience Program
6. Shaded Corridors Program
7. Oil and Gas Operation Strategy
8. OurCounty Sustainability Plan
9. Reduce Damage from Wildfire

For descriptions of these programs, please refer to Chapter 16: General Plan Implementation Programs.

[Text Boxes]

Wildland Fires and Climate Change

Recent studies indicate that climate change has resulted in wildland fires that last longer and occur more frequently. In 2007 and 2008 alone, wildland fires burned over 147,000 acres, destroyed 570 residences, and damaged an additional 42 residences in the unincorporated areas. In 2009, the Station Fire broke out in the Angeles National Forest, which burned nearly 160,000 acres and destroyed approximately 76 residences. This fire, the largest in recorded history for Los Angeles County, occurred months before the Santa Ana winds, which often exacerbate wildland fires in the fall and spring months. Appendix H contains descriptions of these and more recent wildfires in Los Angeles County.

Wildfire Preparedness Programs and Evacuation Guides

The following are guidelines for wildfire readiness for a variety of development and occupancy types:

County of Los Angeles Fire Department “Ready, Set, Go” Program

Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance, “A Road Map to Fire Safety”

For more information, please visit the Fire Department web site at http://www.fire.lacounty.gov.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans

Community Wildfire Protection Plans are community-based collaborative plans developed by local stakeholders that identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments to protect natural resources, communities and infrastructure from wildfire. Applicable local governments, local fire departments, state forestry, and federal land management agencies agree to the plans, which are established under the umbrella of the County’s Strategic Fire Plan. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department’s Fire Plan Unit provides fire hazard reduction project design, development, planning and implementation for communities in Los Angeles County. Los Angeles County CWPPs include the following:

Santa Monica Mountains Community Wildfire Protection Plan:
http://www.nps.gov/samo/parkmgmt/upload/SMM_CWPP_02MAY2012_FINAL_v3.pdf

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT volunteers can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

For more information on the CERT Program, please visit the Fire Department web site at http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/index.php/cert-program/.

Part III: General Plan Implementation

Chapter 15: General Plan Maintenance

I. General Plan Annual Progress Report

Section 65400 of the Government Code requires that the County prepare a general plan annual progress report (annual report) on the status of General Plan implementation. The annual report is prepared by the Department of Regional Planning (DRP), presented to the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, and submitted to the California Office of Planning and Research and the California Department of Housing and Community Development by April 1 of each year.

The annual report is the County's mechanism for comprehensively reporting on the following: 1) program implementation; 2) effectiveness of major policies; 3) updates to datasets; and 4) map maintenance.

1. Program Implementation

The annual report shall outline the County's progress toward implementing the General Plan implementation programs. A description of milestones, accomplishments, as well as any impediments will be included for each program.

2. Effectiveness of Major Policies

The annual report shall include information on the effectiveness of major policies. The table below outlines the monitoring strategy:

Policy Area	**Monitoring Method**
Transit Oriented Districts (TODs)	Report annually on the status of the TODs. Include: – A summary of new development within the TODs approved by DRP, including mixed-use projects; and – A summary of infrastructure improvements, including but not limited to pedestrian, bicycling, and streetscape improvements.
Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs)	Report biennially on the status of the County's SEAs. Include: – A summary of new development within SEAs approved by DRP; – A public comment process for accepting suggestions on improving the SEA Program, and its components. – The overall status of biological functions within each SEA, if known; – Identification of any new techniques or methods of conservation planning which are, or could, be utilized to enhance the SEA Program – Assessment of the necessity for new SEA studies and any resulting scientific studies undertaken on SEAs; – Recommendations for any modifications to the SEA Program, including General Plan goals and policies, SEA boundaries and the SEA Ordinance;

	– Identification of lands within individual SEAs as priority habitats or areas for protection; – A description of any ongoing partnerships with conservation agencies and other stakeholders; – A current map of SEA lands that are protected in perpetuity through deed-restrictions, conservation easements, etc.; and – The Director's conclusion as to the overall successes and challenges of the SEA Program in implementing General Plan goals and policies.
Employment Protection Districts (EPDs)	Report annually on the status of the EPDs. Include: – A summary of new development within the EPDs approved by DRP, including new industrial uses, as well as an analysis on the conversion of any industrial lands to non-industrial uses.
Agricultural Resource Areas (ARAs)	Report annually on the status of the ARAs. Include: – A summary of new development within the ARAs approved by DRP, including an analysis on the reduction or expansion of agricultural uses in the ARAs; – A comparison of the agricultural land uses countywide based on data from the California Department of Conservation and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures; and – Recommendations for any modifications to the ARA boundaries.
Oak Tree Preservation	Report annually on the status of the loss of oak trees.

3. Dataset Updates

The General Plan includes various maps and figures that rely on datasets that are continually updated. The annual report shall outline information on new data that impacts General Plan maps and figures. As new datasets become available, the following maps will be updated administratively:

- Mineral Resource Zones, as programs such as the State's mineral land use classification project are updated with new and expanded information over time. The County is required to recognize data transmitted by the State Mining and Geology Board in the General Plan within 12 months of receipt, per the Public Resources Code.
- Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones
- Flood Hazard Zones
- Tsunami Hazard Areas
- Sea Level Rise Impact Areas
- Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The Special Management Areas Policy Map and the Hazard, Environmental, and Resource Constraints Map may also be updated administratively, if the changes are a result of new datasets that are applied to the aforementioned maps.

4. Map Maintenance

Lastly, certain policy maps may need to be amended annually to reflect new public lands and open space acquisitions. These changes will require a plan amendment. The annual report will outline plan amendment recommendations to be initiated by the DRP after the completion of the annual report.

The following policy maps will be reviewed annually and updated as needed:

- Land Use Policy Maps: Update based on changes to Public and Semi-Public (P) and Natural Resources (OS-C, OS-PR, OS-NF, OS-BLM, and W) land use categories.
- Open Space Resources Policy Map: Update to reflect new lands that have been dedicated permanently for open space conservation purposes, as well as land acquired for parks and recreation.

II. General Plan Updates

The County shall undergo a comprehensive General Plan Update every 10 years. The General Plan Update shall include a concurrent update to the zoning ordinance and zoning map, as needed, to ensure consistency with the General Plan. Individual elements shall be updated in accordance with the statutory deadlines specified in the Government Code. Updating a General Plan is a comprehensive process that ensures consistency with other countywide agency plans, and should include stakeholder input.

Chapter 16: General Plan Implementation Programs

I. Introduction

The Government Code requires that upon adoption of a general plan, a planning agency shall "investigate and make recommendations to the legislative body regarding reasonable and practical means for implementing the general plan."

II. Organization

The General Plan programs, outlined below, are organized by General Plan element and are designed to address the overall policy objectives identified in the General Plan. Each program identifies lead and partner agencies; however, they are not exclusive, and new partners can be added, as needed. The programs also include a timeframe and are categorized based on level of priority. The highest priority programs should be initiated within the first two years of the adoption of the General Plan. Programs that are designated as ongoing represent actions that must be addressed on a regular basis for General Plan implementation.

III. Funding

The General Plan programs guide the development of work programs for County departments. They also inform the budget process and will be used to set funding priorities. The schedules and tasks listed in the implementation program are based on adequate funding being secured through a joint effort undertaken by all departments and agencies. If funding is not secured, the implementation steps and/or timeframes may need to be modified. To supplement department budgets, County staff will also work to secure grants, as needed, for program implementation.

Program No.	Program Description	General Plan Goals and Policies	Lead and Partner Agencies	Timeframe
S-1	**Mass Debris Management Plan Implementation and Update** ~~Prepare a~~Update the Mass Debris Management Plan based on organizational changes, new policies and guidance, and lessons learned from actual debris events to address the mass removal of debris that ~~could~~ resulted from ~~a~~ major disasters.	Safety Element: Goal S ~~4~~7	Lead: DPW and OEM Partner: CEO	Years 3-5 Ongoing
S-2	**At-Risk Properties Hazard Fund and Strategies** • Identify at-risk properties in hazard areas, such as those on FEMA's repetitive loss properties list. • Research available funding sources to retrofit existing structures that are located in hazard areas. •	Safety Element: Goals S 1, S ~~2~~3, S ~~3~~4	Lead: ~~D~~PW Partner: CEO, DRP, DPH	Years 6-10
S-3	**Floodplain Management Plan Implementation and Update** • Distribute and advocate the County's Floodplain Management Plan, which focuses on flood hazard information and mitigation strategies for repetitive loss properties and properties in severe flood hazard areas in the County's unincorporated areas. • Update the Floodplain Management Plan and the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis on ~~its~~ their five-year cycle to address any additional or reduction of repetitive loss properties and properties in severe flood hazard areas. •	Safety Element: Goal S ~~2~~3	Lead: ~~D~~PW	Ongoing
S-4	**Climate-Adapted Landscape Program** Develop model landscape design strategies for development projects that specify climate-adapted plants to appropriately address hazards while also supporting local biodiversity.	Safety Element: Goal S 2, S 4, S 5	Lead: DRP Partner: PW, Fire	Years 3-5
S-5	**Community Capacity and Resilience Program** • Develop an education campaign to engage communities on actions and resources for adapting and increasing resilience to climate impacts. • Collaborate with community-based organizations on strategies best suited for	Safety Element: Goal S 2, S 3, S 4, S 5	Lead: DRP Partner: CEO, PW, DPH	Ongoing

	communities in areas with high vulnerability to climate impacts by supplying easily distributable information in a range of media platforms. • Develop a resource prioritization plan for funding allocation to frontline communities containing socially vulnerable populations as identified in the Los Angeles County ~~c~~Climate ~~v~~Vulnerability ~~a~~Assessment.			
S-6	**Shaded Corridors Program** • Identify corridors, particularly pedestrian pathways and bikeways that connect transit stations to nearby residential areas and public spaces, in extreme heat hazard overlay zones with the greatest need for~~f~~ shade. • Incorporate ~~the addition of~~ features, such as galleries, arcades, pergolas, awnings, and/or tree allées into development guidelines, where feasible and in compliance with fire regulations. • Coordinate with Public Works' Green Street Master Plan, which incorporates design strategies to mitigate climate change impacts. • Prioritize shading of pathways in disadvantaged communities in areas with high vulnerability to extreme heat.	Safety Element: Goal S 2, S 5	Lead: DRP Partner: PW	Ongoing
S-7	**Oil and Gas Operation Strategy** • Develop an ordinance that reflects best practices and current mitigation methods, minimize environmental impacts, and protect sensitive uses and populations. • Conduct an amortization study of oil and gas drill sites in unincorporated Los Angeles County to determine the most accelerated phase out period and recommendations to guide a phase-out process. • Develop a framework for an Oil Well Cleanup Pilot Program to plug and abandon idle oil wells, improve environmental conditions for affected communities and maximize local, high-road jobs.	Safety Element: Goal S 6	Lead: DRP Partner: DPH, PW	Years 1-3
S-8	**OurCounty Sustainability Plan** Implement the hazard and climate-impact related actions identified in the OurCounty	Safety Element: Goal S 2	Lead: CEO, DPH, DPR, DRP, Fire, ISD, OEM, PW	Ongoing

	Sustainability Plan. Programs include an urban forest management plan, heat island reduction plan, and resilient integrated water system.			
S-9	**Reduce Damage from Wildfire** • Amend Title 21 with development standards that could reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZs). • Amend Title 22 to support the proposed changes in Title 21, and to further reduce the risks of personal injury and property damage in VHFHSZs.	Safety Element: Goal S 4	Lead: DRP Partner: Fire	Years 1-3

Chapter 17: Goals and Policies Summary

Land Use Element Goals and Policies

Goal LU 1: A General Plan that serves as the constitution for development, and a Land Use Policy Map that implements the General Plan's Goals, Policies and Guiding Principles.	
Topic	**Policy**
General Plan Amendments	Policy LU 1.1: Support comprehensive updates to the General Plan, area plans, community plans, coastal land use plans and specific plans.
	Policy LU 1.2: Discourage project-specific amendments to the text of the General Plan, including but not limited to the Guiding Principles, Goals, and Policies.
	Policy LU 1.3: In the review of project-specific amendments to the General Plan, ensure that they support the Guiding Principles.
	Policy LU 1.4: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to the General Plan, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is consistent with the goals and policies of the General Plan; • Shall benefit the public interest and is necessary to realize an unmet local or regional need.
	Policy LU 1.5: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert OS-C designated lands to other land use designations, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s) does not contribute to the overall loss of open space that protects water quality, provides natural habitats, and contributes to improved air quality.
	Policy LU 1.6: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert lands within the EPD Overlay to non-industrial land use designations, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is located on a parcel that adjoins a parcel with a comparable use, at a comparable scale and intensity; • Will not negatively impact the productivity of neighboring industrial activities; • Is necessary to promote the economic value and the long-term viability of the site; and • Will not subject future residents to potential noxious impacts, such as noise, odors or dust or pose significant health and safety risks.
	Policy LU 1.7: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert lands within the ARAs, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is located on a parcel that adjoins another parcel with a comparable use, at a comparable scale and intensity; and • Will not negatively impact the productivity of neighboring agricultural activities.
	Policy LU 1.8: Limit the amendment of each mandatory element of the General Plan to four times per calendar year, unless otherwise specified in Section 65358 of the California Government Code.
	Policy LU 1.9: Allow adjustments to the General Plan Land Use Policy Map to follow an adjusted Highway Plan alignment without a General Plan amendment, when the following findings can be met: • The adjustment is necessitated by an adjusted Highway Plan alignment that was approved by the Los Angeles County Interdepartmental Engineering Committee (IEC) in a duly noticed public meeting; • The adjustment maintains the basic relationship between land use types; and • The adjustment is consistent with the General Plan.
	Policy LU 1.10: Prohibit plan amendments that increase density of residential land uses within mapped fire and flood hazard areas unless generally surrounded by existing ~~built~~ development or is located in an existing approved specific plan, and the capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation.
Specific Plans	Policy LU 1.~~10~~11: Require the intensity, density, and uses allowed in a new specific plan to be determined using the General Plan, including the Land Use Policy Map and Land Use Legend.
	Policy LU 1.~~11~~12: Require a General Plan amendment for any deviation from the intensities, densities, and uses allowed by the General Plan (to apply the appropriate designation from the

	General Plan Land Use Legend), unless allowances for flexibility are specified in the specific plan.
	Policy LU 1.~~12~~13: Require development regulations and zoning for new specific plans to be consistent with their corresponding General Plan land use designation.
	Policy LU 1.~~13~~14: Allow specific plans to include implementation procedures for flexibility, such as development phasing, and redistribution of intensities and uses, as appropriate.
	Policy LU 1.~~14~~15: Require a specific plan amendment for any deviation from the procedures and policies established by a specific plan.
	Policy LU 1.~~15~~16: For existing specific plans, which are depicted with an "SP" land use designation, the General Plan Land Use Policy Map shall be amended as part of a comprehensive area planning effort, to identify existing specific plans using the Specific Plan Overlay.

Safety Element Goals and Policies

Goal S 1: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life and property damage due to seismic and geotechnical hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Geotechnical Hazards	Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.
	Policy S 1.2: Prohibit ~~the~~ construction of ~~most~~ structures for human occupancy adjacent to active faults ~~until~~ unless a comprehensive fault study ~~is approved~~ that addresses ~~the potential for fault rupture has been completed~~ seismic hazard risks and proposes appropriate actions to minimize the risk is approved.
	Policy S 1.3: Require developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landslides, in Hillside Management Areas through siting and development standards.
	Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.
Goal S 2: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to climate hazards and climate-induced secondary impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Climate Adaptation and Resiliency	Policy S 2.1: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids that are driven by renewable energy sources to increase local energy resilience during grid power outages, reduce reliance on long- distance transmission lines, and reduce strain on the grid when demand for electricity is high.
	Policy S 2.2: Plan for future climate impacts on critical infrastructure and essential public facilities.
	Policy S 2.3: Require new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.
	Policy S 2.4: Promote the creation of resilience hubs in frontline communities that are ~~at~~ highly vulnerable~~ility~~ to climate hazards and ensure that they have adequate resources to adapt to climate-induced emergencies.

	Policy S 2.5: Promote the development of community-based and workplace groups such as Community Emergency Response Teams to improve community resilience to climate emergencies.
	Policy S 2.6: Promote climate change and resilience awareness education about the effects of climate change-induced hazards and ways to adapt and build resiliency to climate change.
	Policy S 2.7: Increase the capacity of frontline communities to adapt to climate impacts by focusing planning efforts and interventions on communities facing the greatest vulnerabilities and ensuring representatives of these communities have a role in the decision-making process for directing climate change response.
Goal S ~~2~~3: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to flood and inundation hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Flood Hazards	Policy S ~~2~~3.1: Strongly ~~D~~discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones, unless it solely provides a public benefit.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.2: Strongly ~~D~~discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts, unless it solely provides a public benefit.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.3: ~~Consider climate change adaptation strategies in flood and inundation hazard planning.~~ Promote the use of natural, or nature-based, flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.4: Ensure that developments located within the County's Flood Hazard Zones are sited and designed to avoid isolation from essential services and facilities in the event of flooding.
	Policy S ~~2~~3.5: Ensure that ~~the mitigation of flood related property damage and loss limits impacts to~~ biological and ~~other~~ natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a flood event.
	~~Policy S 23.6: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.~~
	Policy S ~~2~~3.~~7~~6: ~~Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals and fire stations, outside of Flood Hazard Zones, where feasible.~~ Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.
Goal S ~~3~~4: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to fire hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Fire Hazards	Policy S ~~3~~4.1: ~~Discourage high density and intensity development in VHFHSZs.~~ Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless ~~entirely~~ the new subdivision is generally surrounded by existing ~~built~~ or entitled development or is located in an existing approved specific plan~~, will connect to public infrastructure,~~; meets secondary egress route requirements; and the ~~level of service~~ capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation. Discourage new subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

	Policy S ~~3~~4.2: ~~Consider climate change implications in fire hazard reduction planning for FHSZs.~~ New subdivisions shall provide adequate evacuation and emergency vehicle access to and from the subdivision on ~~both public and private roads which~~ streets or street systems that are evaluated for their traffic access or flow limitations, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end, one-way, or single lane conditions.
	Policy S 3~~4~~.3: ~~Ensure that the mitigation of fire related property damage and loss in FHSZs limits impacts to biological and other resources.~~ Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a wildfire event.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.4: Reduce the risk of wildland fire hazards through ~~the use of~~ meeting minimum state and local regulations ~~and performance standards, such as~~ for fire-resistant building materials, vegetation management, fuel modification, and other fire hazard reduction programs.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.5: Encourage the use of ~~low-volume and well-maintained vegetation~~ climate-adapted plants that ~~is~~ are compatible with the area's natural vegetative habitats.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.6: Ensure ~~adequate~~ that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum state and local regulations for~~, including~~ ingress, egress, ~~and~~ peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within ~~for all projects located in~~ FHSZs.
	Policy S 3~~4~~.7: ~~Site and design developments located within FHSZs, such as in areas located near ridgelines and on hilltops, in a sensitive manner to reduce the wildfire risk.~~ Discourage building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on and below slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides and debris flows.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations, such as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.9: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles Fire Department Strategic Fire Plan, as amended.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.10: ~~Map oak woodlands in Los Angeles County as part of implementation of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan.~~ Encourage the planting of native oaks in strategic locations and near existing oak woodlands, including those to be mapped in the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan, to protect developments from wildfires, as well as to lessen fire risk associated with developments.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.11: Support efforts to address unique pest, disease, exotic species and other forest health issues in open space areas to reduce fire hazards and support ecological integrity.
	Policy S ~~3~~4.12: Support efforts to incorporate systematic fire protection improvements for open space, including the facilitation of safe fire suppression tactics, standards for adequate access for firefighting, fire mitigation planning with landowners and other stakeholders, and water sources for fire suppression.
	Policy S 4.13: Encourage the siting of major landscape features, ~~such as~~ including but not limited to large water bodies, productive orchards, and community open space at the periphery of new subdivisions to provide strategic firefighting advantage and function as lasting firebreaks and buffers against wildfires, and the maintenance of such features by respective property owners.
	Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.
	Policy S 4.15: Encourage rebuilds and additions to comply with fire mitigation guidelines.

	Policy S 4.16: Require local development standards to meet or exceed SRA Fire Safe Regulations, which include visible home and street addressing and signage and vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads; all requirements in the California Building Code and Fire Code; and Board of Forestry Fire Safe Regulations.
	Policy S 4.17: Coordinate with agencies, including the Fire Department and ACWM, to ensure that effective fire buffers are maintained through brush clearance and fuel modification around developments.
	Policy S 4.18: Require Fire Protection Plans for new residential subdivisions in FHSZs that minimize and mitigate potential loss from wildfire exposure and reduce impact on the community's fire protection delivery system.
	Policy S 4.19: Ensure all water distributors providing water in unincorporated Los Angeles County identify, maintain, and ensure the long-term integrity of future water supply for fire suppression needs, and ensure that water supply infrastructure adequately supports existing and future development and redevelopment, and provides adequate water flow to combat structural and wildland fires, including during peak domestic demand periods.
	Policy S 4.20: Prohibit new ~~large~~ and intensification of existing general assembly uses in VHFHSZs unless ~~entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure,~~ the use is located in an existing approved specific plan or meets secondary egress route requirements and the ~~level of service~~ capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation. Discourage ~~large~~ new general assembly uses in all other FHSZs.
Goal S 5: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to extreme heat and drought impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Extreme Heat	Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.
	Policy S 5.2: Encourage the addition of shade structures in the public realm through appropriate means, and in frontline communities.
	Policy S 5.3: Encourage the use of cooling methods to reduce the heat retention of pavement and surfaces.
	Policy S 5.4: Ensure all park facilities, including recreational sports complexes, include a tree canopy, shade structures and materials with low solar gain to improve usability on high heat days and reduce heat retention.
	Policy S 5.5: Encourage alternatives to air conditioning such as ceiling fans, air exchangers, increased insulation and low-solar-gain exterior materials to reduce peak electrical demands during extreme heat events to ensure reliability of the electrical grid.
	Policy S 5.6: Coordinate with demand-response/paratransit transit services prior to expected extreme heat days to ensure adequate capacity for customer demand for transporting to cooling centers.
	Policy S 5.7: Coordinate with local transit agencies to retrofit existing bus stops, where feasible, with shade structures to safeguard the health and comfort of transit users.
	Policy S 5.8: Enhance and sustainably manage urban forests that provide shade and cooling functions.

	Policy S 5.9: Promote greater awareness of the impacts of extreme heat exposure on the most vulnerable populations, such as seniors, people living in poverty, those with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers.
Drought	Policy S 5.10: Protect and improve local groundwater quality and supply to increase opportunities for use as a potable water source during drought periods.
	Policy S 5.11: Encourage the conservation of water by employing soil moisture sensors, automated irrigation systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and weather-based irrigation controllers.
	Policy S 5.12: Encourage water efficiency in buildings through upgrading appliances and building infrastructure retrofits.
	Policy S 5.13: Encourage the use of drought tolerant landscaping in ~~for~~ new developments to reduce reliance on potable and recycled water resources.
	Policy S 5.14: Encourage the installation of grey water reuse systems in new developments.
Goal S 6: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to human-made hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Human-made Hazards	Policy S 6.1: Assess public health and safety risks associated with existing oil and gas facilities in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.
	~~Policy S 6.2: Prohibit all new oil and gas extraction wells in all zones, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits.~~
	~~Policy S 6.3: Designate all existing oil and gas extraction activities, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits, as legal nonconforming uses in all zones.~~
	Policy S 6.~~4~~2: Coordinate with State and regional air quality agencies to ensure funding and implementation of annual inspections, ongoing air monitoring, and health impact assessment data continue to be collected and used to prioritize and facilitate the timely phase out of existing wells.
	Policy S 6.~~5~~3: Support State and federal policies and proposals that increase funding sources to help plug, abandon, remediate and revitalize idle and orphaned well sites, and advocate for increased funding that will provide critical relief to the County and its residents.
Goal S 4~~7~~: Effective County emergency response management capabilities.	
Topic	**Policy**
Emergency Response	Policy S 4~~7~~.1: Ensure that residents are protected from the public health consequences of natural or human-made disasters through increased readiness and response capabilities, risk communication, and the dissemination of public information.
	Policy S 4~~7~~.2: Support County emergency providers in reaching their response time goals.

	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.3: Coordinate with other County and public agencies, such as transportation agencies~~,~~ and health care providers, on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning.
	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.4: Encourage the improvement of hazard prediction and early warning capabilities.
	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.
	Policy S 4<u>7</u>.6: Ensure that essential public facilities are maintained during ~~natural~~ disasters, such as flooding~~.~~<u>, wildfires, extreme temperature and precipitation events, drought, and power outages.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.7: Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals, where feasible, outside of hazard zones identified in the Safety Element to ensure their reliability and accessibility during disasters.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.8: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, as amended.</u>
	<u>Policy S 7.9: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood and fire protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and fire hazards.</u>

V. Goals and Policies

Goal LU 1: A General Plan that serves as the constitution for development, and a Land Use Policy Map that implements the General Plan's Goals, Policies and Guiding Principles.	
Topic	**Policy**
General Plan Amendments	Policy LU 1.1: Support comprehensive updates to the General Plan, area plans, community plans, coastal land use plans and specific plans.
	Policy LU 1.2: Discourage project-specific amendments to the text of the General Plan, including but not limited to the Guiding Principles, Goals, and Policies.
	Policy LU 1.3: In the review of project-specific amendments to the General Plan, ensure that they support the Guiding Principles.
	Policy LU 1.4: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to the General Plan, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is consistent with the goals and policies of the General Plan; • Shall benefit the public interest and is necessary to realize an unmet local or regional need.
	Policy LU 1.5: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert OS-C designated lands to other land use designations, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s) does not contribute to the overall loss of open space that protects water quality, provides natural habitats, and contributes to improved air quality.
	Policy LU 1.6: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert lands within the EPD Overlay to non-industrial land use designations, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is located on a parcel that adjoins a parcel with a comparable use, at a comparable scale and intensity; • Will not negatively impact the productivity of neighboring industrial activities; • Is necessary to promote the economic value and the long-term viability of the site; and • Will not subject future residents to potential noxious impacts, such as noise, odors or dust or pose significant health and safety risks.
	Policy LU 1.7: In the review of a project-specific amendment(s) to convert lands within the ARAs, ensure that the project-specific amendment(s): • Is located on a parcel that adjoins another parcel with a comparable use, at a comparable scale and intensity; and • Will not negatively impact the productivity of neighboring agricultural activities.
	Policy LU 1.8: Limit the amendment of each mandatory element of the General Plan to four times per calendar year, unless otherwise specified in Section 65358 of the California Government Code.

	Policy LU 1.9: Allow adjustments to the General Plan Land Use Policy Map to follow an adjusted Highway Plan alignment without a General Plan amendment, when the following findings can be met: • The adjustment is necessitated by an adjusted Highway Plan alignment that was approved by the Los Angeles County Interdepartmental Engineering Committee (IEC) in a duly noticed public meeting; • The adjustment maintains the basic relationship between land use types; and • The adjustment is consistent with the General Plan.
	Policy LU 1.10: Prohibit plan amendments that increase density of residential land uses within mapped fire and flood hazard areas unless surrounded by existing built development and the capacity of adjoining major highways and street networks can accommodate evacuation.
Specific Plans	Policy LU 1.~~10~~11: Require the intensity, density, and uses allowed in a new specific plan to be determined using the General Plan, including the Land Use Policy Map and Land Use Legend.
	Policy LU 1.~~11~~12: Require a General Plan amendment for any deviation from the intensities, densities, and uses allowed by the General Plan (to apply the appropriate designation from the General Plan Land Use Legend), unless allowances for flexibility are specified in the specific plan.
	Policy LU 1.~~12~~13: Require development regulations and zoning for new specific plans to be consistent with their corresponding General Plan land use designation.
	Policy LU 1.~~13~~14: Allow specific plans to include implementation procedures for flexibility, such as development phasing, and redistribution of intensities and uses, as appropriate.
	Policy LU 1.~~14~~15: Require a specific plan amendment for any deviation from the procedures and policies established by a specific plan.
	Policy LU 1.~~15~~16: For existing specific plans, which are depicted with an “SP” land use designation, the General Plan Land Use Policy Map shall be amended as part of a comprehensive area planning effort, to identify existing specific plans using the Specific Plan Overlay.

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Table C.1: Constraints, by Class, and Data Sources

Hazards, Environmental, and Resources	Class I	Class II	Class III	Data Source
FEMA ~~Q3 Flood Zone 100 year~~ Moderate to Low Risk		X		Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA ~~Q3 Flood Zone 500 year~~ High Risk	X			Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Forest		X		United States Forest Service
Open Space			X	Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning Los Angeles County Assessor's Office GreenInfo Network – California's Protected Areas Database
Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs)		X		Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
~~Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA)~~ Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas (SERA)			X	Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
~~Oak Woodlands and Savannahs~~			~~X~~	~~Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning~~
~~Cold Creek / Dark Canyon Resource Management Area~~			~~X~~	~~Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning~~
~~Significant Watersheds~~			~~X~~	~~Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning~~
~~Wildlife Migration Corridor / Habitat Linkages~~			~~X~~	~~Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning~~
Coastal Zone	X			California Coastal Commission
Scenic Highways		X		California Department of Transportation
Significant Ridgelines	X			Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
Mineral Resource Zones	X			California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology
Oil and Gas Resources	X			California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal
Military Influence Areas	X			~~Military Operation Areas:~~ Combination of Defense Installation Spatial Data Infrastructure (DISDI) dataset and information derived from the Flight Information Publications (FLIP), FAA Instrument Flight Rules (IFR), and Visual Flight Rules (VFR) data sources. Air Force, 412 Test Wing Sustainability Office.

				~~Special Use Areas: Combination of DISDI dataset and information derived from FAA IFR and VFR data sources.~~ Data verified by Regional Airspace Coordinators (RACs). ~~HRAIZs: Air Force, 412 Test Wing Sustainability Office.~~ ~~Military Installations: DISDI dataset.~~
Dam and Reservoir In~~n~~undation Areas	X			California Emergency Management Agency
Tsunami Hazard Areas	X			California Emergency Management Agency University of Southern California California Geological Survey
Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone		X		California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Assessment Program
Airport Influence Areas	X			Los Angeles County Airport Land Use Commission
Active Fault Trace			X	Los Angeles County General Plan, Fault Rupture Hazards and Historic Seismicity Map
Seismically Induced Landslide Zone		X		California Geological Survey, Seismic Hazard Zone Maps
Seismically Induced Liquefaction Zone	X			California Geological Survey, A-P Maps
Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone			X	California Geological Survey, Seismic Hazard Zone Maps
Hillside Management Areas: 25% - 49.9%	X			Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
Hillside Management Areas: 50% or greater slope		X		Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
Agricultural Resource Areas (ARAs)		X		Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
Prime Farmland		X		California Department of Conservation, Department of Land Resource Protection
Farmland of Statewide Importance		X		California Department of Conservation, Department of Land Resource Protection
Unique Farmland		X		California Department of Conservation, Department of Land Resource Protection
Farmland of Local Importance		X		California Department of Conservation, Department of Land Resource Protection

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Appendix H: Safety Element Resources

I. Active Faults

~~Cabrillo Fault~~

~~The Cabrillo Fault consists of several en echelon strands striking 20 to 25 degrees west of north and dipping 50 to 75 degrees (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). The onshore portion of the fault lies on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and extends offshore into the San Pedro Bay.~~

~~Cucamonga Fault~~

~~The Cucamonga Fault Zone consists of one to three subparallel anastomosing strands of up to one kilometer in width and measuring between 20 and 25 kilometers in length (Morton and Matti, 1987; Wesnousky, 1987; Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). This segment is sometimes referred to as Sierra Madre Fault Segment E. The frontal fault zone in this area strikes about 70 degrees east of north and has moderate to steep northerly dips. Some workers confine this fault zone segment to the frontal southern margin of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains, from San Antonio Canyon to the west and Lytle Creek to the east (Morton and Matti, 1987; Smith, 1977; Lamar, et al., 1973). Morton and Matti (1987) suggest, however, that because of the complex structural relations at the west end, the Fault could be interpreted to extend farther west and merge with the Sierra Madre Fault System as a through-going, segmented, frontal fault system.~~

~~Hollywood Fault~~

~~The Hollywood Fault is mapped as a narrow strand that trends along the southern front of the Santa Monica Mountains (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985; Weber, et al., 1980). Ziony and Yerkes (1985) list the fault as having reverse or reverse-oblique motion. The eastern segment of the Hollywood Fault Zone trends through the Repetto Hills as a complex series of faults and folds within the Puente Formation. In this area, the fault and several splays are in close proximity to the Raymond Fault (which is an Alquist Priolo-Earthquake Fault Zone, or APEFZ). Physiographic features such as scarps and inclined spurs are interpreted as evidence of Holocene movement along the eastern 17 kilometers of the Hollywood Fault (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985; Weber, et al., 1980). The age of movement along the western portion of the Hollywood Fault is not reported, suggesting the Fault has been inactive for the last 750,000 years.~~

~~Holser Fault~~

~~The Holser Fault is a south dipping reverse fault consisting of several closely spaced strands that strike from 80 degrees east of north to 70 degrees west of north (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985; Winterer and Durham, 1962). The Fault Zone is as much as 1.5 kilometers wide along its western portion. The portion of the Fault transecting the County is approximately 13 kilometers long.~~

~~Ziony and Yerkes (1985) list offset stratigraphy and physiography as clear evidence of Late Quaternary movement. The Fault is shown as active for the following reasons: 1) the Fault is associated with known active faults, accommodating the north-south shortening between the San Cayetano and Santa Susana faults in a complex zone of south-dipping reverse faults (Yeats, 1987; Yeats et al., 1985; Ziony and Jones, 1989; Smith, 1977); 2) the Fault intersects an APSSZ fault; and 3) geomorphic evidence (i.e.,drainage control of several streams including Piru Creek) supports a Holocene, or at least Late Quaternary age for the Holser Fault (Yeats et al, 1985).~~

~~Although no Holocene deposits are known, to date, to be displaced by the Fault (Allan Seward, 1990 personal communication), no published trenching program has conclusively shown the Fault Zone to~~

be inactive. Trenching across the APSSZ segment of the San Gabriel Fault may have indirectly proven that the Fault is active, since the San Gabriel Fault may be a reactivated tear fault in the Holser Thrust System (Tom Rockwell, 1990 personal communication).

Llano Fault

The Llano Fault is located west of Victorville in the Mojave Desert. The Fault strikes 65 degrees west of north along a single-strand with a presumed dip to the southwest (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). The reverse fault shows evidence of Holocene monoclinal folding and is shown as active by Ziony and Jones (1989).

Malibu Coast Fault

The onshore Malibu Coast Fault consists of several subparallel strands trending east-west along the southern margin of the western Santa Monica Mountains. The onshore Fault Zone is comprised of reverse faults with dips averaging between 45and 80 degrees to the north, with zones of deformation as wide 0.5 kilometers (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). There is an offshore portion of the Fault merging with the northern strand of the Santa Monica Fault, as interpreted by Weber (1980) and Crook and Ward (1983).

As early as 1965, Wentworth and Yerkes (1965) reported that the fault cut terrace deposits older than 25,000 years. The State fault evaluation conducted in 1977 concluded that the Fault was well-defined, but because no Holocene displacement had been documented, the Fault was not zoned within the APSSZ Act. Such evidence has recently been reported for a portion of the Fault located at the intersection of Kanan Dume Road and Pacific Coast Highway. Converse Consultants, working with Dr. Roy Schlemon, have found evidence of Holocene displacement within colluvial soils determined to be 5,000 to 6,000 years old at this location (oral communication, Greg Rzonak, 1988).

Mission Hills Fault

The Mission Hills Fault trends east-northeast to east-west for 10 kilometers along the south side of Mission Hills. The Fault is expressed by young fault morphology in some instances. The width has been described as a single-strand occurring within a zone as narrow as 150 feet (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). Smith (1978) has interpreted the age of the Fault as late Pleistocene; however, Slosson (1977) and Kowalewsky (1978) documented Holocene rupture based on evidence of bedrock thrust over Holocene-aged soil. Ziony and Jones (1989) concur with a possible Holocene Age.

Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone

The trace of the Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone is marked by a series of low-lying hills including the Cheviot Hills, Baldwin Hills, Rosecrans Hills, Dominquez Hills, Signal Hill, and Reservoir Hill. These hills are sites of oil fields in which faulted anticlines form structural traps. The Fault Zone consists of a set of left stepping, discontinuous faults, which indicates a through-going right-lateral strike-slip fault at depth. Harding (1973) indicates that the Fault Zone is a nearly-vertical, right-lateral strike-slip fault at depth. The Fault Zone is covered under the APSSZ Act. Five separate en echelon faults comprise the Fault Zone in the County. These faults are as follows (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985):

- **Inglewood:** Northwest-trending fault with stratigraphic evidence of late Quaternary movement and recent physiographic features. Normal to normal-right-oblique sense of movement. Possible source of 1920 earthquake.

- **Potrero:** Northwest trending fault with normal to normal-right-oblique sense of movement with Late Quaternary physiographic features and groundwater impediments along trace in late Quaternary alluvial deposits (Poland and others, 1959). Numerous small earthquakes nearby.
- **Avalon-Compton:** Northwest-trending, vertical fault, which experienced movement in 1941 and 1944. Has reverse-right-oblique sense of movement and Late Quaternary physiographic features and groundwater impediments (Poland and others, 1959).
- **Cherry-Hill:** Northwest-trending near vertical fault with reverse-right-oblique sense of movement. Late Quaternary activity evidenced by offset stratigraphy, physiographic features, and groundwater impediments. Numerous small earthquakes east of trace.
- **Reservoir Hill-Seal Beach:** Northwest-trending, near vertical fault with normal-right-oblique or right-lateral strike-slip sense of movement. Late Quaternary activity is evidenced by offset stratigraphy, physiographic features, and groundwater impediments. Numerous small earthquakes east of trace.

North Hollywood Fault

The North Hollywood Fault, listed as a “possible fault in North Hollywood" by Ziony and Yerkes (1985), dips vertically along a single-strand approximately 2 kilometers in length. This Fault is but one of many groundwater impediments (faults) within the San Fernando Valley; however, Weber, et al., (1980) noted that the Fault formed an ENE-trending, linear break in topography on older quadrangle maps published in 1901 and 1926. Weber (1980) noted that because the south-facing physiographic lineament apparently offset youthful deposits of the Tujunga Wash, the fault may be Holocene in age.

Northridge Hills Fault

The Northridge Hills Fault consists of nine en echelon strands each with zones approximately 0.7 kilometers wide (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). The Fault Zone strikes 70 to 80degrees west of north through the central San Fernando Valley. The style of slip is probably reverse, with a dip of 35 degrees north near the surface and 80 degrees north at depth (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). Several aftershocks of the 1971 San Fernando Earthquake occurred coincident with the subsurface extension of the fault (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985). The Fault has been described as Late Quaternary Age by many workers (Ziony, et al., 1974; Barnhardt and Slosson, 1973; Wentworth and Yerkes, 1971); however, Ziony and Yerkes (1985) have reinterpreted groundwater offset data and fault physiography to suggest possible Holocene Age activity. Additional evidence of activity is the folding and warping of Holocene and Pleistocene Age sediments exposed during trench excavations by George Larson (Jerry Treiman, 1989; personal communication). Ziony and Jones (1989) show the Fault as possibly Holocene.

Palos Verdes Fault Zone

The portion of the Palos Verdes Fault Zone in the County can be discussed in terms of three separate segments: 1) the San Pedro Bay segment, 2) the onshore segment, and 3) the Santa Monica Bay segment (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985).

All segments are believed to possess reverse right oblique or reverse motion (Ziony and Yerkes, 1987). The San Pedro Bay segment is characterized as a complex zone of en echelon faults with evidence of offset Holocene stratigraphy (Fischer, et al., 1987). Fischer and others (1987) state that the eastern faults of the zone displace seismic reflectors or horizons that represent Holocene surficial sediments.

The onshore segment of the Palos Verdes Fault Zone is depicted by Ziony and Jones (1989) as Late

Quaternary; however, Woodward and Clyde (1983) point to several factors that suggest Holocene displacements have occurred along the Palos Verdes Peninsula. These factors include the extensive deformation of the 120,000 year old terrace and apparent Holocene folding of the Gaffy anticline, a probable drag feature related to movement on the Palos Verdes Fault. This portion of the Fault is considered active despite the lack of unequivocal evidence for Holocene displacement.

The Santa Monica Bay segment is inferred to be a Late Quaternary feature by Ziony and Yerkes, (1985); however, increased seismicity in this offshore area, especially in association with the longest, single coherent strand in Santa Monica Bay, suggests that this segment is active.

Raymond Fault Zone

The Raymond Fault Zone consists of one to three strands, which diverge from the Sierra Madre Fault Zone in the area of Monrovia and trend to South Pasadena. Ziony and Yerkes (1985) indicate that the sense of movement on the Fault is reverse-left-oblique. Crook, et al., (1987) have presented a detailed description of numerous physiographic features that attest to the Fault's recent activity. The most impressive feature is the nearly continuous fault scarp between Monrovia Canyon and Arroyo Seco. The Fault displaces recent alluvium and forms a significant groundwater barrier, which has been the subject of several previous studies.

Numerous trench studies and radiometric dating of exposed sediments has allowed definition of five major seismic events in the last 36,000 to 155,000 years B.P., and an additional three events, which cannot be dated precisely in the last 29,000 years (Crook, et al., 1987). Crook, et al., (1987) infer an average recurrence interval of 3,000 years, with an average vertical displacement of 0.4 meters per event. A maximum credible earthquake of ML6-3/4 can reasonably be assumed if the entire 22 kilometer length of the Fault were to break. Crook, et al., (1987) have also recognized a scarp feature in alluvium on the south side of the Raymond Fault in the South Pasadena area. This Fault, named the York Boulevard Fault, lies outside of the APSSZ, but due to its close proximity, is identified as active.

Redondo Canyon Fault

The Redondo Canyon Fault is presumed to be a single strand, which strikes 80 to 85 degrees east of north as it trends offshore from a point just north of the Palos Verdes Peninsula down Redondo Canyon. The fault length is approximately 13 kilometers and the dip is unknown. Scattered small earthquakes have occurred near the fault trace.

San Andreas Fault Zone

The San Andreas Fault Zone extends from northwest to southeast across the County. Numerous fault related geomorphic features, such as linear troughs are present over much of its length. The sense of displacement on the Fault is right-lateral strike-slip and most faults within the zone are vertical (ZionyandYerkes, 1985). The California Geological Survey (formerly known as the California Division of Mines and Geology) has completed a multi-year study of the San Andreas Fault through which detailed maps of the Fault Zone and the geologic units they affect have been compiled (Barrows, 1979; Beeby, 1979; Kahle, 1980; Barrows, et al., 1985).

Activity along the San Andreas Fault Zone has been recorded during historic events, including the Magnitude 7.1, 1989 Lorna Prieta Earthquake, the 1906 Magnitude 8 earthquake in San Francisco, and the 1857 Magnitude 7.9 Fort Tejon event. The segment in the County is one of eight discrete fault

segments, with each segment exhibiting a unique character and return period for damaging earthquakes along strike of the more than 1,000 kilometer long fault. The 1857 event is believed to have ruptured the section in County.

Offset stratigraphy of Holocene deposits provides evidence that rupture occurs on the San Andreas Fault at Pallet Creek on the average of every 145 to 200 years (Seih, 1984). This work has given rise to an assessment that the Mojave Segment stands a 30 percent chance of being the origin of a 7.5 Magnitude earthquake by the year 2018 (Davis, et al., 1988).

San Antonio Fault

The San Antonio Fault is not well studied. It is a left-lateral strike slip fault interposed and oblique to the San Andreas and Sierra Madre/Cucamonga Fault Zones. On the basis of seismicity data, Hauksson (in press) has suggested that it maybe a northern segment of the San Jose Fault, which has been associated with significant seismicity. However, it is its suspect relationship (tear fault) with the Cucamonga and the Sierra Madre faults, and reports of fault trench evidence showing left-lateral displacement of the Cucamonga Fault by the San Antonio Fault, that suggest the fault should be considered active; at least until detailed investigation proves otherwise.

San Fernando Fault Zone

The San Fernando Fault was not known until February 9, 1971, at which time it ruptured and caused extensive damage in the northern and eastern San Fernando Valley. The San Fernando Fault is comprised of five major reverse-left-oblique en echelon strands that vary in strike from 75 degrees east of north to 70 degrees west of north. The Fault dips 50 degrees north near the surface and shallows to 35 degrees north at depth. The total length is at least 17 kilometers (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985).

The five segments consist of:

- **Reservoir Segment:** Extends from the lower Van Norman reservoir embankment eastward along the east flank of a series of low hills where it meets the Mission Wells segment.
- **Mission Wells Segment:** Located 1.5 kilometers east of Lower Van Norman Lake. Small south facing scarps define the trends of the fault segment. Surface cracks from the 1971 earthquake displayed left lateral offsets (USGS, 1971).
- **Sylmar Segment:** Well-defined zone of fractures that extends from the southern corner of Hubbard Street and Glenoaks Boulevard to south of Lopez Dam. The zone generally ranges from 75 to more than 200 meters in width (USGS, 1971).
- **Tujunga Thrust:** Extends along the base of the hills on the north side of Tujunga Valley eastward into Little Tujunga Canyon.
- **Lake View Segment:** Continuation of Tujunga segment, trends eastward along the low hills from Little Tujunga Wash to Big Tujunga Wash.

These faults were zoned within the APSSZ Act in 1976. It is generally recognized that the eastern fault segments are structurally related to the Sierra Madre Fault System; however, the structural relationship of the western segment is less well-defined. The western San Fernando segment may have structural ties to the Mission Hills Fault.

San Gabriel Fault

The San Gabriel Fault is reported by Ziony and Yerkes (1985) to consist of a zone of en echelon strands striking 45 to 65 degrees west of north with dips between 50 to 80 degrees toward the north. The Fault displays a complex sense of movement that appears to change from one section of the fault to another (Stitt, 1986). The San Gabriel Fault has been divided by various workers into a number of different segmentation schemes (Ehlig, 1973; Weber, 1979; Ziony andYerkes, 1985; Stitt, 1986; Wesnousky, 1987).

Recent exploratory subsurface work near Castaic indicates that a portion of the segment cuts Holocene alluvium dated by radiocarbon methods as 8140 ± B.P., 777 ± 60 years B.P., and 3500 ± 250 years B.P. (Cotton, 1986). The State has designated a 10 kilometer portion of the San Gabriel Fault that includes this site as an APSSZ fault. Stitt (1986) has stated that the segment of the San Gabriel Fault to the northwest is apparently not Late Quaternary because the fault is buried by the Plio-Pleistocene Hungry Valley Formation. However, Roquemore, 1989 (personal communication) has submitted evidence for Holocene movement in the Violin Canyon area to the APSSZ fault evaluation program in apparent contradiction to Stitt's (1986) interpretation. In light of this evidence, the active segment of the San Gabriel Fault is extended to Violin Canyon. Ziony and Jones (1989) concur with this interpretation. Segment SG-B is arbitrarily extended to the southeast until the San Gabriel splits into the Dillon and Demille Fault. Weber (1979) notes that the evidence for the recency of faulting becomes less clear-cut at this point. The geomorphic and stratigraphic evidence documented by Weber (1979) still suggests Late Quaternary movement.

Santa Susana Fault

The Santa Susana Fault dips north along the southern flank of the Santa Monica Mountains, extending eastward until it merges with the Sierra Madre Fault System (Yeats, 1987). Wenousky (1986) and Ziony and Yerkes (1985) assign a length of 38 kilometers and 28 kilometers, respectively. The Fault dips 0 to 30 degrees in the near surface, which results in a fault zone width between 0.25 and 1.5 kilometers (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985).

The eastern portion of the Fault experienced reverse-left-oblique sympathetic rupture during the 1971 San Fernando Earthquake (Saul and Weber, 1975). This portion of the Fault has been designated an APSSZ fault. To the west of the APSSZ, in the Porter Ranch area, subsurface trench investigations have revealed minor faults within terrace deposits. No faulting was observed within an overlying fanglomerate that was carbon-dated as 10,010± 580 years y.b.p. (Lung and Weick, 1987). However, massive landsliding and bedding plane faulting have been prevented an unequivocal determinations of the age of faulting for this portion of the fault. Based on this uncertainty, the western portion of the fault is considered active.

Sierra Madre Fault System

The Sierra Madre Fault System lies at the southern base of the San Gabriel Mountains. Ziony and Yerkes (1985) indicate that the Fault System consists of one to five anastomosing strands in a zone as wide as one kilometer. The Fault System has a reverse sense of slip and forms a complex zone with two identified sections. Each section consists of a mechanically coherent salient (Crook, et al., 1987). These sections extend: 1) from Mount Wilson to Big Tujunga Canyon (14 kilometers); and 2) from Big Tujunga Canyon to Arroyo Seco (17 kilometers). Crook, et al., (1987) estimate a maximum credible earthquake of magnitude (ML) 7 for these segments, and an average recurrence interval between major shocks longer than 5,000 years.

The fault segments in numerous places have juxtaposed basement bedrock over alluvium and dip northerly below the steep topographic front of the San Gabriel Mountains. Barriers to groundwater flow have been cited as evidence of alluvial-buried faults of the Sierra Madre Fault System (Proctor and Kalin, 1965; Shelton, 1955). Offset Holocene deposits are reported along the two segments and have been designated as APSSZ faults. The mechanically distinct segments are designated active. Note that the APSSZ segment is correctly identified as a segment of the Sierra Madre Fault and not as the Mount Lukens Thrust, as described by Smith, 1978.

Verdugo Fault

The Verdugo Fault trends northward along the west flank of the Verdugo Mountains and separates a Precambrian Age basement complex on the east from alluvial and sedimentary Tertiary strata on the west. The Fault consists of multiple strands in a zone 0.5 to 1.0 kilometers in width as evidenced by southwest facing scarps in alluvium in the Burbank area (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985; Weber, et al., 1980). The fault apparently dips 45 to 60 degrees to the northeast and forms groundwater cascades in the alluvium north of the terminus of the Verdugo Mountains. On the north, the Fault may curve westward and join the Mission Hills Fault. To the southeast of the Verdugo Mountains, the Fault becomes less well-defined and shallows in dip as it trends through Verdugo Wash where it apparently connects with the Eagle Rock Fault. Groundwater cascades and surface scarps are evidence of recent activity along the Fault (Weber, et al., 1980).

Whittier Fault Zone

The Whittier Fault Zone consists of one to three subparallel strands in a zone as wide as 1.2 kilometers. The length of the Whittier Fault to the point where it merges with the Elsinore Fault Zone is approximately 45 kilometers; however, Wesnousky (1986) has defined a longer Whittier segment (74 kilometers). The 14 kilometer length within the County strikes 65 to 85 degrees to the northwest and dips 65 to 80 degrees to the north. The sense of movement on the Whittier Fault is believed to be reverse right oblique (Ziony and Yerkes, 1985), or nearly pure right slip (Gath and Rockwell, in press). Evidence of offset Holocene stratigraphy northwest of Brea Canyon in Orange County is recognized by Ziony and Jones (1989); however, these workers interpret the northwesternmost portion of the Whittier Fault in the County as late Quaternary. Gath, et al., (1988) and Leighton, et al., (1987) have uncovered evidence of offset Holocene stratigraphy four kilometers east of the City of Whittier in Arroyo San Miguel near Colima Boulevard. Based on these trench studies, the Fault is considered active along its entire length in the County.

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A significant number of known active earthquake faults are located throughout Los Angeles County. The locations of active faults are mapped to understand the potential likelihood and severity of seismic activity for existing and proposed development. Faults that are considered active by the State of California are included within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones. Additional faults may be considered active by Los Angeles County and other jurisdictions based on seismic and geological data. Information on known active and inactive faults can be accessed through the source(s) below.

U.S. Geological Survey's Quaternary Faults Database: This source provides fault trace locations, fault name, section name, age, dip direction, slip rate, slip sense, fault class, strike, and fault length, and other fault characteristics.

Source:

U.S. Geological Survey and California Geological Survey, Quaternary fault and fold database for the United States, accessed October 13, 2021, at: https://www.usgs.gov/natural-hazards/earthquake-hazards/faults.

II. Zones of Required Investigation

The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (SHMA) of 1990 (Public Resources Code, Chapter 7.8, Section 2690-2699.6) directs the Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey to identify and map areas prone to earthquake hazards of liquefaction, earthquake-induced landslides and amplified ground shaking. The purpose of the SHMA is to reduce the threat to public safety and to minimize the loss of life and property by identifying and mitigating these seismic hazards. The SHMA was passed

by the legislature following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

A Seismic Hazard Zone is a regulatory zone that encompasses areas prone to liquefaction (failure of water-saturated soil) and earthquake-induced landslides.

> **Liquefaction** occurs when loose, water-saturated sediments lose strength and fail during strong ground shaking. Liquefaction is defined as the transformation of granular material from a solid state into a liquefied state as a consequence of increased pore-water pressure. The process of zoning for liquefaction combines Quaternary geologic mapping, historical ground-water information and subsurface geotechnical data. Required Investigation boundaries are based on the presence of shallow historic groundwater (< 40 feet depth) in uncompacted sands and silts deposited during the last 15,000 years and sufficiently strong levels of earthquake shaking expected during the next 50 years.
>
> **Landslides** tend to occur in weak soil and rock on sloping terrain. The landslide hazard Zone of Required Investigation boundaries generally indicate steep hillslopes composed of weak materials that may fail when shaken by an earthquake. The process for zoning earthquake-induced landslides incorporates expected future earthquake shaking, existing landslide features, slope gradient, and strength of hillslope materials.

The SHMA requires the State Geologist to establish regulatory zones (Zones of Required Investigation) and to issue appropriate maps (Seismic Hazard Zone maps). These maps are distributed to all affected cities, counties, and state agencies for their use in planning and controlling construction and development. Single family frame dwellings up to two stories not part of a development of four or more units are exempt from the state requirements. Information on fault, liquefaction, and landslide zones can be accessed through the source(s) below.

California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey's Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation: This source depicts California Geological Survey Official Zone Maps for fault rupture, liquefaction, and seismic landslide hazards in California. Please note that portions of the Sierra Madre Fault zone and the western San Gabriel Fault zone are not included in this map because the State of California has not designated these faults as active. Los Angeles County does consider the Sierra Madre Fault and the western San Gabriel Fault to be active. Faults may be considered active or inactive in other jurisdictions.

Source:

California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey, Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation, accessed October 13, 2021, at: https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/maps-data.

~~II~~ III. Awareness Floodplain Mapping

The intent of the Awareness Floodplain Mapping project by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is to identify all pertinent flood hazard areas by 2015 for areas that are not mapped under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program

(NFIP). The Awareness project will also provide the community and residents with an additional tool in understanding potential flood hazards currently not mapped as a regulated floodplain. The awareness maps identify the 100-year flood hazard areas using approximate assessment procedures. These floodplains will be shown as flood prone areas without specific depths and other flood hazard data. ~~Awareness floodplain maps will be added as they become available.Figure H.1 identifies the currently mapped Awareness Floodplains for the unincorporated areas mapped in the following USGS quadrangles: Neenach School, Rosamond Lake, Redman, Burnt Peak, Lake Hughes, Del Sur, Lancaster West, Lancaster East, Alpine Butte, Hi Vista, Adobe Mountain, Warm Springs Mountain, Green Valley, Sleepy Valley, Ritter Ridge, Littlerock, Lovejoy Buttes, El Mirage, Newhall, Mint Canyon, Agua Dulce, Acton, Pacifico Mountain, Juniper Hills, Valyermo, Mescal Creek, Oat Mountain, San Fernando, Sunland, Condor Peak, Crystal Lake, Mount San Antonio, Burbank, Mt. Wilson, and Glendora.~~

For more information and to view the Awareness Floodplain Mapping layer, please visit DWR's Best Available Maps web mapping portal~~site~~ at:
~~http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/lrafmo/fmb/fes/awareness_floodplain_maps/los_angeles~~
http://gis.bam.water.ca.gov/bam/.

~~Figure H.1: Awareness Floodplain Map~~

~~III~~ IV. Development in Flood Hazard Zones

Figures H.~~2~~1 through H.~~4~~3 represent existing and planned developments, and streets, which are located within the County's flood hazard zones.

Figure H.~~2~~1: Existing Development in Flood Hazard Zones

Figure H.~~3~~2: Planned Development in Flood Hazard Zones

Figure H.~~4~~3: Streets in Flood Hazard Zones

~~IV~~ V. Flood Repetitive Loss Sites

~~As of January 3, 2011~~ September 2018, ~~FEMA~~County of Los Angeles Public Works (PW) identified ~~55~~54 repetitive loss properties located within unincorporated ~~Los Angeles~~ County. ~~The County has since reduced this number to 43 repetitive loss properties by clarifying property locations or incorporating flood hazard mitigation measures. The County adopted a Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan on May 11, 2010~~ June 15, 2021 to mitigate the flooding of 35 repetitive loss properties. Four of the repetitive loss properties have been approved by FEMA as mitigated. The remaining 50 unmitigated repetitive loss properties were mapped into 24 repetitive loss areas. PW conducted a Repetitive Loss Area Analysis included mapping of the areas and recommended action items to address the problem.

~~For more information on the County's repetitive loss sites, please refer to Appendix I in the County's Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan~~All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is available on the ~~CEO~~PW's web site at ~~http://lacoa.org/hazmit.htm.~~https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/nfip/fmp/Plan.aspx.

The County adopted an updated Repetitive Loss Area Analysis on June 15, 2021 to mitigate the

flooding of repetitive loss properties. Los Angeles County had 54 FEMA-designated repetitive loss properties in its unincorporated areas as of September 2018, including four that FEMA has approved as being mitigated. The 50 remaining unmitigated properties have been mapped into 24 repetitive loss areas. The Repetitive Loss Area Analysis included mapping of the repetitive loss areas and recommended action items to mitigate the flooding issues.

For more information on the County's Repetitive Loss Area Analysis, please visit PW's web site at: https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/NFIP/FMP/RLAA.aspx.

~~V~~ VI. Regulatory Agencies for Flood Management, Protection, and Financial Assistance

Table H.5: Federal, State, and Local Agencies Responsible for Flood Management, Protection, and Financial Assistance

Agency	Type
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Federal
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Federal
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Federal
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Federal
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal
National Marine Fisheries Service	Federal
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Federal
U.S. Geological Survey	Federal
U.S. Small Business Administration	Federal
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	Federal
California Department of Water Resources	State
California Water Commission	State
State Water Resources Control Board	State
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	State
State Lands Commission	State
California Emergency Management Agency	State

California Department of Housing and Community Development	State
California Department of Real Estate	State
Los Angeles County ~~Department of~~ Public Works	Local
Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Local
Los Angeles Office of Emergency Management	Local

~~VI~~ VII. Historic Wildfires in Los Angeles County

Table H.6: Los Angeles County Wildfire Incident Statistics, 2007-~~2011~~ 2020**

Fire Name	**Year**	**Acres Burned**	**Structures**	
			Damaged	*Destroyed*
Buckweed/ Agua Dulce	2007	38,356	30	43
Canyon	2007	4,500	14	8
Magic	2007	2,824	0	0
Ranch	2007	58,401	2	10
Meadow Ridge	2007	20	0	0
October	2007	100	0	0
Sayre	2008	11,262	0	634
Sesnon	2008	14,703	11	78
Marek	2008	4,824	10	42
Osito	2009	304	0	0
Morris	2009	2,168	0	0
Station	2009	160,577	57	209
Crown	2010	14,000	6	10

Briggs	2010	530	0	0
Oasis	2011	355	0	0
Wagon Wheel	2011	500	0	0
Mint	2011	634	0	0
Sage	2016	1,100	2	0
Old	2016	465	1	9
Fish	2016	4,253	0	0
Reservoir	2016	1,146	0	0
Sand	2016	41,383	20	116
Lake	2017	850	2	0
Creek	2017	15,619	81	123
Rye	2017	6,049	3	6
La Tuna	2017	7,194	0	5
Skirball	2017	422	13	9
Stone	2018	1,352	0	0
Charlie	2018	3,380	0	0
Woolsey***	2018	96,949	364	1,643
Saddle Ridge	2019	8,799	91	24
Tick	2019	3,950	46	29
Getty	2019	745	19	13
Totals		~~**314,058**~~ **507,714**	~~**130**~~ **772**	~~**1,034**~~ **3,011**

Source: Cal Fire ~~Fire Incident Reports~~ Wildfire Activity Statistics

*Data on structures damaged and destroyed was not available for all wildfires, just for the ones listed above.

** Year 2020 statistics pending availability of 2020 Wildfire Activity Statistics from Cal Fire

*** Categorized under Ventura County by Cal Fire

Table H.7: Acres Burned in Los Angeles County, 2004-~~2013~~ 2020

Year	Unincorporated Areas	Other Jurisdictions	All Jurisdictions
2004	34,354	362	34,715
2005	5,221	23,835	29,056
2006	7,355	164	7,519
2007	116,894	2,231	119,125
2008	30,714	402	31,116
2009	162,266	871	163,136
2010	1,514	45	1,559
2011	1,813	64	1,883
2012	5,077	885	5,962
2013	31,464	282	31,746
2014	320	1,755	2,075
2015	943	343	1287
2016	42,762	5,796	48,559
2017	19,276	4,833	24,109
2018	49,728	13,377	63,106
2019	8,897	4,861	13,759
2020	149,987	4,516	154,503
Totals	**~~396,672~~ 668,586**	**~~29,141~~ 64,623**	**~~425,817~~ 733,214**

Source: Los Angeles County Fire Department, Information Management Section, ~~2013~~ 2021.

~~VII~~ VIII. Fire Department Functions

The following provides an overview of applicable functions of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department:

1. **Fire Prevention Division:** This Division is responsible for conducting plan checks for building, processes and fire extinguishing systems. The Division coordinates with building and safety officials, federal, state, city and County officials to implement the Title 26 Building (Wildland-Urban Interface and Chapter 7A) and the County Fire Code, Title 32.

   The Fire Prevention Division also focuses on educating the community about the benefits of proper safety practices and identifying and eliminating all types of hazardous conditions, which pose a threat to life, the environment and property. Commercial, industrial, and residential development and operations are processed and inspected.

2. **Forestry Division:** The Forestry Division enforces and observes all orders and ordinances of the Board of Supervisors pertaining to forest, brush, and other fires, and all statutes relating to prevention or extinguishment of forest, brush or grass fires. The Division cooperates with the State Forester and the Federal Forest Supervisors in the prevention and suppression of forest fires in the County of Los Angeles. The Forestry Division coordinates inspections with Emergency Operations personnel on private lands for the purpose of determining if a fire hazard exists. Where it is found that a fire hazard exists, the County Forester orders the owner or person responsible to abate or diminish such hazard. County Foresters educate the public about fire prevention and the conservation of natural resources, and disseminate such information by means of lectures, motion pictures, slides or other projection of pictures, displays and exhibits, or by any other appropriate means. The Forestry Division program areas are:

   Conservation Education

   Urban and Wildland Forestry Programs

   Fire Hazard Reduction Programs

   Oak Tree Ordinance

   Fire Weather/Fire Danger

   Emergency Incident Services

   Wildland Urban Interface/Fire Safety Organizations

   - **Environmental Review Unit:** This unit works with the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) to implement existing environmental ordinances. ~~The u~~Unit personnel review all County Oak Tree Permit applications submitted to DRP, and develop recommendations for implementation. Additionally, ~~the~~ unit personnel produce environmental documentation and recommendations, such as non-significant impact documents, negative declarations and mitigation measures consistent with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates for construction projects and developments. The County Forester and Fire Warden are also represented on the

Subdivision Committee, which advises the Regional Planning Commission and Hearing Examiner (Title 21, Subdivisions, Section 21.12.010).

- **Fuel Modification Unit:** This unit provides guidelines and reviews ~~the~~ landscape and irrigation plans submitted by the property owner for approval before construction or remodeling of a structure. As described in the Strategic Fire Plan, the objective of the Fuel Modification Unit is to create the defensible space necessary for effective fire protection in newly constructed and/or remodeled homes within the Department's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ). Fuel modification reduces the radiant and convective heat, and provides valuable defensible space for firefighters to make an effective stand against an approaching fire front. Fuel modification zones are strategically placed as a buffer to open space or areas of natural vegetation and generally would occur surrounding the perimeter of a subdivision, commercial development, or isolated development of a single-family dwelling.

- **Brush Clearance Unit:** The Brush Clearance Program is a joint effort between the Fire Department and the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, Weed Hazard and Pest Abatement Bureau (Weed Abatement Division). This unified enforcement legally declares both improved and unimproved properties a public nuisance, and where necessary, requires the clearance of hazardous vegetation. The Department's Brush Clearance Unit enforces the Fire Code as it relates to brush clearance on improved parcels, coordinates inspections and compliance efforts with fire station personnel, and provides annual brush clearance training to fire station personnel.

- **Fire Plan Unit/Fire Safe Councils:** The Fire Plan Unit coordinates countywide projects and provides direction in the planning of pre-fire projects.

  Fire Safe Councils are grassroots community-based organizations that share the objective of making California's communities less vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire. Fire Safe Councils accomplish this objective through education programs and fire hazard reduction projects such as shaded fuel breaks or home structure hardening to protect area residents against an oncoming wildfire and to provide fire fighters with a place to fight the oncoming fire.

  The Fire Plan Unit supports ~~the~~ fire prevention efforts of ~~the~~ local Fire Safe Councils, assisting with project planning and implementation. Projects include hazardous tree and plant removal and trimming as well as fuel break treatment. A list of geographically-specific fire risk reduction projects (operational and proposed) is published annually in the Strategic Fire Plan.

~~[Text Box]~~

~~VIII~~IX. Post-Fire Safety, Recovery and Maintenance

The Fire Department's Forestry Division implements post-fire reforestation projects to create resilient landscapes and restore functioning ecosystems. For example, the Forestry Division operates nurseries to supply native plants for revegetation of burned areas.

The Fire Department uses Cal MAPPER (CAL FIRE's Management Activity Project Planning Event Reporter) as the Department's designated GIS database for collecting activity and fiscal data on forest and fuels reduction projects executed through the County. CAL MAPPER assists with project planning and maintenance, risk assessment, performance measures and emergency response.

The following are additional programs at the County for Post-Fire Safety, Recovery, and Maintenance:

- **Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E):** During storm season there is an elevated risk of flooding, as well as an increased threat of mud and debris flows, particularly in foothill communities and in communities below recent wildfire burn areas. After the 2009 Station Fire, the Los Angeles County Public Works Department developed the Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E.), a multi-agency media and community outreach campaign. C.A.R.E. partners include County Public Works, Sheriff's and Fire Departments, the County Office of Emergency Management, the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, the National Incident Management Organization, the National Weather Service, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the American Red Cross, and the City of Los Angeles. C.A.R.E. program elements and community resources include a speakers' bureau for community meetings; educational/storm preparation materials; and information on road closures and evacuations, weather forecasts and updates, and links to other emergency response and recovery agencies. In addition, C.A.R.E.'s eNotfiy System allows at-risk residents to register to receive storm-related updates and alerts. More information on C.A.R.E. is available at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/care/.

- **Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) and ~~State Emergency Assessment Teams (SEATs)~~ Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT):** While many wildfires cause little damage to the land and pose few threats to fish, wildlife and people downstream, some fires create situations that require special efforts to prevent further catastrophic damage after the fire. Loss of vegetation exposes soil to erosion; runoff may increase and cause flash flooding; sediments may move downstream and damage houses or fill reservoirs; and put endangered species and community water supplies may be at risk. The Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) federal program and ~~State Emergency Assessment Teams (SEAT)~~ Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) program address these situations with the goal of protecting life, property, water quality, and deteriorated ecosystems from further damage after the fire is out. Concern for possible post-fire effects on fish, wildlife, archeological sites and endangered species is often a primary consideration in the development of BAER and ~~SEAT~~ WERT plans.

- **Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Safety Organizations:** The Fire Department is represented in many local collaborative fire safety and prevention efforts. These include the following:

California Fire Safe Council (CFSC)

California Fire Safe Council's mission is to "mobilize Californians to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires." California Fire Safe Council was formed as a committee of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) (now called CAL FIRE) in 1993 and its intent was to bring together governmental agencies and corporations to

provide education to the residents of California on the dangers of wildfires and how they could be prevented. For more information, please visit www.cafiresafecouncil.org.

Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance (SMMFSA)

The mission of the Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance, a collaboration of related public agencies, departments, and communities, is to find solutions and resources for property owners and land managers to improve stewardship in the wildland-urban interface. Integration of best management practices will create defensible space while protecting wildland. The Alliance will help create safer communities and protect natural areas by involving and educating stakeholders, sharing information, and locating and providing beneficial resources.

~~**Southern California Regional Area Safety Task Force (SoCal RAST)**~~

~~The SoCal RAST is an organization formed to speak with a unified, forward-thinking voice to facilitate regional collaborative fire shed management, planning, and local implementation activities that foster safe and sustainable communities. Members include invited entities from federal, state, and county or multi-county levels. In addition, other participants include Fire Safe Councils and business that deal with related issues. For more information, please visit www.socalrast.org.~~

Sustainable and Fire ~~Safe~~Resistant Landscapes (~~S.A.F.E.~~SAFER Landscapes)

Fire safety in the wildland-urban interface starts in the home, with the use of fire-resistant building materials and architectural features, practices to avoid starting fires in and around the home, and a household fire response plan. University of California Cooperative Extension provides information on maintaining sustainable and fire-safe landscapes in the home and beyond. For more information, please visit http://ucanr.edu/sites/SAFELandscapes/.

Los Angeles County Weed Management Area (LAWMA)

The WMA brings together local landowners, managers, and stewards to coordinate efforts and expertise against invasive plant species. For more information, please visit http://lacountywma.org.

Center for Invasive Species Research (CISR)

Inadvertent introductions of exotic insect pests, plant diseases, weeds, and other noxious organisms (e.g., exotic crabs and mussels) pose a major and continuing threat to California's agricultural, urban, and natural environments as well as the state's precious supplies of fresh water. The Center for Invasive Species Research, based at the University of California, Riverside, provides a forward-looking approach to managing invasions by exotic pests and diseases. The Fire Department's Forestry Division alerts CISR when invasive species are discovered. For more information, please visit http://cisr.ucr.edu/.

~~VIIII~~X. Possible Evacuation Routes

Methodology for Identifying Possible Evacuation Routes

Evacuation routes are determined by emergency responders at the time of the emergency the routes that should be used for evacuation after assessing the conditions and location of the emergency to avoid endangering the lives of others, personal injury, or death. Roads that were (1) public, (2) paved, and (3) through-ways were identified as possible evacuation routes.

To identify these roads, two datasets were combined: (1) the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways (updated ~~May 30, 2019~~ March 9, 2016), and (2) the Countywide Address Management System (CAMS). The Master Plan of Highways designates roadways in Los Angeles County by their planned capacity. All roads from this dataset were coded possible evacuation routes because all roads were public and paved. From the CAMS dataset, all primary and secondary roads were coded as possible evacuation routes because they met all three criteria. Other categories in the CAMS dataset, such as trails, dirt roads, onramps, offramps, some driveways, some private roads, and pedestrian walkways were excluded. Gates or road obstacles were not identified due to lack of data. Information on the capacity of these roads is available by clicking on the following links: (1) Master Plan of Highways - Overview (arcgis.com), and (2) CAMS Data (arcgis.com).

The County also classifies some roads as disaster routes (last updated ~~September 9, 2015~~ September 24, 2012 by PW). Disaster routes are freeway, highway or arterial routes pre-identified for use during times of crisis. These routes are utilized to bring in emergency personnel, equipment, and supplies to impacted areas in order to save lives, protect property, and minimize impact to the environment. During a disaster, these routes have priority for clearing, repairing, and restoration over all other roads. Disaster routes are not evacuation routes. Although an emergency may warrant a road to be used as both a disaster and evacuation route, an evacuation route is used to move affected populations out of an impacted area.

Methodology for Identifying Communities with Residential Developments with Limited Egress

A list of unincorporated communities was compiled using a combination of Countywide Statistical Areas (CSA) and the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office's List of Unincorporated Communities. As some CSAs are quite large, such as the Santa Monica Mountains and the Antelope Valley, combining CSAs and community names as the unit for analysis enabled a refined identification of residential developments with access to fewer than two possible evacuation routes. The list of unincorporated communities from the Chief Executive Office is here: https://ceo.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Unincorp-Alpha-Web.pdf

A multi-step process was undertaken to determine communities with residential developments with access to fewer than two possible evacuation routes. Residential developments, based upon zones that allow for residential development, located on non-through streets were identified. The possible evacuation routes were overlaid to determine if these residential developments were able to access two possible evacuation routes. The CSA was used as the unit basis for determining whether or not a community contained a residential development with access to fewer than two possible evacuation routes. If a minimum of one residential development within the CSA had access to fewer than two possible evacuation routes, the CSA would be identified as having limited egress. The community names found on the County Chief Executive Office's List of Unincorporated Communities was then used to augment the CSA community names to refine the referenced community. Unincorporated communities that had only one possible evacuation route were flagged and included in Table 12.~~2~~3 in Chapter 12: Safety Element of the General Plan. These communities are visible on the Residential Developments with Limited Egress mapping application (http://bit.ly/SE-SB99).

Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones Policy Map

Figure 12.1

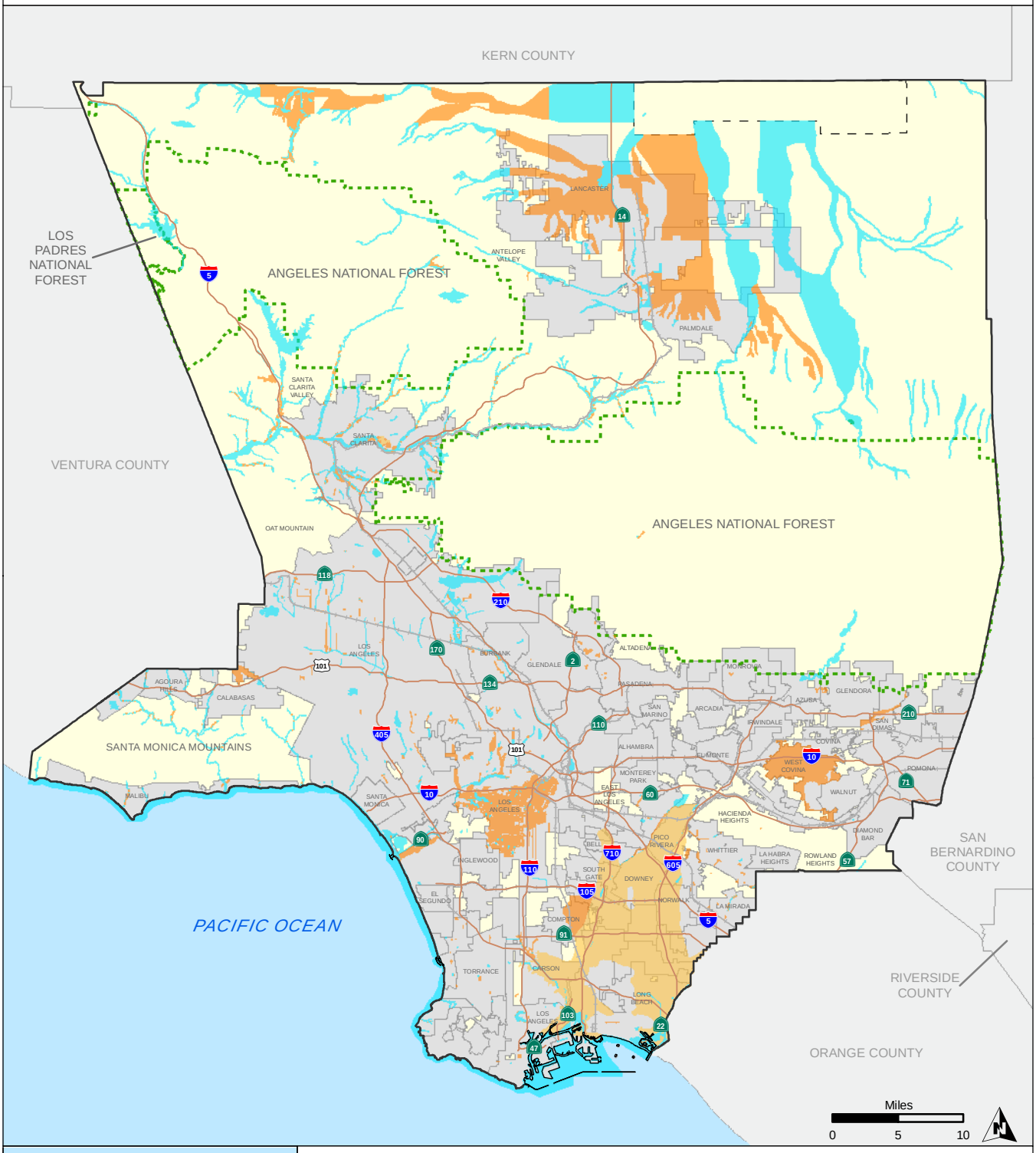
NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

- Active Fault Trace ***
- Seismically Induced Landslide Zone **
- Seismically Induced Liquefaction Zone *
- Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone **
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Oct. 2021. Additional Sources: * California Geological Survey, A-P maps: 1974-2018. ** California Geological Survey, Seismic Hazard Zone Maps, 1997-2018. *** Los Angeles County General Plan, Fault Rupture Hazards and Historic Seismicity Map, 1990. (USGS GIS data was used for refinement of mapped faults.) Landslide zone data for the majority of the National Forest areas is not available as of September 2021.

FEMA Flood Hazard Zones Policy Map

Figure 12.2a



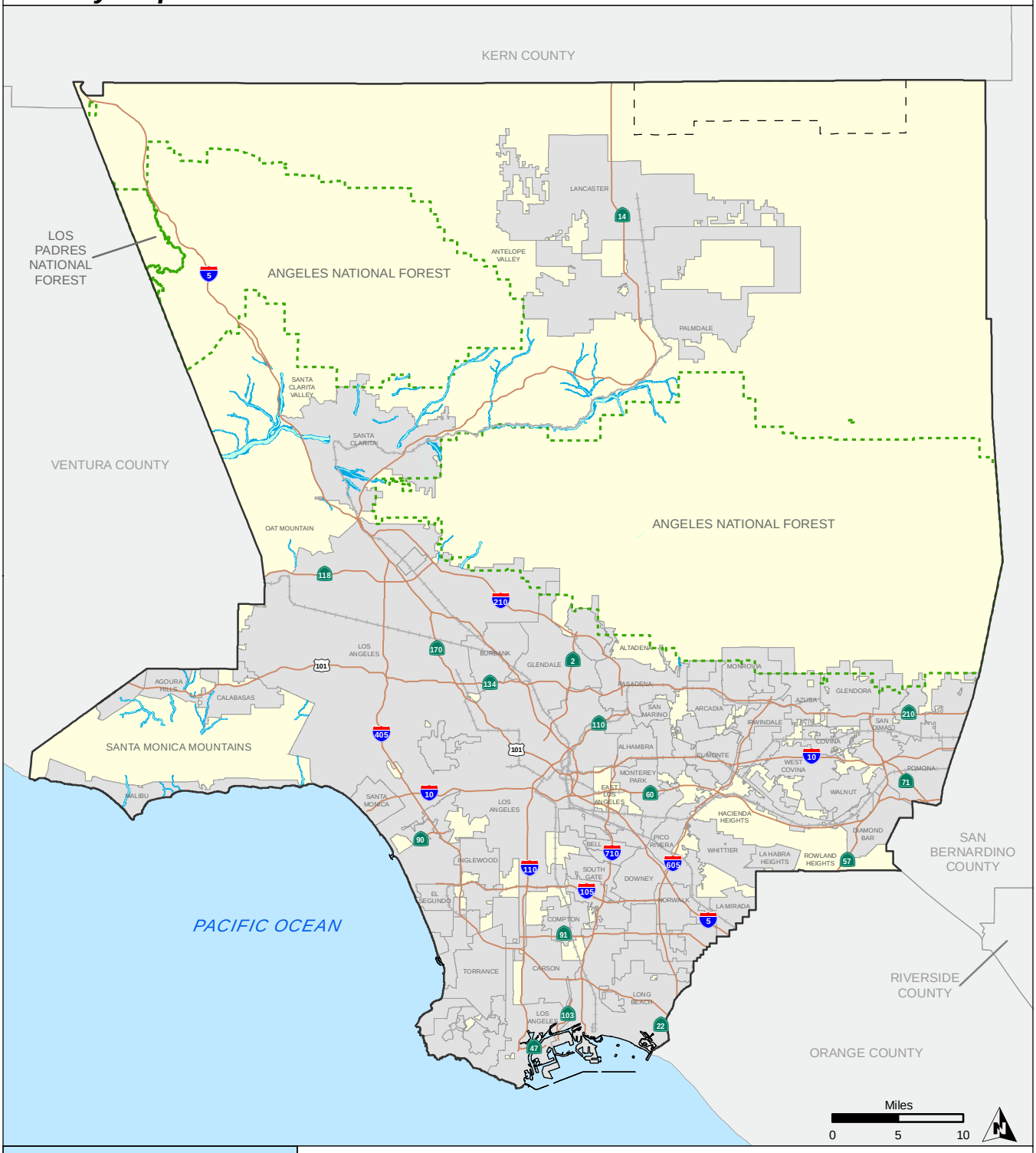
NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

- 1% Annual Chance of Flood (100-Year)
- 0.2% Annual Chance of Flood (500-Year)
- Area Protected from a 1% Annual Chance Flood by a Levee
- Military Land
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, October, 2021. Additional Sources: Flood Plain data taken from FEMA Flood Insurance Rate maps (FIRMs), and is current as of June, 2021.

County Floodways and Floodplains Policy Map

DRAFT ***Figure 12.2b***



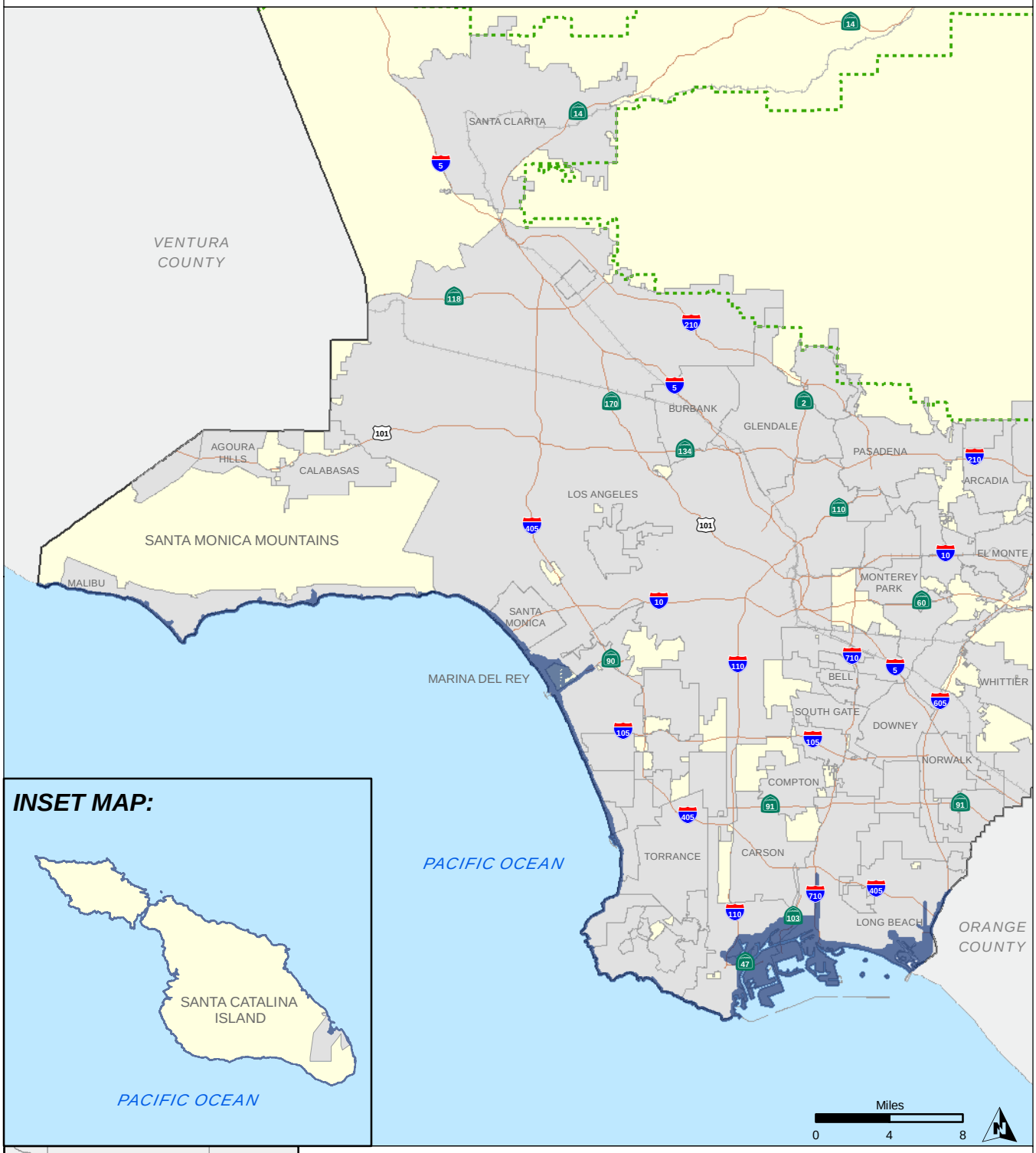
NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

- Floodway - Adopted
- Floodplain - Adopted
- Military Land
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, October, 2021. Additional Sources: Department of Public Works.

Tsunami Hazard Areas

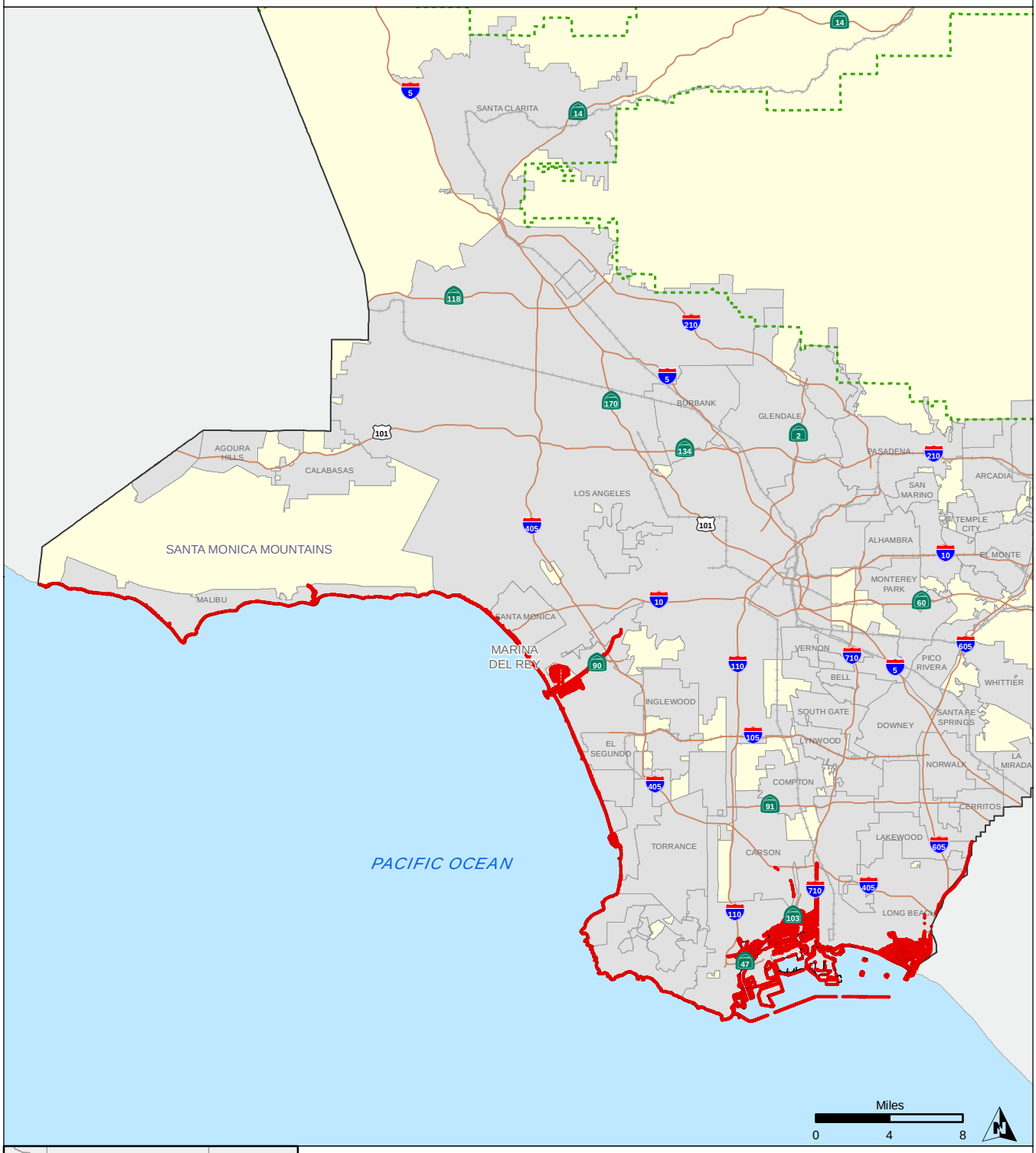
Figure 12.3

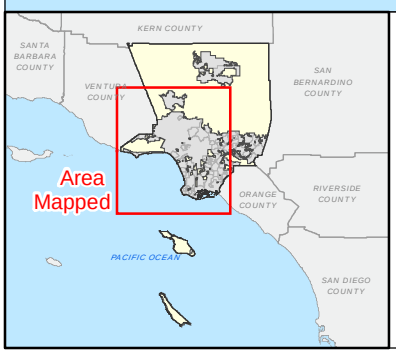


Source: Department of Regional Planning, February, 2022. Additional Sources: Tsunami Hazard Areas data is from California Geological Survey, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Tsunami Research Center at the University of Southern California, and AECOM Technical Services. 2021

Sea Level Rise Impact Areas Map

Figure 12.4



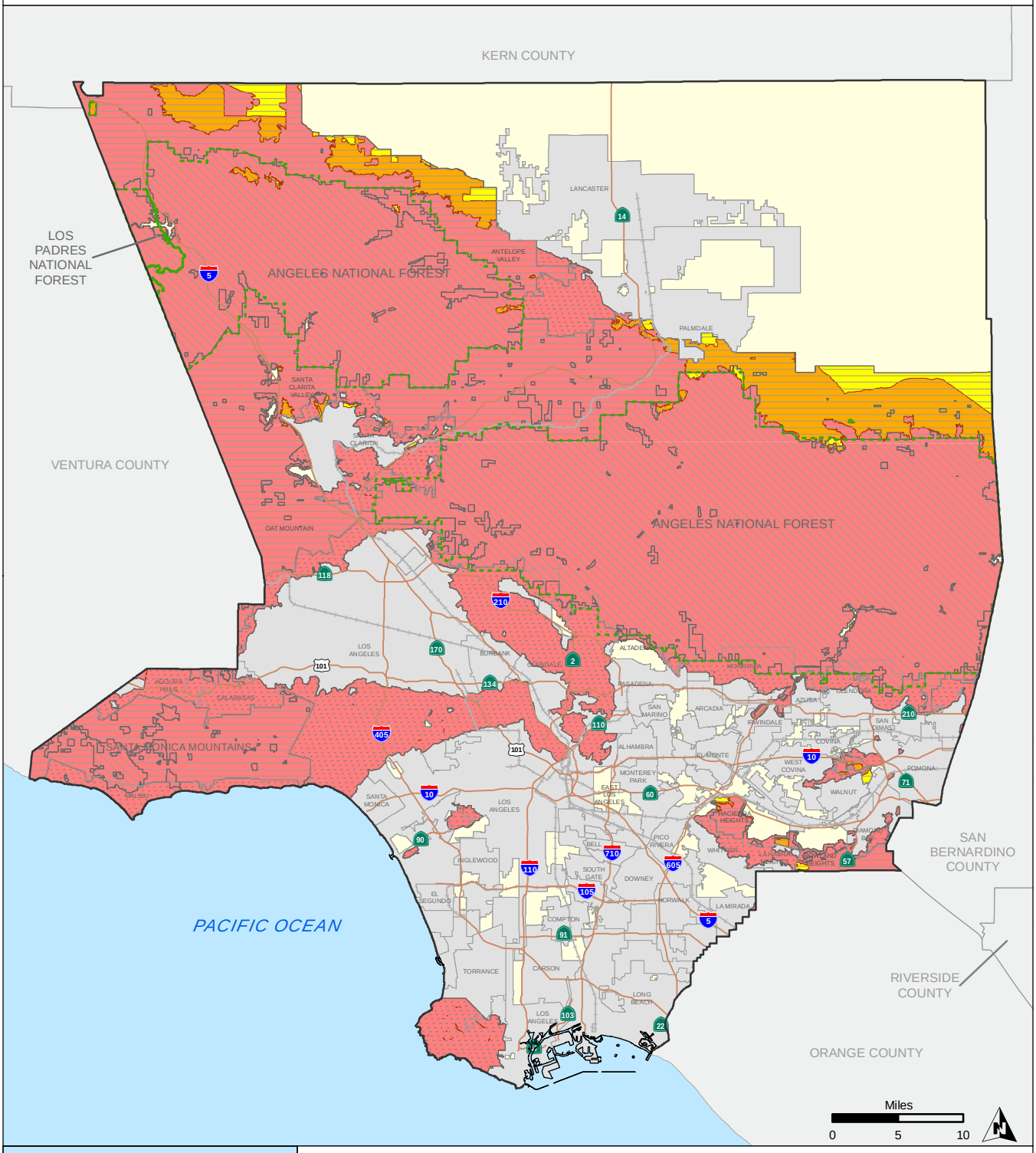


- Sea Level Rise Impact Area
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, September, 2021. Additional Sources: Sea Level Rise Impact Area data from USGS Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS). Represents areas inundated by unimpeded Pacific coastal flooding under a 0.75-meter sea level rise and a 100 year storm projection (modeling current as of May, 2018).

Fire Hazard Severity Zones Policy Map

Figure 12.5



Source: Department of Regional Planning, Oct, 2021. Additional Sources: Fire Hazard Zones (CalFire), adopted 2007; Responsibility Areas (CalFire), current as of August, 2021.

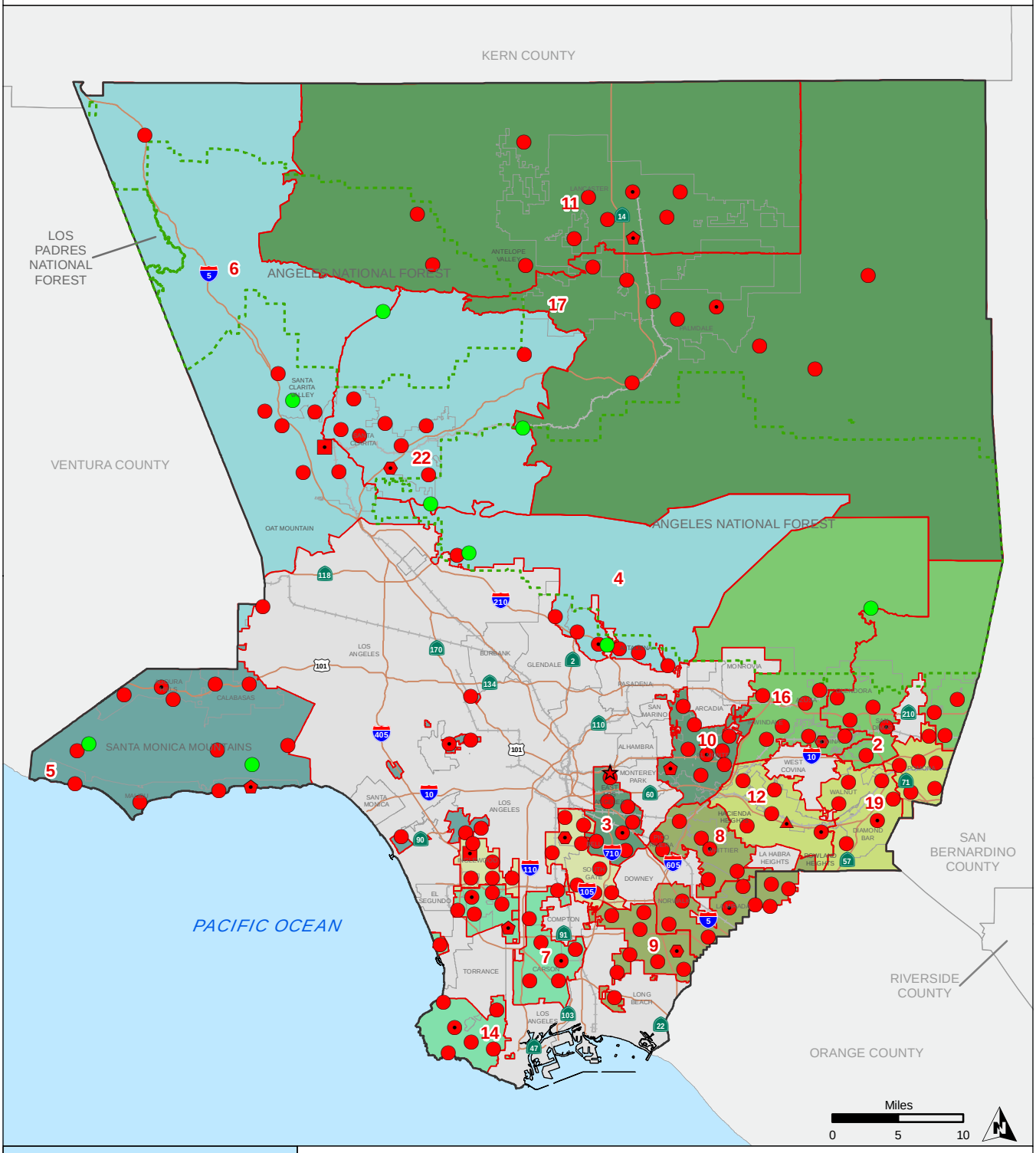
Disaster Routes Map

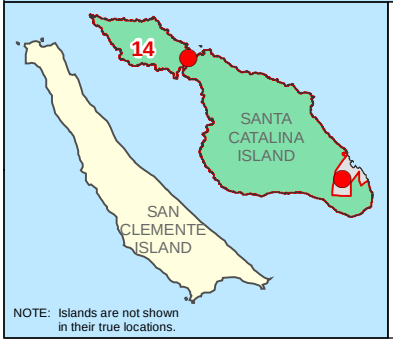
Figure 12.6

Source: Department of Regional Planning, May 2014. Additional Sources: Disaster routes data was taken from the County Public Works Dept.

Fire Department Battalions and Stations

Figure 12.7



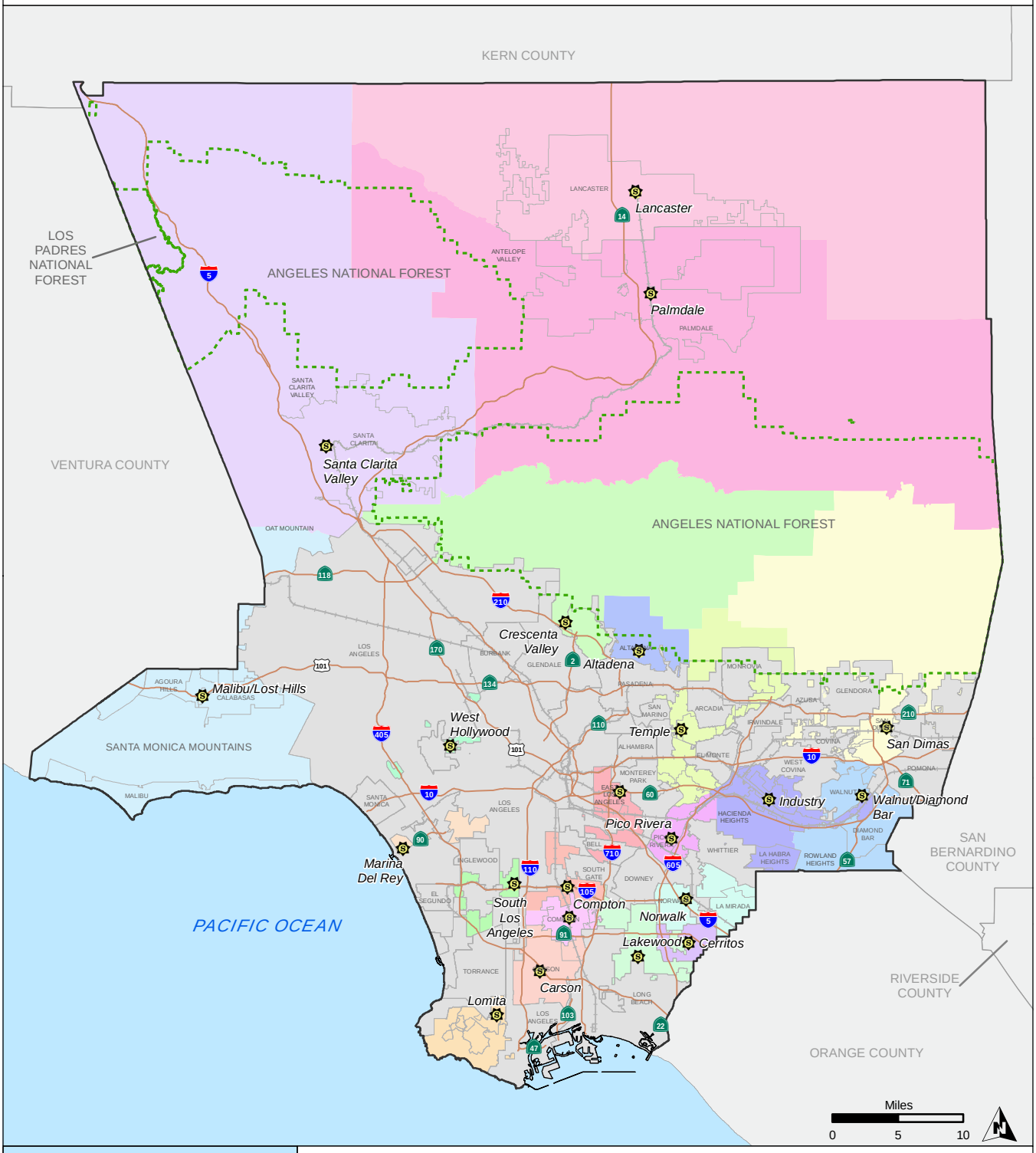


- Fire Camp
- Fire Station
- Battalion HQ
- Division HQ
- Battalion / Division HQ
- Battalion / Regional HQ
- Regional HQ
- Headquarters
- Battalion Boundary & Number
- Division I
- Division II
- Division III
- Division IV
- Division V
- Division VI
- Division VII
- Division VIII
- Division IX
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Sept 2021. Additional Soruces: Los Angeles County Fire Department, Oct 2020.

Sheriff's Department Service Areas

Figure 12.8

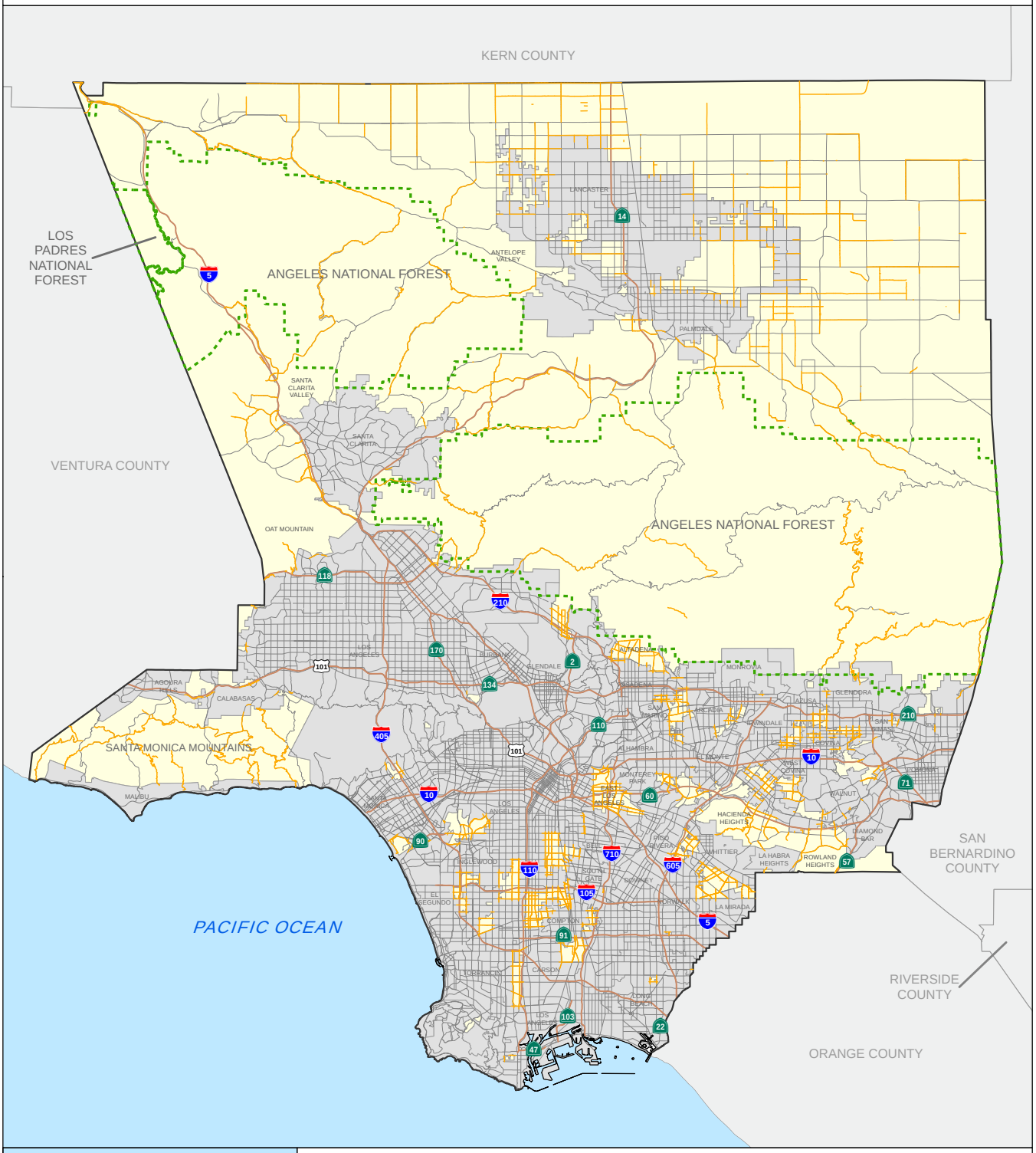


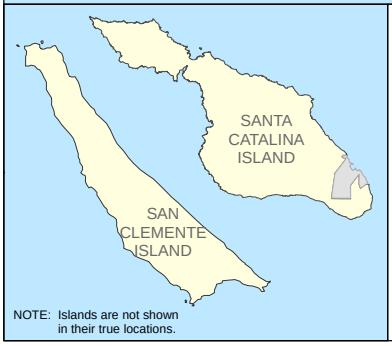
- Sheriff Stations
- Altadena
- Avalon
- Carson
- Century
- Cerritos
- Compton
- Crescenta Valley
- East Los Angeles
- Industry
- Lakewood
- Lancaster
- Lomita
- Malibu / Lost Hills
- Marina Del Rey
- Norwalk
- Palmdale
- Pico Rivera
- San Dimas
- Santa Clarita Valley
- South Los Angeles
- Temple
- Walnut / Diamond Bar
- West Hollywood
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Sept 2021. Additional Sources: Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (Nov 2020).

Evacuation Routes Map

DRAFT *Figure 12.9*





NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

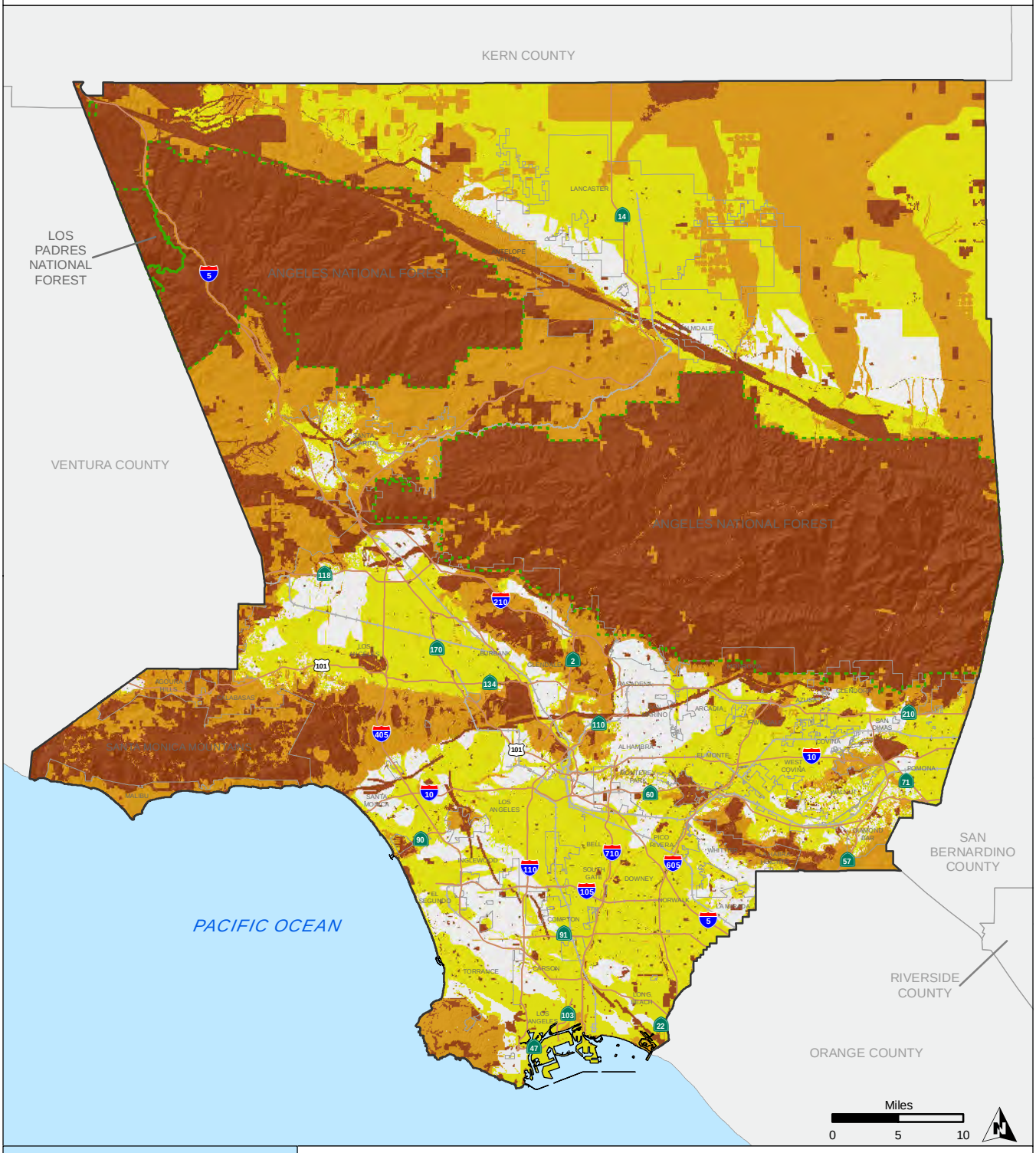
- *Evacuation Routes*
- *Freeways*
- *Highways*
- *Cities*
- *National Forest*
- *Other Counties*
- *Unincorporated Areas*

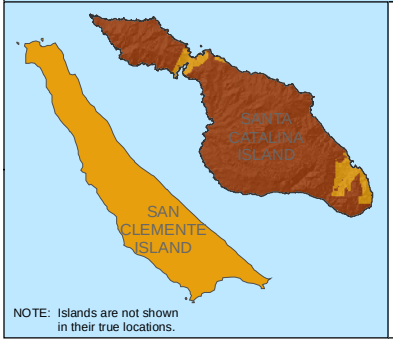
Miles
0 5 10

Source: Department of Regional Planning, August 2021.

Hazard, Environmental and Resource Constraints Map

Figure C.1

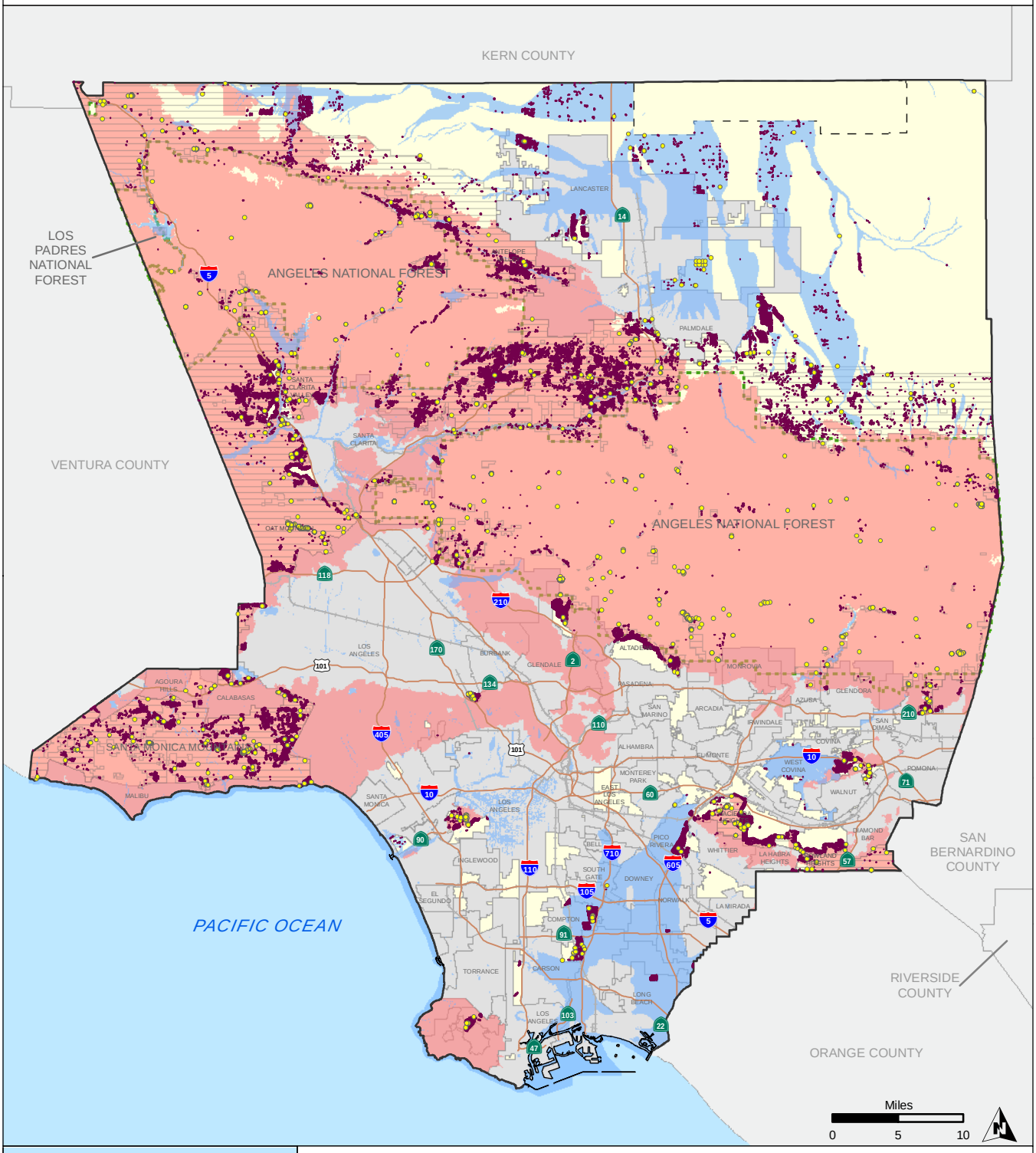


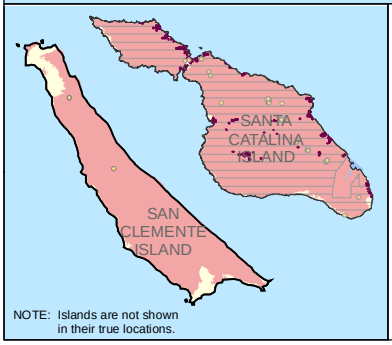


- No Special Management Area
- Special Management Area (Class 1)
- Special Management Area (Class 2)
- Special Management Area (Class 3)

Source: Department of Regional Planning, October 2021

Flood / Fire Hazards - Existing Development Figure H.1



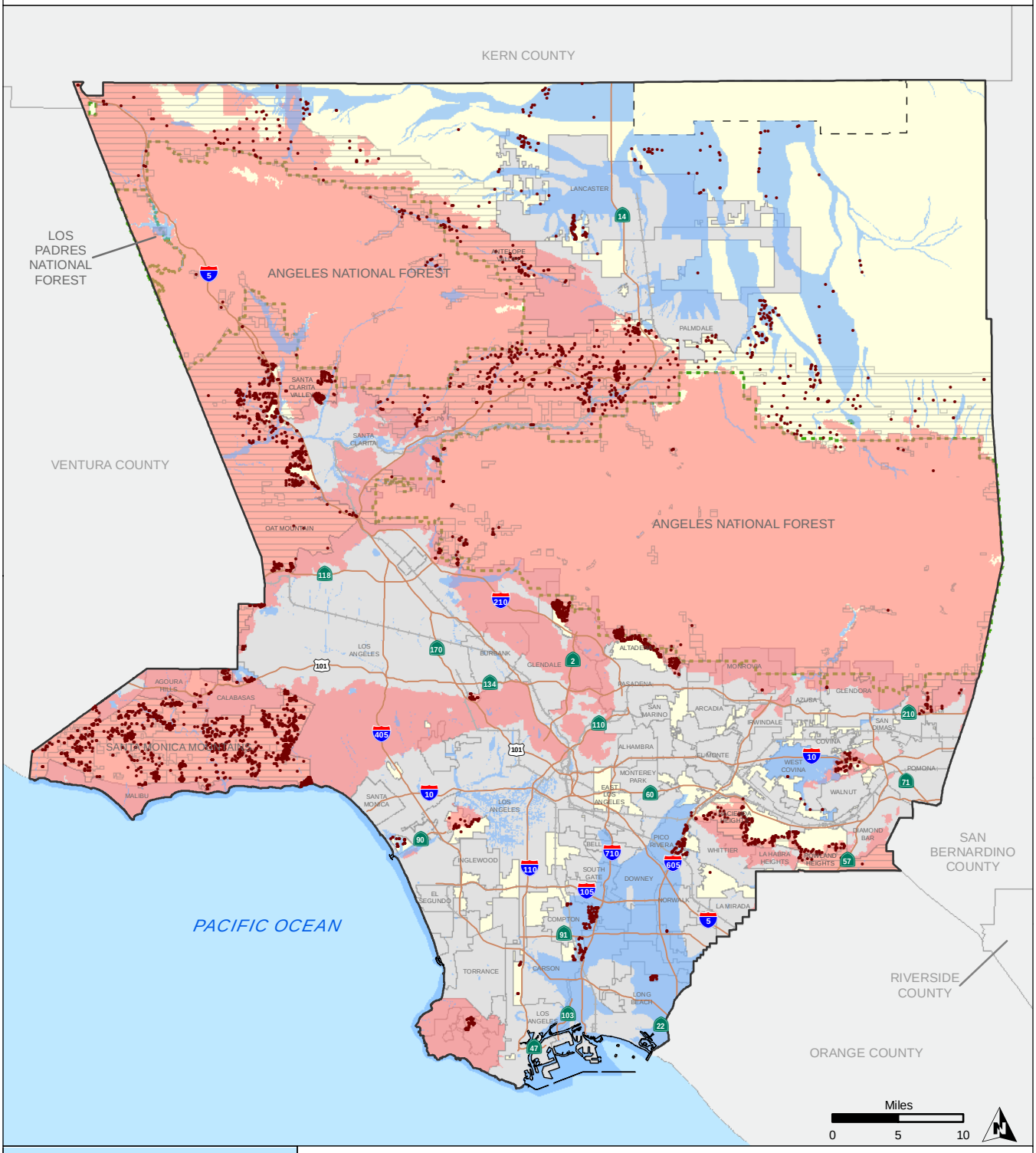


NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

- Existing Structures
- Existing Essential Public Facilities and Utilites
- Flood Zones
- State Responsibility Area
- Very High Fire Severity Zone
- Military Land
- National Forest
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Oct, 2021. Additional Sources: Flood Plains (FEMA), current as of June, 2021; State Responsibility Areas (CalFire), current as of August, 2021; Very High Fire Hazard (CalFire), adopted 2007.

Flood / Fire Hazards - Planned Development Figure H.2



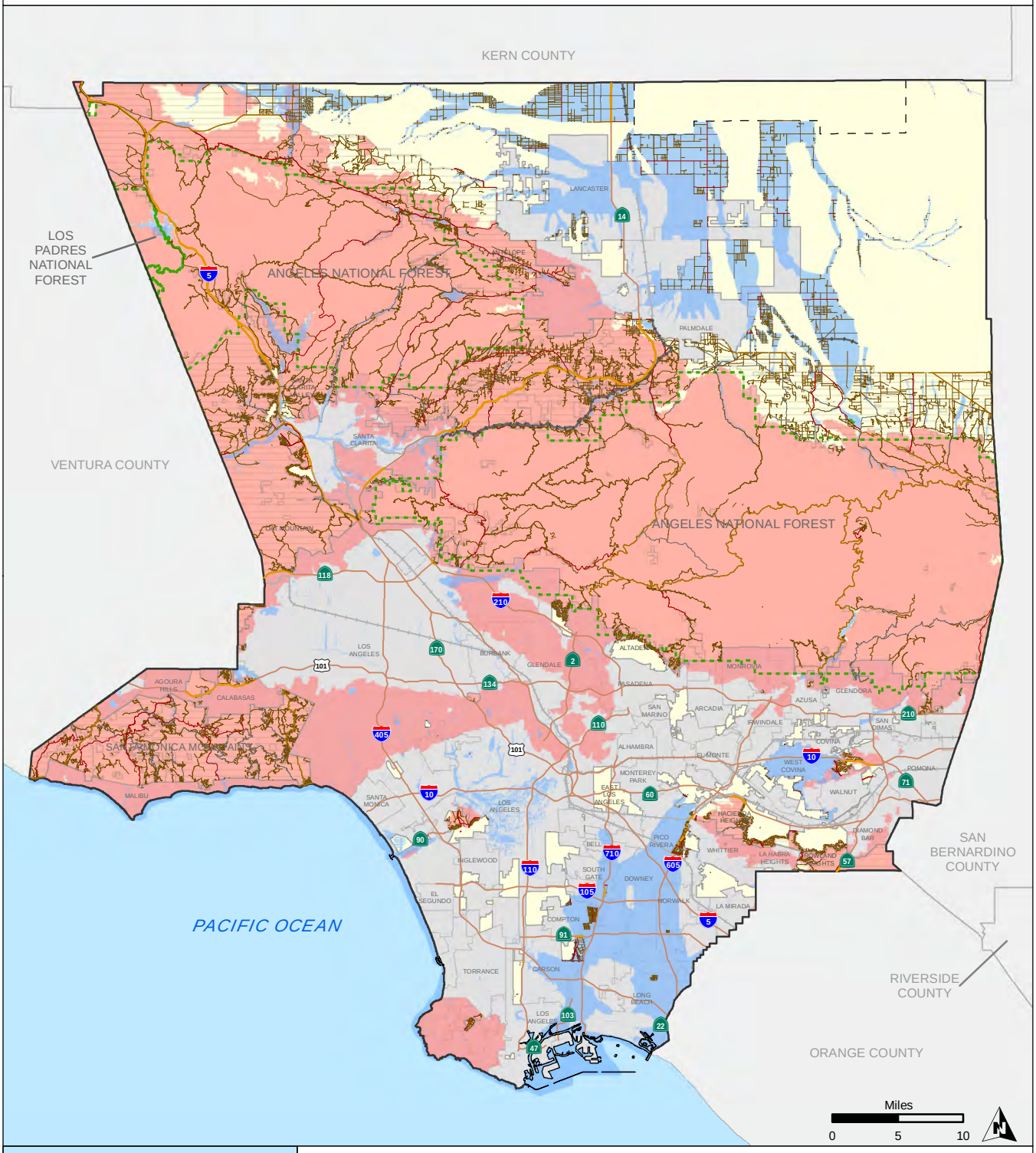
- Approved Planned Developments (see list of case types to the right)
- Flood Zones
- State Responsibility Area
- Very High Fire Severity Zone
- Military Land
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

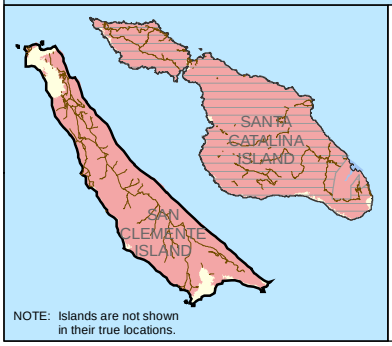
Coastal Development Permit
Conditional Use Permit
Housing Permit
Minor Conditional Use Permit
Miscellaneous Permit
Plot Plan
Tentative Map
Zoning Conformance Review

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Oct, 2021. Additional Sources: Flood Plains (FEMA), current as of June, 2021; State Responsibility Areas (CalFire), current as of August, 2021; Very High Fire Hazard (CalFire), adopted 2007.

Flood / Fire Hazards - Street Inventory

Figure H.3





NOTE: Islands are not shown in their true locations.

- Freeways / Interchanges (153.2 miles)
- Highways (344.7 miles)
- Primary Streets (408.6 miles)
- Secondary Streets (338.9 miles)
- Minor Streets (3,699.1 miles)
- Railroads (36.7 miles)
- Flood Zones
- State Responsibility Area
- Very High Fire Severity Zone
- National Forest
- Unincorporated Areas
- Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, Oct, 2021. Additional Sources: Flood Plains (FEMA), current as of June, 2021; State Responsibility Areas (CalFire), current as of August, 2021; Very High Fire Hazard (CalFire), adopted 2007. Countywide Address Management System Roads, Oct. 2021.

Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Amy J. Bodek, AICP
Director of Regional Planning

Dennis Slavin
Chief Deputy Director,
Regional Planning

PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

DETERMINATION DATE:	November 10, 2021
PROJECT NUMBER:	PRJ2021-002039
PERMIT NUMBER(S):	Plan Amendment No. RPPL2021011001, Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2021005522
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT:	1-5
PROJECT LOCATION:	Countywide
PROJECT PLANNER:	Iris Chi, Regional Planner ichi@planning.lacounty.gov

Los Angeles County ("County") completed an Initial Study to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the above-mentioned project. Based on the information contained in the Initial Study, which are supported by substantial evidence, the project would not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the County proposes that a Negative Declaration is the appropriate environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Attached: Initial Study – Negative Declaration

Environmental Checklist Form (Initial Study)

County of Los Angeles, Department of Regional Planning

Project title: Los Angeles County General Plan Safety Element Update / Project No. PRJ2021-002039/ Plan Amendment No. RPPL2021011001, Advance Planning No. RPPL2020007456, Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2021005522

Lead agency name and address: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, 320 West Temple Street 13th Flr, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Contact Person and phone number: Iris Chi / 213-974-6461

Project sponsor's name and address: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 W. Temple St. 13th Flr, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Project location: Countywide
APN: N/A *USGS Quad*: N/A

Gross Acreage: Countywide

General plan designation: Countywide

Community/Area wide Plan designation: Countywide

Zoning: Applicable to all zones that permit development

Description of project: The project is a comprehensive update to the Los Angeles County General Plan Safety Element to address projected impacts from climate change hazards by incorporating new adaptation and resiliency goals and policies. The proposed Safety Element Update aims to reduce the potential short and long-term risk of death, injuries, property damage, economic damage, and social dislocation from earthquakes, floods, and fire in the County's unincorporated areas. Sections of the Safety Element Update include: Seismic, Fire, Flood, Emergency Services, and Climate Change. Adaptation and resiliency strategies based on the data of the Climate Vulnerability Assessment is incorporated into the Safety Element Update per Senate Bill 379. The project also includes an implementation ordinance to amend Title 21 (Subdivision Ordinance) and Title 22 (Zoning Ordinance) of the Los Angeles County Code to implement goals and policies of the Safety Element Update regarding wildfire. This ordinance aims to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Assembly Bill 747 (Levine, 2019) requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. Evacuation routes are determined by emergency

responders who decide at the time of the emergency which routes should be used for evacuation after assessing the conditions and location of the emergency to avoid endangering the lives of others, personal injury, or death.

Senate Bill 99 (Nielsen, 2019) requires the Safety Element to identify residential developments that have fewer than two evacuation routes.

Goals and Policies for Seismic and Geotechnical Hazards

Goal S 1: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life and property damage due to seismic and geotechnical hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Geotechnical Hazards	Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.
	Policy S 1.2: Prohibit construction of structures for human occupancy adjacent to active faults unless a comprehensive fault study is completed that addresses seismic hazard risks and proposes appropriate actions to minimize the risk.
	Policy S 1.3: Require developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landsliding, in Hillside Management Areas through siting and development standards.
	Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

Goals and Policies for Climate Adaptation

Goal S 2: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to climate hazardsand climate-induced secondary impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Climate Adaptation	Policy S 2.1: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids that are driven by renewable energy sources to increase local energy resilience during grid power outages, reduce reliance on long-distance transmission lines, and reduce strain on the grid when demand for electricity is high.
	Policy S 2.2: Plan for future climate impacts on critical infrastructure and essential public facilities.
	Policy S 2.3: Require new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.
	Policy S 2.4: Promote the creation of resilience hubs in frontline communities that are at high vulnerability to climate hazards and ensure they have adequate resources to adapt to climate-induced emergencies.
	Policy S 2.5: Promote the development of community-based and workplace groups such as Community Emergency Response Teams to improve community resilience to climate emergencies.
	Policy S 2.6: Promote climate change and resilience awareness education about the effects of climate change-induced hazards and ways to adapt and build resiliency to climate change.
	Policy S 2.7: Increase the capacity of frontline communities to adapt to climate impacts by focusing planning efforts and interventions on communities facing the greatest vulnerabilities

	and ensuring representatives of these communities have a role in the decision-making process for directing climate change response.

Goals and Policies for Flood and Inundation Hazards

Goal S 3: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, lossof life, and property damage due to flood and inundation hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Flood Hazards	Policy S 3.1: Strongly discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones.
	Policy S 3.2: Strongly discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts.
	Policy S 3.3: Promote the use of natural, or nature-based, flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.
	Policy S 3.4: Ensure that developments located within the County's Flood Hazard Zones are sited and designed to avoid isolation from essential services and facilities in the event of flooding.
	Policy S 3.5: Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a flood event.
	Policy S 3.6: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.
	Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Goals and Policies for Fire Hazards

Goal S 4: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, lossof life, and property damage due to fire hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Fire Hazards	Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.
	Policy S 4.2: Ensure new subdivisions shall provide adequate evacuation and emergency vehicle access on both public and private roads which are evaluated for their traffic access or flow limitations, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end, one-way, or single lane conditions.
	Policy S 4.3: Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a wildfire event.
	Policy S 4.4: Reduce the risk of wildland fire hazards through meeting minimum state and local regulations for fire-resistant building materials, vegetation management, fuel modification, and other fire hazard reduction programs within FHSZs.
	Policy S 4.5: Encourage the use of climate-adapted plants that are compatible with the area's natural vegetative habitats.
	Policy S 4.6: Ensure that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum state and local regulations for, ingress, egress, peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within FHSZs.

	Policy S 4.7: Discourage building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides.
	Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations, such as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.
	Policy S 4.9: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles Fire Department Strategic Fire Plan, as amended.
	Policy S 4.10: Encourage the planting of native oaks in strategic locations and near existing oak woodlands, including those to be mapped in the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan, to protect developments from wildfires, as well as to lessen fire risk associated with developments.
	Policy S 4.11: Support efforts to address unique pest, disease, exotic species and other forest health issues in open space areas to reduce fire hazards and support ecological integrity.
	Policy S 4.12: Support efforts to incorporate systematic fire protection improvements for open space, including the facilitation of safe fire suppression tactics, standards for adequate access for firefighting, fire mitigation planning with landowners and other stakeholders, and water sources for fire suppression.
	Policy S 4.13: Encourage the siting of major landscape features, such as large water bodies, productive orchards, and community open space at the periphery of new subdivisions to provide strategic firefighting advantage and function as lasting firebreaks and buffers against wildfires, and the maintenance of such features by respective property owners.
	Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.
	Policy S 4.15: Encourage rebuilds and additions to comply with fire mitigation guidelines.
	Policy S 4.16: Require local development standards to meet or exceed SRA Fire Safe Regulations, which include visible home and street addressing and signage and vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads; all requirements in the California Building Code and Fire Code; and Board of Forestry Fire Safe Regulations.
	Policy S 4.17: Coordinate with agencies, including the Fire Department and ACWM, to ensure that effective fire buffers are maintained through brush clearance and fuel modification around developments.
	Policy S 4.18: Require Fire Protection Plans for new residential subdivisions in FHSZs that minimize and mitigate potential loss from wildfire exposure, and reduce impact on the community's fire protection delivery system.
	Policy S 4.19: Ensure all water distributors providing water in unincorporated Los Angeles County identify, maintain, and ensure the long-term integrity of future water supply for fire suppression needs, and ensure that water supply infrastructure adequately supports existing and future development and redevelopment, and provides adequate water flow to combat structural and wildland fires, including during peak domestic demand periods.
	Policy S 4.20: Prohibit new large general assembly uses in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage large general assembly uses in all other FHSZs.

Goals and Policies for Extreme Heat and Drought Hazards

Goal S 5: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to extreme heat and drought impacts.	
Topic	**Policy**
Extreme Heat	Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.
	Policy S 5.2: Encourage the addition of shade structures in the public realm through appropriate means, and in frontline communities.
	Policy S 5.3: Encourage the use of cooling methods to reduce the heat retention of pavement and surfaces.
	Policy S 5.4: Ensure all park facilities, including recreational sports complexes, include a tree canopy, shade structures and materials with low solar gain to improve usability on high heat days and reduce heat retention.
	Policy S 5.5: Encourage alternatives to air conditioning such as ceiling fans, air exchangers, increased insulation and low solar gain exterior materials to reduce peak electrical demands during extreme heat events to ensure reliability of the electrical grid.
	Policy S 5.6: Coordinate with demand-response/paratransit transit services prior to expected extreme heat days to ensure adequate capacity for customer demand for transporting to cooling centers.
	Policy S 5.7: Coordinate with local transit agencies to retrofit existing bus stops, where feasible, with shade structures to safeguard the health and comfort of transit users.
	Policy S 5.8: Enhance and sustainably manage urban forests that provide shade and cooling functions.
	Policy S 5.9: Promote greater awareness of the impacts of extreme heat exposure on the most vulnerable populations, such as seniors, people living in poverty, those with chronic conditions, and outdoor workers.
Drought	Policy S 5.10: Protect and improve local groundwater quality and supply to increase opportunities for use as a potable water source during drought periods.
	Policy S 5.11: Encourage the conservation of water by employing soil moisture sensors, automated irrigation systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and weather-based irrigation controllers.
	Policy S 5.12: Encourage water efficiency in buildings through upgrading appliances and building infrastructure retrofits.
	Policy S 5.13: Encourage the use of drought tolerant landscaping in new developments to reduce reliance on potable and recycled water resources.
	Policy S 5.14: Encourage the installation of grey water reuse systems in new developments.

Goals and Policies for Human-made Hazards

Goal S 6: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to human-made hazards.	
Topic	**Policy**
Human-made	Policy S 6.1: Assess public health and safety risks associated with existing oil and gas facilities in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Hazards	Policy S 6.2: Prohibit all new oil and gas extraction wells in all zones, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits.
	Policy S 6.3: Designate all existing oil and gas extraction activities, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits, as legal nonconforming uses in all zones.
	Policy S 6.4: Coordinate with State and regional agencies to ensure funding and implementation of annual inspections, ongoing air monitoring, and health impact assessment data continue to be collected and used to prioritize and facilitate the timely phase out of existing wells.
	Policy S 6.5: Support State and federal policies and proposals that increase funding sources to help plug, abandon, remediate and revitalize idle and orphaned well sites, and advocate for increased funding that will provide critical relief to the County and its residents.

Goals and Policies for Emergency Response

Goal S 7: Effective County emergency response management capabilities.	
Topic	**Policy**
Emergency Response	Policy S 7.1: Ensure that residents are protected from the public health consequences of natural or human-made disasters through increased readiness and response capabilities, risk communication, and the dissemination of public information.
	Policy S 7.2: Support County emergency providers in reaching their response time goals.
	Policy S 7.3: Coordinate with other County and public agencies, such as transportation agencies and health care providers, on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning.
	Policy S 7.4: Encourage the improvement of hazard prediction and early warning capabilities.
	Policy S 7.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.
	Policy S 7.6: Ensure that essential public facilities are maintained during disasters, such as flooding, wildfires, extreme temperature and precipitation events, drought, and power outages.
	Policy S 7.7: Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals, where feasible, outside of hazard zones identified in the Safety Element to ensure their reliability and accessibility during disasters.
	Policy S 7.8: Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, as amended.

This project proposes amending the Land Use Element to add the following policy.	
	Policy LU 1.10: Prohibit plan amendments that increase density of residential land uses within mapped fire and flood hazard areas.

Implementation Ordinance to Reduce Damage from Wildfire

This ordinance proposes changes to Title 21 that could reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), and this ordinance also identifies amendments to Title 22 that could further reduce these risks.	
Summary of Amendments	1. Revise the number of lots that can be located on a single point of access.
	2. Amend the access requirements in Title 21 to ensure safer access to properties in VHFHSZs.
	3. Modify the lot requirements in Title 21 to reduce wildfire risk for new lots created in VHFHSZs.
	4. Amend Title 21 to better integrate fire risk into existing standards and procedures.
	5. Revise provisions of Title 22 to support the proposed changes to Title 21, and to further reduce the risks of personal injury and property damage in VHFHSZs in a number of ways.

Surrounding land uses and setting: Countywide

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

Please review the attached Tribal Cultural Resources Checklist for more details on the consultations that took place in compliance with Assembly Bill 52 requirements. A determination of less than significant impact to tribal cultural resources has been made. This determination and Section 18: Tribal Cultural Resources of this Initial Study is based on not receiving any requests for formal consultation from the California Native American Tribes that were notified on August 3, 2021.

Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

Public Agency	*Approval Required*
N/A	N/A

Major projects in the area:

Project/Case No.	*Description and Status*
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Reviewing Agencies:

Responsible Agencies

- ☐ None
- Regional Water Quality Control Board:
  - ☒ Los Angeles Region
  - ☐ Lahontan Region
- ☒ Coastal Commission
- ☒ Army Corps of Engineers
- ☐ LAFCO
- ☒ Cal FIRE
- ☒ Department of Conservation
- ☒ Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Special Reviewing Agencies

- ☐ None
- ☒ Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- ☒ National Parks
- ☒ National Forest
- ☒ Edwards Air Force Base
- ☒ Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains Area
- ☒ CalTrans
- ☒ Metro
- ☒ Antelope Valley Transit Authority
- ☒ Santa Clara Transit
- ☒ Foothill Transit

Regional Significance

- ☒ None
- ☐ SCAG Criteria
- ☐ Air Quality
- ☐ Water Resources
- ☐ Santa Monica Mtns. Area
- ☐

Trustee Agencies

- ☐ None
- ☒ State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- ☒ State Dept. of Parks and Recreation
- ☒ State Lands Commission
- ☒ University of California (Natural Land and Water Reserves System)

County Reviewing Agencies

- ☒ Department of Public Works
- ☒ Fire Department
  - Forestry Division, Environmental Review Unit
  - Fuel Modification Unit
  - Planning Division
  - Land Development Unit
  - Health Hazmat
- ☒ Sanitation District
- ☒ Public Health/Environmental Health Division: Land Use Program (OWTS), Drinking Water Program (Private Wells), Toxics Epidemiology Program (Noise)
- ☒ Sheriff Department
- ☒ Parks and Recreation
- ☒ Subdivision Committee
- ☐

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Public Services
☐ Agriculture/Forestry	☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials	☐ Recreation
☐ Air Quality	☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Transportation
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Utilities/Services
☐ Energy	☐ Noise	☐ Wildfire
☐ Geology/Soils	☐ Population/Housing	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Department.)
On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☒ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Iris Chi — 11/10/2021

Signature (Prepared by) — Date

— 11/10/2021

Signature (Approved by) — Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources the Lead Department cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the Lead Department has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level. (Mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced.)

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA processes, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. (State CEQA Guidelines § 15063(c)(3)(D).) In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

   a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

   b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of, and adequately analyzed in, an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

   c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

7) The explanation of each issue should identify: the significance threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question, and; mitigation measures identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance. Sources of thresholds include the County General Plan, General Plan EIR, other County planning documents, and County ordinances. Some thresholds are unique to geographical locations.

1. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. No direct impact to views from scenic highways or corridors will result from the proposed Safety Element Update. The Safety Element covers all of Los Angeles County, including areas that contain scenic vistas and significant ridgelines. The existing policies carried over from the previous Safety Element and newly proposed policies will not result in direct impacts to these areas. Future development will continue to be required to mitigate visual impacts through the implementation of the County Code and General Plan policies.

- Policy S 4.7: Discourage building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides.

Policy S 4.7 is a new policy that is included in the Safety Element Update. This policy discourages development on slopes and ridgelines due to the topography that can affect how wildfires burn. There will be a less than significant impact on scenic vistas since this policy aims to reduce the number of new developments on slopes and ridgelines. Also, all development within a Hillside Management Area (HMA) will be required to mitigate impacts caused by the development, including impacts to the scenic values of HMAs.

b) Be visible from or obstruct views from a regional riding, hiking, or multi-use trail?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact to the views of regional riding hiking, or multi-use trails. The Safety Element Update applies to all unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County, which will also include designated and proposed trails identified. The Safety Element policies guide development in hazard areas, which can be located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, Significant Ecological Areas, Hillside Management Areas, or sensitive habitat areas in the Coastal Zone. Trails in Los Angeles County are largely located within or next to these areas, which have development standards and permitting requirements that are intended to protect people, property, and biological resources. The Safety Element policies will not directly impact existing or proposed trails since there are not any policies that require the vacating of trails. Potential aesthetic impacts may occur from maintaining required fuel modification zones, brush clearance, and/or firebreaks as thinning of vegetation may impact the view from a trail. Individual developments will be required to conduct a separate environmental analysis during the permitting phase.

c) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Portions of Mulholland Highway, Las Virgenes Road, Malibu Canyon Road, Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Angeles Crest Highway are adopted scenic highways. Furthermore, the Santa

Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program identifies scenic elements, which are "designated areas that contain exceptionally-scenic features unique not only to the Santa Monica Mountains, but to the Los Angeles County region. These areas are characterized by rare or unique geologic formations, such as large rock outcroppings and sheer canyon walls, as well as coastline viewsheds, undisturbed hillsides and/or riparian or woodland habitat with intact locally-indigenous vegetation and plant communities."

Scenic highways and resources are often located within or next to Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, Significant Ecological Areas, Hillside Management Areas, and sensitive habitat areas in the Coastal Zone. These areas have development standards and permitting requirements that are intended to protect people, property, and biological resources. Any developments within these areas are required to conduct an environmental analysis at a project-level. Since the Safety Element covers the hazard areas within the entire county, there may be indirect aesthetic impacts to trees and rock outcroppings resulting from maintaining the required fuel modification zones, brush clearance, and/or firebreaks to reduce wildfire risks. Historic buildings within a state scenic highway may have its own fuel modification requirements per the Los Angeles County Fire Department. However, the Safety Element does not propose any policies that will have a direct impact to scenic resources within a state scenic highway.

d) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings because of height, bulk, pattern, scale, character, or other features or conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point)	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant. The policies from Safety Element Update will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views because of height, bulk, pattern, scale, character, or other features.

- Policy S 4.7: Discourage building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides.

Policy S 4.7 is a new policy that is included in the Safety Element Update. This policy discourages development on slopes and ridgelines due to the topography that can affect how wildfires burn. There will be a less than significant impact on scenic vistas since this policy aims to reduce the number of new developments on slopes and ridgelines. Also, all development within a Hillside Management Area (HMA) will be required to mitigate impacts caused by the development, including impacts to the scenic values of HMAs.

Any development proposed on Hillside Management Areas will be required to be in compliance with the Hillside Management Areas Ordinance, which requires developments to mitigate impacts in designated hillside management areas to a less than significant level

There are also existing regulations in the County's Zoning Ordinance relating to the regulation of building form, massing, subdivisions, signs, architectural features, discretionary permits, design, and oak tree preservation that take visual character into consideration when a development is proposed. The Safety Element Update provides the policies that guide how development will occur throughout the County. Area Plans and Specific Plans contain design guidelines and development standards tailored to reflect local character. The Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Program also contains development standards as well as other provisions to protect and enhance the visual qualities of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Proposed development will be required to comply with all applicable zoning and development standard requirements that aim to protect the local visual character.

e) Create a new source of substantial shadows, light, or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant. The Safety Element Update project area continues to include the Rural Outdoor Lighting District (ROLD), which includes lighting standards intended to preserve dark skies in applicable rural areas. Standards in this area include shielding outdoor lighting to prevent trespass onto adjacent properties, prohibiting use of certain types of outdoor lighting (such as drop-down lenses, mercury vapor lights, ultraviolet lights, and flashing or blinking lights, such as searchlights or laser lights), and additional standards for specific lighting situations such as streetlights or signage. There are also additional standards for commercial, industrial, and mixed uses that limit the hours of outdoor lighting and require the use of automatic or sensor lights in certain situations. All development in the ROLD area will continue to be subject to the ROLD and policies for this project will not increase the overall building height standards set forth by the zoning designation or specific use proposed. Therefore, any new shadows, light, or glare from new construction designed to be consistent with the policies of the Safety Element Update will create an impact that is less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The analysis concludes that the Safety Element Update will not result in significant impact to aesthetics and visual resources. The extent of less than significant impact to aesthetics and visual resources are the result of existing and policies that encourage development to be sited in a way that reduces the risk of potential hazards. Potential indirect but less than significant impacts can result from the required maintenance of defensible space for development.

Official State Scenic Highways are designated by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). According to Caltrans, "Its purpose is to protect and enhance the natural scenic beauty of California highways and adjacent corridors, through special conservation treatment."[1] While there are numerous designated Scenic Highways across the state, the following have been designated in Los Angeles County: Angeles Crest Highway (Route 2) from just north of Interstate 210 to the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County Line, two segments of Mulholland Highway from Pacific Coast Highway to Kanan Dume Road and from west of Cornell road to east of Las Virgenes Road, and Malibu Canyon-Las Virgenes Highway from Pacific Coast Highway to Lost Hills Road. There are officially designated scenic highways within the project area since the Safety Element Update will be applied countywide.

Riding and hiking trails have been designated throughout unincorporated Los Angeles County. At present, there are officially adopted trails in the Antelope Valley, the Santa Clarita Valley, and the Santa Monica Mountains designated by the General Plan or applicable Area/Community Plan and Local Coastal Program.

In addition to scenic highways, unincorporated Los Angeles County identifies ridgelines of significant aesthetic value that are to be preserved in their current state. This preservation is accomplished by limiting the type and amount of development near them. These "Significant Ridgelines" ("Major Ridgelines" on Santa Catalina Island) are designated by the General Plan or applicable Area/Community Plan, Local Coastal

Program, or Community Standards District and include San Gabriel Mountains, Verdugo Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, Simi Hills, Santa Monica Mountains and Puente Hills.

The HMA Ordinance (Los Angeles County Code Title 22, Chapter 22.104) is designed to protect designated hillsides from incompatible development. The ordinance applies to properties that have hillsides with a 25 percent grade or greater. Unless otherwise exempted by the HMA Ordinance, an HMA Conditional Use Permit is required. The HMA Ordinance is intended to protect hillside resources, minimize grading, etc., and focuses on design through the HMA Design Guidelines to minimize such impacts. A potentially significant impact would occur if the proposed project does not protect or avoid hillside resources to the extent feasible, minimize grading, or otherwise does not meet the required burden of proof and General Plan policies related to hillside development.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's aesthetic resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on aesthetics. Furthermore, future development impacted by this ordinance, that is proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

2. AGRICULTURE / FOREST

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Land within areas of the County that are mapped by Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) fall into the following agricultural land use designations: Agricultural Land, Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Local Importance, and Grazing Land. Mapped Important Farmland only exists in 3 of the County's 11 Planning Areas—Antelope Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, and Santa Monica Mountains Planning Areas.

The project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance as the policies do not propose direct development on a parcel-level. The Safety Element policies provide guidance on how the County may reduce the risk of harm and damage from natural and climate-induced disasters. None of the policies will limit or eliminate the productive use of farmland, such as conversion of acres to actual non-farm uses. Therefore, impacts to farmland resulting from this project will be less than significant.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, with a designated Agricultural Resource Area, or with a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Agricultural Resource Areas (ARAs) are unincorporated areas in the Santa Clarita and Antelope valleys, where farming in unincorporated Los Angeles County is generally concentrated. ARAs include Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Local Importance, and other areas identified in the General Plan. ARAs are almost exclusively zoned for agricultural and single-family residential uses. The only Williamson Act contracts in effect in the County are for land on Catalina Island and held by the Catalina Island Conservancy as set asides for open space and recreational purposes. No impacts to Williamson Act contracts are anticipated with the adoption of the Safety Element Update.

The project area for the Safety Element Update includes ARAs since the Safety Element applies countywide but the project does not propose policies that would result in converting ARAs to non-agricultural uses. None of the policies will alter the permitted uses of land designated by the zone. None of the policies will limit or eliminate the productive use of farmland, such as conversion of acres to actual non-farm uses. Therefore, no conflicts with existing zoning for agricultural uses or with areas designated as ARAs or a Williamson Act contract are anticipated and impacts will be less than significant.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code § 12220 (g)), timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined in Government Code § 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The unincorporated County does not have any land that is zoned only for forest or timberland uses. However, the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests are within the boundaries of Los Angeles County. In-holding parcels with structures within the Angeles National Forest boundaries will still need to provide the required fuel modification zones and brush clearance as required by the Fire Department with consultation with the U.S. Forest Service. The policies of the Safety Element Update will not create any conflict with existing zoning, or cause rezoning, of forest land or timberland and any impacts from the policies will be less than significant.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Los Padres and Angeles National Forests lie within the boundaries of Los Angeles County. The policies will not result in any loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to no-forest use. The policies aim to reduce wildfire risk and damage that otherwise could perpetuate increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires through forest lands due to climate change. Therefore, impacts from the Safety Element policies will be less than significant.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project area does include the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests and contains mapped Farmland, but the policies of the Safety Element Update provide guidance for future development rather than specific changes to zoning or land use designations. Therefore, none of the policies will foreseeably change the environment in such a way as to convert Farmland to a non-agricultural use or forest land to a non-forest use and therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The analysis concludes that the Safety Element Update will not result in significant impacts to agricultural or forest land.

The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) produces maps and statistical data that are used for analyzing impacts on California's agricultural resources. Agricultural land is rated according to soil quality and irrigation status; the best quality land is called *Prime Farmland*. The maps are updated every two years with the use of a computer mapping system, aerial imagery, public review, and field reconnaissance. FMMP produces *Important Farmland Maps*, which are a hybrid of resource quality (soils) and land use information.

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965--commonly referred to as the Williamson Act--enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments which

are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value. Local governments receive an annual subvention of forgone property tax revenues from the state via the Open Space Subvention Act of 1971. The only Williamson Act contract lands in the County are located on Catalina Island and held by the Catalina Island Conservancy as set asides for open space and recreational purposes. Therefore, there are no agricultural Williamson Act contracts in the remainder of the unincorporated County.

Agricultural Resource Areas (ARAs) are a County identification tool that indicates land where commercial agriculture is taking place and/or is believed to have a future potential based on the presence of prime agricultural soils, compatible adjacent land uses, and existing County land use policy. In addition to ARAs, the County has two agricultural zones: A-1 (Light Agriculture) and A-2 (Heavy Agriculture) where agricultural uses are permitted to be established through ministerial or discretionary review, depending on the type and intensity of use. Not all A-1 and A-2 zoned lands contain agricultural uses.

California Public Resources Code section 12220(g) defines forest land as "land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits." California Public Resources Code section 4526 defines timberland as land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the State Board of forestry and Fire Protection as experimental forest land that is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees. Commercial species shall be determined by the State Board of Forestry and fire Protection for each district after consultation with the respective forest district communities. California Public Resources Code section 51104(g) defines "Timberland production zones" or "TPZ" as an area which has been zoned and is devoted to and used for growing and harvesting timber, or for growing and harvesting timber and compatible uses.

The County contains important and prime farmland, and the Angeles National Forest and a portion of the Los Padres National forest are also located in the County. The County does not have any zone that is strictly used for forest uses or timberland production. However, the Angeles National Forest, and a portion of the Los Padres National forest are located in the County, and the Watershed Zone allows for any use owned and maintained by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and any authorized leased use designated to be part of the Forest Service overall recreational plan of development, including logging. In addition, Los Angeles County has been mapped by the CalFire's FRAP to identify the different categories of land cover capable of being sustained therein, including forests, woodlands, wetlands, and shrubs, for example.

The project area for the Safety Element Update encompasses the entire unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and includes Prime Farmland, a limited number of Williamson Act parcels, and ARAs, but due to the nature of the policies of the Safety Element, there will not be any significant impacts that would lead to the conversion of agricultural or forest lands. The policies aim to reduce the risk of hazards experienced in Los Angeles County; agricultural and forest lands are less intense land uses and the preservation of these lands will only help the County to adapt to a changing climate.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's agriculture and forest resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on agriculture and forest resources. Furthermore, fuel modification and brush clearance requirements are already in place in Los Angeles County. This ordinance does not significantly expand these requirements. Future development impacted by this ordinance, that is proposed after the approval of the

ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

3. AIR QUALITY

Would the project:	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of applicable air quality plans of either the South Coast AQMD (SCAQMD) or the Antelope Valley AQMD (AVAQMD)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The policies of the Safety Element Update are not likely to conflict with or obstruct implementation of applicable air quality plans for SCAQMD or AVAQMD. The policies are meant to reduce the risk and harm caused by natural and climate induced hazards. The SCAQMD and the AVAQMD are responsible for monitoring air quality as well as planning, implementing, and enforcing programs designed to attain and maintain state and federal ambient air quality standards in the region.

Natural and climate induced hazards, such as wildfires and extreme heat events, have caused poor air quality for the Los Angeles basin. These events are categorized as "exceptional events" that cause higher air pollutant concentration that is beyond the AQMD control to prevent or mitigate[2]. The Federal Clean Air Act allows for AQMDs to not consider the data for these exceptional events to meet the federally regulated National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Secondary impacts that result from exceptional events, such as public safety power shutoffs may have air quality impacts due to continual generator usage. SCAQMD regulates the number of hours of generator usage during power outages.[3]

The Safety Element policies would not cause air quality impacts. The policies would help reduce the risk from "exceptional events" through design methods to moderate temperature, planting of shade trees and ground cover, and maintaining proper brush clearance. The policies do not require actions that would conflict with or obstruct implementation of regional air quality plans, which therefore, results in a less than significant impact.

b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project area is in the jurisdiction of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The California Air Resources Board identifies non-attainment areas in California and National Area Designations

[2] http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/public-notices/exceptional-events (accessed July 28, 2021)
[3] http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/compliance/compliance-advisory---emergency-generators-wildfires---11-12-19.pdf?sfvrsn=4 (accessed July 28, 2021)

for ambient air quality standards.[4] "Non-attainment" describes any region that does not meet (or that contributes to ambient air quality in a nearby area that does not meet) the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for a specific pollutant. In Los Angeles County, the levels of ozone, particulate matter, and carbon monoxide continually exceed the Federal and California Ambient Air Quality Standards and the County is considered in "Non-Attainment" for these pollutants.

However, this project is not intended to exceed any thresholds of significance due to the nature of the policies. The purpose of the Safety Element Update is to reduce the risk and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies and the existing policies that are carried over do not require additional development that would add to the cumulative criteria pollutant numbers for the County. The Safety Element of the General Plan is a long-range planning document, the policies are to guide how development will happen in the County over the next decade. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Sensitive receptors are those susceptible to respiratory distress, such as, but not limited to, asthmatics, the elderly, young children, people already weakened by other disease or illness, and persons engaged in strenuous work or exercise. Uses where sensitive receptors may be found include playgrounds, schools, senior citizen centers, hospitals, day-care facilities and residential areas, or other uses that are more susceptible to poor air quality, such as residential neighborhoods. The unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County do contain sensitive receptors, such as residential areas, schools, libraries, and other public facilities. The General Plan Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)[5] includes a mitigation measure, AQ-3, that requires the submittal of a health risk assessment (HRA) for sensitive land uses within the following distances as measured from the property line of the project to the property line of the source/edge of the nearest travel lane, from these facilities:

- Industrial facilities within 1000 feet
- Distribution centers (40 or more trucks per day) within 1,000 feet
- Major transportation projects (50,000 or more vehicles per day) within 1,000 feet
- Dry cleaners using perchloroethylene within 500 feet
- Gasoline dispensing facilities within 300 feet

The Safety Element policies do not require the development of the uses mentioned above. Therefore, the project does not rise to the threshold of significance requiring an HRA and impacts will be less than significant.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. AQMD Rule 402, states that "A person shall not discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury

[4] http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/adm/adm.htm

[5] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_lac-mmrp-final.pdf

or damage to business or property. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to odors emanating from agricultural operations necessary for the growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals."

General Plan MMRP[6] measure AQ-4 requires an odor management plan if it is determined that a project has the potential to emit nuisance odors beyond the property line. Facilities listed as to have the potential to generate nuisance odors include but are not limited to:

- Wastewater treatment plants,
- Composting, greenwaste, or recycling facilities,
- Fiberglass manufacturing facilities,
- Painting/coating operations,
- Large-capacity coffee roasters,
- Food-processing facilities,
- Landfills, waste transfer stations,
- Chemical manufacturing facilities.

The project will not alter any of the existing requirements for, or ease any of the standards to permit, the abovementioned facilities, or other similar facilities. A less than significant impact can be anticipated because the proposed project may result in low level, intermittent odors from emergency response vehicles during a hazard event.

- Policy S 7.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.

The Safety Element requires that there are enough sheriff and fire services that can handle emergency response situations. The determination of adequacy is based on the density of development and population. New development will be required to undergo CEQA review for both air quality and public services impacts. Policy S 7.5 directs the review of new projects to ensure that the emergency response coverage exists. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The analysis concludes that the project will not result in significant impacts to air quality. This is due to the fact that the Safety Element Update is not requiring new development that will increase the amount of air pollutants released or siting near sensitive receptors. The policies of the Safety Element guide development in the County in order to reduce risk and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards.

The air pollutants that are regulated by the Federal and California Clean Air Acts fall under three categories, each of which are monitored and regulated:

- Criteria air pollutants;
- Toxic air contaminants (TACs); and,
- Global warming and ozone-depleting gases.

In 1970, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identified six "criteria" pollutants they found to be the most harmful to human health and welfare. They are:

- Ozone (O_3);

[6] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_lac-mmrp-final.pdf

- Particulate Matter (PM);
- Carbon Monoxide (CO);
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2);
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2); and,
- Lead (Pb).

The Federal government and the State of California have established air quality standards designed to protect public health from these criteria pollutants. Among the federally identified criteria pollutants, the levels of ozone, particulate matter, and carbon monoxide in Los Angeles County continually exceed federal and state health standards and the County is considered a non-attainment area for these pollutants.

In response to the region's poor air quality, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) & the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) were created. The SCAQMD and the AVAQMD are responsible for monitoring air quality as well as planning, implementing, and enforcing programs designed to attain and maintain state and federal ambient air quality standards in the region. The SCAQMD implements a wide range of programs and regulations, most notably, the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The SCAQMD jurisdiction covers approximately 10,743 square-miles and includes all of Los Angeles County except for the Antelope Valley, which is covered by the Antelope AVAQMD.

Sensitive receptors are uses such as playgrounds, schools, senior citizen centers, hospitals or other uses that would be more highly impacted by poor air quality. AQMD Rule 402, which states "A person shall not discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to odors emanating from agricultural operations necessary for the growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals."

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's air quality. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on air quality. Wildfires have a significant impact on air quality, and this ordinance would not increase either the intensity or frequency of wildfires. Furthermore, future development impacted by this ordinance, that is proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The unincorporated areas have six main types of biological resource categories: regional habitat linkages; forests; coastal zone; riparian habitats, streambeds and wetlands; woodlands; and Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs). The General Plan EIR Figure 5.4-1 (Sensitive Biological Resources, page 5-4.17) and Figure 5.4-2 (Designated Critical Habitats, page 5-4.19) illustrate where plant communities and habitat resources have been found.

Sensitive plant communities and special status species identified by the CA Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) are listed by planning areas in the Biological Resources chapter of the Los Angeles County General Plan.[7] The planning areas that may be potentially impacted are those areas in the County that are within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones mapped by CAL FIRE. The species within these areas may potentially be impacted from the Safety Element policies that ensure the maintenance of fuel modification, brush clearance, and fire breaks to reduce the harm caused by wildfires.

- Policy S 4.4: Reduce the risk of wildland fire hazards through meeting minimum state and local regulations for fire-resistant building materials, vegetation management, fuel modification and other fire hazard reduction programs within FHSZs.

Policy S 4.4 reiterates the importance of meeting minimum regulations for vegetation management and fuel modification. New development that requires approved fuel modification plans by the Fire Department will also be required to undergo CEQA review for each individual project. The development may require additional biological review if the development is located within a designated ecological area, such as the Significant Ecological Areas or Coastal Zone. Any impacts to sensitive plants or special status species will be mitigated at the individual development level.

The Safety Element also proposes policies that can prevent impacts to biological resources through development siting and design, especially within Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ). The policies listed below illustrate how the Safety Element Update considers biological integrity to be a factor in reducing wildfire risks.

[7] Los Angeles County General Plan – pages https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_deir.pdf

- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

- Policy S 4.3: Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a wildfire event.

- Policy S 4.11: Support efforts to address unique pest, disease, exotic species, and other forest health issues in open space areas to reduce fire hazards and support ecological integrity.

- Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

The cumulative effects of the Safety Element's policies will lead to a less than significant impact on sensitive and special status species found within Los Angeles County.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update applies to all the unincorporated communities in Los Angeles County. The areas that contain sensitive natural communities are often within the rural, coastal, and foothill areas. These areas are also at most risk of wildfires, coastal flooding, and inland flooding. Potential impacts to these sensitive natural communities come from measures taken to mitigate or prevent impacts from hazards such as fuel modification associated with an approved development.

There are numerous local and regional plans, and ordinances that protect the sensitive natural communities found in Los Angeles County. These include the Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) Ordinance, Marina Del Rey Local Coastal Program, Santa Catalina Local Coastal Program, Malibu Local Coastal Program, Oak Tree Ordinance, Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan, Hillside Management Areas, Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan. These plans and ordinances have building requirements and discretionary permit review processes designed to protect the most sensitive natural communities in the unincorporated areas. Most new development that are subject to the above-mentioned plans and ordinances cannot receive a CEQA categorical exemption, which will require an environmental analysis per CEQA. These development projects will also require review by the SEA Technical Advisory Committee or Environmental Review Board for recommended mitigation measures for impacts to sensitive environmental resources. These include, but are not limited to, reducing the project's height, or minimizing its footprint, avoidance of certain natural resources, or preparation of species or habitat preservation plans.

In addition to the currently listed species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), the Western Joshua tree is a Candidate species under CESA, and is being considered for CESA listing as Threatened or Endangered by CDFW. Therefore, during the review period and potentially after, projects that propose removal of western Joshua trees will require an incidental take permit issued by CDFW.

The General Plan Conservation and Natural Resources Element contains policies to preserve and protect riparian habitats, wetlands, woodlands, and shrublands. County policies also regulate the removal of oak trees. The Safety Element policies do not conflict with the Conservation and Natural Resources Element policies. The Safety Element policies, such as Policy S 3.5 and S 4.3 are to ensure that future mitigations of fire and flood events take the protection of biological resources into consideration.

- Policy S 3.5: Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a flood event.

- Policy S 4.3: Ensure that biological and natural resources are protected during rebuilding after a wildfire event.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies do not have direct development impacts to federally protected wetlands, vernal pools, coastal wetlands, and waters defined by the Clean Water Act or the California Fish and Game code. Policy S 3.5 of the Safety Element Update ensures that the mitigation of flood-related property damage and loss limits impacts to biological and other resources. Since the Safety Element applies to all of the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and these areas do contain federally protected wetlands, vernal pools, coastal wetlands, and waters defined by the Clean Water Act or the California Fish and Game code, there will be a less than significant impact.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The General Plan has identified five linkages (identified by South Coast Wildlands) that are important to habitat connectivity throughout Sothern California. The General Plan EIR discusses Wildlife Movement Corridors that identified missing linkages (page 5.4-88 to 5.4-89), which include areas along linear topographic features such as principle water courses of the County (Antelope Wash, Little Rock Creek, Big Rock Creek, San Antonio Canyon, San Gabriel River, Los Angeles River, Santa Clara River, Topanga Canyon, Malibu Canyon, Zuma Canyon, and the Arroyo Sequit; those along the mountain and hilly ranges of the County: the San Gabriel Mountains, of the Transverse Ranges[8], the Tehachapi Mountains, the Santa Susana Mountains, the Simi Hills, the Santa Monica Mountains, the Verdugo Mountains, the San Jose Hills, the Palos Verdes Peninsula, and the Puente Hills; and the linkage along the San Andreas Fault).

[8] The western part of the San Gabriel Mountains has been given various names including "Sierra Pelona," "Liebre Mountains," and "Castaic Ranges." The Transverse Ranges are also referred to as "Sierra Madre".

While the mapping of wildlife corridors in the County is extensive, the reality of wildlife movement corridors and linkages is more complex and exists in more locations that are not easily mapped, especially for bird and bat migration corridors and most linear natural features such as mountain ranges and water courses.

The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Policies S 3.5 and S 4.3 of the Safety Element Update ensures that the mitigation of flood and fire-related property damage and loss limits impacts biological and other resources. Since the Safety Element applies to all of the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and these areas do contain wildlife corridors, there will be a less than significant impact.

e) Convert oak woodlands (as defined by the state, oak woodlands are oak stands with greater than 10% canopy cover with oaks at least 5 inch in diameter measured at 4.5 feet above mean natural grade) or other unique native woodlands (juniper, Joshua, southern California black walnut, etc.)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not be converting oak woodlands or other unique native woodlands like juniper, Joshua, or southern California black walnut. The policies encourage the protection and proliferation of native oaks as a first line of defense from wildfires and support the ecological integrity that comes with the health of the County's native woodlands.

- Policy S 4.10: Encourage planting native oaks in strategic locations and near existing oak woodlands, including those to be mapped in the Oak Woodlands Conservation Management Plan, to protect developments from wildfires, as well as to lessen fire risk associated with developments.

- Policy S 4.11: Support efforts to address unique pest, disease, exotic species, and other forest health issues in open space areas to reduce fire hazards and support ecological integrity.

Additionally, the CDFW has listed the Western Joshua tree as a Candidate Species. Through the review period during which Joshua tree is a Candidate for listing, it is subject to CESA protection, and this protection will be extended if the species is officially listed at the end of the review period. During the review period, and potentially beyond, any impacts to the species require an incidental take permit from CDFW.

The Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) Ordinance, Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Program, and the Santa Monica Mountains North Area Community Standards District protect native trees species that are found within Los Angeles County, including oak, juniper, Joshua, and southern California black walnut trees. The Safety Element policies do not induce impacts to these protected trees. Any future development proposed will have to go through the permit and CEQA review process to mitigate impacts to oak woodlands and SEA protected trees. Therefore, the impact to oak and other unique native woodlands is less than significant.

f) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, including Wildflower Reserve Areas (L.A. County Code, Title 12, Ch. 12.36),	☐	☐	☒	☐

the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.174), the Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.102), and Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas (SERAs) (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.44)?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not conflict with or impact wildflower reserve areas, the SEA or SERA areas, or the County's Oak Tree Ordinance. There is one state Wildflower Reserve Area in Los Angeles County, the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve. Other County wildflower reserve areas also located in the Antelope Valley identified by Range & Township location in Title 12, Ch. 12.36 of the County Code.

The Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance sets requirements for how proposed developments are to interact with oak trees on or near the project site and how to deal with their removal or encroachment by the proposed project, when necessary.

The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, including Wildflower Reserve Areas, Oak Tree, SEAs, and SERAs. Since the Safety Element applies to all of the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and contains a state Wildflower Reserve Area, SEAs, SERAs, there will be a less than significant impact.

g) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved state, regional, or local habitat conservation plan? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Within Los Angeles County, The SEA program surveyed the entirety of Los Angeles County to identify ecologically important land and water systems that support valuable habitat for plants and animals. The intent of this program is not to preclude development but to minimize the impacts of development on the biota that resulted in the SEA designation in the first place. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

The CDFW has created several regional Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs), beginning in 1991 with the passage of the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. These plans are intended to be broader in scope than localized conservation plans and have the intent of preserving the integrity of large ecosystems, which sometimes stretch over multiple cities and counties. Currently, the Newhall Ranch NCCP is being developed that includes Los Angeles County. The NCCP for the Palos Verdes Peninsula has been adopted. The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), which implements standards for renewable energy development in the Mojave Desert and Antelope Valley areas has been concluded and is only applicable to public lands. The Phase II part of the DRECP for private lands is ongoing.

At the federal level, the Endangered Species Act requires a project seeking an incidental take permit for one or more federally listed species to develop a project-specific Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), which requires approval from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The HCP describes "the anticipated effects of the

proposed taking; how those impacts will be minimized, or mitigated; and how the HCP is to be funded."[9] These HCPs are listed in an online database, separated by region. The only active HCP in unincorporated Los Angeles County as of August 2021 is the Newhall Farm Seasonal Crossings HCP, which addresses temporary vehicle crossings and water diversions along the portion of the Santa Clara River west of Valencia to the Ventura County line.

The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies will not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved state, regional, or local habitat conservation plan. Since the Safety Element applies to all of the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and there are active NCCPs and HCPs within the County, there will be a less than significant impact.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Biological resources are identified and protected through various federal, state, regional, and local laws and ordinances. The federal Endangered Species Act and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) state that animals and plants that are threatened with extinction or are in a significant decline will be protected and preserved. The State Department of Fish and Wildlife created the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), which is a program that inventories the status and locations of rare plants and animals in California.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act defines wetlands as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas."

The County's primary mechanism to conserve biological diversity is an identification tool and planning overlay called Significant Ecological Areas (SEA). SEAs are ecologically important land and water systems that are valuable as plant and/or animal communities, often integral to the preservation of threatened or endangered species, and conservation of biological diversity in the County. These areas also include nearly all of the wildlife corridors in the County, as well as oak woodlands and other unique and/or native trees.

Sensitive biological resources in the Coastal Zone are known as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs). ESHAs are defined in the Coastal Act as areas "in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments. On Santa Catalina Island, there are both ESHAs and SEAs. In the Coastal Zone segment of the Santa Monica Mountains, sensitive biological resources are designated as Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas (SERAs) by the Santa Monica Mountains Land Use Plan, which contains terrestrial and marine resources that, because of their characteristics and/or vulnerability, require special protection. SERAs include the following sub-categories: ESHAs; Significant Woodlands and Savannahs; Significant Watersheds; the Malibu Cold Creek Resource Management Area; and Wildlife Migration Corridors.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's biological resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a

[9] Federal Endangered Species Act, website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/hcp-overview.html

significant impact on biological resources. Furthermore, fuel modification and brush clearance requirements are already in place in Los Angeles County. This ordinance does not significantly expand these requirements. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

The Safety Element Update seeks to accomplish the goal of reducing risk and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards but incorporates policies to ensure that the protection of biological resources is considered during any hazard mitigation. The health and ecological integrity of the County's biological resources found in diverse and sensitive natural communities are the first line of defense in preventing and reducing harm from hazards. The health of the biological resources help to combat the adverse effects from climate change and therefore, the policies proposed in the Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project does not propose any policies that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significant of a historical resource. Since the Safety Element Update applies countywide, all national and state-designated historic resources may potentially be affected. However, the Safety Element update consists of high-level goals and policies that do not dictate requirements that would change the structural and cultural integrity of historic resources. There are three policies that support retrofitting buildings to mitigate the risk of damage from earthquakes and fires and assist with adapting to extreme heat events.

- Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.
- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations, such as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.
- Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.

These policies may potentially impact historical resources if such retrofits are required to reduce risks but maintain a less than significant impact because these retrofits are encouraged rather than required of all structures and could be implemented in a manner that does not detract from the historical integrity.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. The development of a site will be evaluated on a project-specific basis in order to determine the need for further studies to determine historical significance. The Safety Element applies to all unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and there may be archaeological resources within these areas, but the limited scope of the project will have a less than significant impact to historical resources.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. This project will not include any direct impacts to land; there are no construction or development activities proposed as part of this project. The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. None of the policies are intended to address ground disturbances, including grading. Therefore, the policies of the Safety Element will not disturb human remains and impacts will be less than significant

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The analysis concludes that the ordinance will not result in significant impacts to cultural resources. This is because the project does not propose any policies that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significant of a historical resource. The Safety Element policies are high-level policies that do not dictate requirements that would change the structural and cultural integrity of historic resources. The policies do not include any direct impacts to land; there are no construction or development activities proposed as part of this project Three policies support retrofitting buildings to mitigate the risk of damage from earthquakes and fires and assist with adapting to extreme heat events. These policies may potentially impact historical resources if such retrofits are required to reduce risks but maintain a less than significant impact because these retrofits are encouraged rather than required of all structures.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's cultural resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on cultural resources. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

6. ENERGY

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The County Green Building Standards Code (Title 31), as well as Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code) of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and the State of California Green Code, requires applicable projects to provide energy saving features. The goal of conserving energy implies decreasing overall per capita energy consumption, decreasing reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, and oil, and increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

There are three policies in the Safety Element Update that can potentially have an impact on the usage of energy during construction and operation of the buildings. Policies S 1.4, S 4.8, and S 5.1 all encourage retrofitting existing structures to assist in reducing harm caused by hazards, such as wildfire, earthquakes, and extreme heat events. These policies do not require retrofitting of all structures but support the action when feasible.

- Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations such as the building and fire code to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.

- Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.

There are three additional policies that can potentially reduce the usage of energy. Policies S 2.1 and 5.2 provide alternative means of distributing energy in hazard areas, using passive cooling methods, and provide more opportunities for renewable energy capture.

- Policy S 2.1: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids that are driven by renewable energy sources to increase local energy resilience during grid power outages, reduce reliance on long- distance transmission lines, and reduce strain on the grid when demand for electricity is high.

- Policy S 5.2: Encourage the addition of shade structures in the public realm through appropriate means, and in frontline communities.

The above-mentioned policies provide guidance for how development should occur in Los Angeles County in order to reduce the risks from natural and climate-induced hazards. Future development projects will be reviewed by the Department of Public Works for compliance with the Building Code standards and will be

required to incorporate energy-saving measures consistent with those requirements. Therefore, impacts from the Safety Element Update policies will be less than significant.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewal energy or energy efficiency? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The County's Renewable Energy Ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on December 13, 2016 and became effective January 12, 2017. None of the policies in the Safety Element Update will conflict with the Renewable Energy Ordinance or Building Code standards related to energy efficiency as the policies promote the usage of renewable energy in within existing structures and in areas that are built out. Impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The Safety Element Update do not conflict with the County Green Building Standards Code (Title 31), as well as Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen Code) of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and the State of California Green Code, which requires applicable projects to provide energy saving features. The policies in the Safety Element support the usage of renewable energy in appropriate areas in order to reduce the harm that can be caused by hazards such as extreme heat and wildfire events. Reduction of the reliance of fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, and oil can contribute to the mitigation of the effects of climate change and help the residents of Los Angeles County adapt to climate-induced hazards.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's energy resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's energy resources. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known active fault trace? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The entirety of Los Angeles County is part of the seismically active region of Southern California. Within the County, there are numerous known faults which generally trend northwest-southeast. In the areas surrounding these fault traces, fault and seismic hazard zones have been designated to identify areas of active seismic concern.

Within the regulatory environment regarding seismicity, the Alquist-Priolo Act addresses active surface faults and is intended to prohibit the location of developments and structures for human occupancy across the trace of active faults.

However, this project will not cause potential substantial adverse effects involving rupture of a known earthquake fault because none of the Safety Element policies are intended for ground disturbance beyond what is currently allowed by the County Code.

- Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.

- Policy S 1.2: Prohibit construction of structures for human occupancy adjacent to active faults unless a comprehensive fault study is completed that addresses seismic hazard risks and proposes appropriate actions to minimize the risk.

- Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

Policies S 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4 contain guidance to ensure that future development in Los Angeles County does not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving a rupture of a known earthquake fault. None of the policies will cause deviation from the current Building Code requirements. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The entirety of Los Angeles County is part of the seismically active region of Southern California. Within the County, there are numerous known faults which generally trend northwest-southeast. In the areas surrounding these fault traces, fault and seismic hazard zones have been designated to identify areas of active seismic concern.

Policies S 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4 contain guidance to ensure that future development in Los Angeles County does not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. Policies S 1.1 and 1.2 addresses new development that may be established in areas with known strong seismic ground activity. Policy S 1.4 addresses the retrofitting of existing structures that were built in zones with strong seismic ground shaking. None of the policies will cause deviation from the current Building Code requirements. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction and lateral spreading? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Soils subject to liquefaction are water saturated soils, frequently loosely packed and granular in nature, that when subjected to seismic activity lose their cohesion and act like a fluid. Liquefaction areas are usually found in areas throughout the County with a water table near the surface.

Specific development project sites may be located within the Liquefaction Zone. However, the Safety Element Update will not cause potential substantial adverse effects involving seismic-related ground failure because none of the policies are intended for ground disturbance beyond what is currently allowed by the County Code. None of the polices will cause additional impacts to the soil that could lead to significant seismic-related ground failure. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

iv) Landslides? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. A landslide is the movement or flow of soil, rocks, earth, water, or debris down a slope. Seismic activity can trigger landslides, especially on steep slopes or those with slide planes that will move easily. The California Geologic Survey maps potential landslide areas throughout California. These maps are updated periodically and usually in response to some geological event. However, the Safety Element Update will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects involving landslides since none of the policies are related to creating the need for grading or large ground disturbance.

- Policy S 1.3: Require developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landsliding in Hillside Management Areas through siting and development standards.

Policy S 1.3 addresses landsliding issues especially in Hillside Management Areas where development on steep slopes can exacerbate landsliding problems during seismic activity. Therefore, impacts causing or resulting in potential landslides are less than significant.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The County's Low Impact Development (LID) Ordinance provides post-construction requirements for the management of storm runoff, which will lessen potential amounts of erosion activities resulting from stormwater (hydro-modification). In addition, the Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Municipal Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES Permit No. CAS004001) that requires new development and redevelopment projects to incorporate storm water mitigation measures. As such, compliance with the LID Ordinance and NPDES permit is required for development projects to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of rainfall runoff that leaves the site.

- Policy S 3.3: Promote the use of natural, or nature-based, flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

The Safety Element proposes policies to reduce risks from flood hazards that may prevent in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. These policies support the need for efficient flood protection measures and stormwater management for new development that is established in Los Angeles County. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving unstable soil that may potentially results in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. Policy S 1.3 requires developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landsliding, in Hillside Management Areas through siting and development standards.

Development projects will continue to be reviewed by County departments for compliance with County Code to ensure that they will not create significant unstable geological conditions through an analysis of a soils or a geology report. A soils report detailing project site conditions is required by the Subdivision Map Act and Los Angeles County Code Title 21 for subdivision projects. Therefore, impacts from the Safety Element Update and policies will be less than significant

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. There may be areas within Los Angeles County that contain expansive soil. Expansive soils are those that change their volume depending on the presence and extent of water saturated in the soil. However, the Safety Element Update does not include construction activities. Development projects that will be required to comply with the Safety Element will also be required to comply with the Los Angeles

County Building Code, which includes construction and engineering standards, as well as any additional recommendations developed in tandem with a soils or geology report. None of the policies in the Safety Element will have a direct impact on soil, nor will any of the policies relate to grading or ground disturbance. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update does not include construction activities that would necessitate the need for onsite wastewater treatment systems. Development projects that will be required to comply with the Safety Element and provide geotechnical report and percolation testing required by the Department of Public Health. None of the policies in the Safety Element will have a direct impact on soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element policies provide high-level guidance on how Los Angeles County can reduce risks and harm from natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a paleontological resource or unique geologic feature. The development of a site will be evaluated on a project-specific basis to determine the need for further studies to determine paleontological significance. The Safety Element applies to all unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and there may be archaeological resources within these areas, but the limited scope of the project will have a less than significant impact to paleontological resources.

g) Conflict with the Hillside Management Area Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 22, Ch. 22.104)? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Los Angeles County has mapped Hillside Management Areas (HMA).[10] If a development project site is located in an HMA, the proposed project will be required to comply with the HMA Ordinance. Safety Element Policy S 1.3 requires developments to mitigate geotechnical hazards, such as soil instability and landsliding, in HMA through siting and development standards. Therefore, the Safety Element will not conflict with the HMA Ordinance and impacts are less than significant.

[10] Los Angeles County GIS interactive mapping; Layer: **Hillside Management Area** – Department of Regional Planning General Plan 2035

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act of 1972 prohibits the location of most structures for human occupancy across the traces of active faults, and lessens the impacts of fault rupture. The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act requires the California Geological Survey to prepare Seismic Hazard Zone Maps that show areas where earthquake induced liquefaction or landslides have historically occurred, or where there is a high potential for such occurrences. Liquefaction is a process by which water saturated granular soils transform from a solid to a liquid state during strong ground shaking. A landslide is a general term for a falling, sliding or flowing mass of soil, rocks, water and debris. The County General Plan prohibits the construction of most structures for human occupancy adjacent to new faults until a comprehensive fault study that addresses the potential for fault rupture has been completed. .

Since 1700, over 78 significant earthquakes with a magnitude of 6.5 or greater have occurred in California. In the Los Angeles region, there are over 50 active and potentially active fault segments, an undetermined number of buried faults, and at least four blind thrust faults capable of producing damaging earthquakes in Los Angeles County. The Safety Element has a section that ensures that geotechnical and seismic hazards are addressed through policies that may assist in reducing the harm and risk that can be caused by seismic activity.

More than 50 percent of the unincorporated areas are comprised of hilly or mountainous terrain. The vast majority of hillside hazards include mud and debris flows, active deep-seated landslides, hillside erosion, and man induced slope instability. These geologic hazards include artificially-saturated or rainfall saturated slopes, the erosion and undercutting of slopes, earthquake induced rock falls and shallow failures, and natural or artificial compaction of unstable ground. The Hillside Management Area (HMA) Ordinance regulates development in hillsides of 25 percent slope or greater to address these potential hazards. The Safety Element supports the requirement of mitigating geotechnical hazards especially in HMAs through proper siting and application of development standards.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's geology and soils. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on geology and soils. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) is the County's plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and is a component of the Air Quality Element in the General Plan. The CCAP includes an inventory of emissions generated by community activities in the unincorporated areas, identifies a target reduction needed to achieve the County's goal, and identifies specific actions that can be taken to support reduced emissions. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15183.5(b) and 15064(h)(3), projects can qualitatively evaluate GHG impacts by identifying how applicable CCAP actions have been incorporated into the project. Projects that demonstrate consistency with applicable CCAP actions can be determined to have a less than significant cumulative impact on GHG emissions and climate change. The CCAP lists five strategy areas with existing initiatives and 26 new actions. The County has implemented the existing initiatives and the 26 new actions are voluntary. The required GHG emission reductions for year 2020 have been met through the implementation of the existing initiatives. The County is in the processing of updating the CCAP and will be incorporating additional new actions that will further reduce GHG emissions.

The Safety Element policies contribute to the direct and indirect reduction of GHGs. These policies are meant to help reduce the risk of harm and damage and from natural and climate-induced hazards like wildfire and extreme heat events and increase the community adaptability and resilience to hazardous events.

- Policy S 2.1: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids that are driven by renewable energy sources to increase local energy resilience during grid power outages, reduce reliance on long- distance transmission lines, and reduce strain on the grid when demand for electricity is high.

- Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.

- Policy S 5.2: Encourage the addition of shade structures in the public realm through appropriate means, and in frontline communities.

- Policy S 5.3: Encourage the use of cooling methods to reduce the heat retention of pavement and surfaces.

Although these policies are meant to help communities to adapt and become more resilient to climate hazards, it can also contribute to the reduction of GHGs since the policies are meant to lower the demand on fossil fuels and transition to passive designs like efficient shading and installation of more renewable and independent sources of energy. There may be a potential that retrofits to adapt to extreme heat will be energy intensive in order to accommodate the cooling demand. Air conditioning is an appropriate method to adapt to extreme heat events. However, the more reliance on energy dependent appliances may have a less than

significant impact on the generation of GHGs since there is a coordinated effort to transition to renewable energy in the CCAP.

b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element is a part of the Los Angeles County General Plan and consistency amongst all the different elements is imperative. The policies in the Safety Element Update do not conflict with the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) which is the County's plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and is a component of the Air Quality Element in the General Plan. The CCAP includes an inventory of emissions generated by community activities in the unincorporated areas, identifies a target reduction needed to achieve the County's goal, and identifies specific actions that can be taken to support reduced emissions. The consistency between the Safety Element Update and the CCAP ensures that there is a less than significant impact on the reduction of GHG emissions.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5, projects which are consistent with the General Plan may rely on the General Plan EIR and the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP), both certified on October 2015, to address project-specific greenhouse gas emissions. The County has met the required GHG reduction goals for 2020 through implementation of the General Plan and the Existing Initiatives of the CCAP.

This Project is consistent with the General Plan land use and zoning since there are no policies that require the change in zoning or land use designations. The Project is consistent with the CCAP, as the policies directly and indirectly support the CCAP's effort in reduction of GHG emissions through policies that can serve both GHG mitigation and climate adaptation strategies. These policies encourage renewable and independent energy sources, and passive cooling methods.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's greenhouse gas emissions. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's greenhouse gas emissions. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, production, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. In California, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), which is housed under Cal/EPA, is responsible for classifying hazardous materials. Hazardous materials are commonly stored and used by a variety of businesses, residences, and are commonly encountered during construction activities. Hazardous materials are routinely used, stored, and transported in conjunction with the construction and operation of industrial and some commercial/retail businesses, educational facilities, and hospitals. In industrial and commercial uses, hazardous materials may include petroleum products and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and in residential uses, hazardous materials may include landscaping chemicals and cleaning solvents. Hazardous materials may be stored in small quantities in buildings and structures, in aboveground storage tanks, underground storage tanks (USTs), drums, and other types of containers. Typically, USTs are used by businesses, such as gasoline stations and auto mechanics. Processing, transportation, and transfer operations are other activities that have the potential to pose a risk to human health and the environmental from the accidental release of hazardous materials

None of the policies for the project will create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, production, use, or disposal of hazardous materials because none of the policies pertain to direct development of a property that would lead to new construction or demolition of structures.

- Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations, such as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.

- Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.

However, three policies encourage the retrofitting of existing structures to reduce the risk caused by earthquakes, wildfires, and extreme heat events. These retrofit activities can necessitate the transport of construction materials which may cause less than significant impact. Any development projects that require the routine handling of hazardous substances as a project component would be required to comply with the existing regulatory requirements related to hazardous substance handling. These regulations may include the Hazardous Materials Business Plan requirements of the Health and Safety Code, Fire Code storage and containment requirements, or other applicable regulatory requirements.

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials or waste into the environment? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. None of the policies for the project will create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials or waster into the environment because none of the policies pertain to direct development of a property that would lead to new construction or demolition of structures.

- Policy S 1.4: Support the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry structures and soft-story buildings to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to seismic hazards.

- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations such as the building and fire code to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.

- Policy S 5.1: Encourage building designs and retrofits that moderate indoor temperatures during extreme heat events.

However, three policies encourage the retrofitting of existing structures to reduce the risk caused by earthquakes, wildfires, and extreme heat events. These retrofit activities can necessitate the transport of construction materials which may cause less than significant impact. Any development projects that require the routine handling of hazardous substances as a project component would be required to comply with the existing regulatory requirements related to hazardous substance handling. These regulations may include the Hazardous Materials Business Plan requirements of the Health and Safety Code, Fire Code storage and containment requirements, or other applicable regulatory requirements

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of sensitive land uses? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. None of the policies for the Safety Element Update introduce new uses or activities that will emit hazardous emissions or include the handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of sensitive land uses.

- Policy S 6.1: Assess public health and safety risks associated with existing oil and gas facilities in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.

- Policy S 6.2: Prohibit all new oil and gas extraction wells in all zones, including those allowed or planned for under existing discretionary permits.

Policies S 6.1 and 6.2 take into consideration the hazards that comes with oil and gas extraction and the impact to communities, especially sensitive land uses. Policy 6.2 prohibits the development of new oil and gas extraction wells in all zones, including those allowed or planned for under existing permits.

Also, there are policies that support the retrofit of existing buildings and maintenance of fuel modification and brush clearance but these activities have a very low chance of emitting hazardous emissions. Since the Safety Element applies countywide, that would mean that any potential activity may be within a quarter mile

of sensitive land uses. However, because there is no direct correlation with the policies and hazardous emission, the impact is considered to be less than significant.

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. State law requires CalEPA to maintain the Hazardous Waste and Substance Sites List (Cortese List) which provides information about all known hazardous materials release sites throughout the state. The Cortese List is comprised of data resources from various state agencies including DTSC's EnviroStor database, State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker database, as well as other resources (see Cortese List Data Resources link in Resources section below). Envirostor details site-specific contamination and may have requirements for cleanup or have restrictions on permitted uses, which may limit the scope of the proposed project.

The Safety Element Update will apply countywide to all unincorporated areas. However, the policies do not specify or require direct development activity on a parcel-level. Therefore, it is not possible to know which parcels would be included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code 56962.5 and result in the creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Due to these reasons, these impacts will be analyzed on a project-specific level and be subject to required mitigation if needed. Therefore, impacts are less than significant.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan, or where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. There are 15 airports within the Los Angeles Airport Land Use Commission's (ALUC) jurisdiction. Five are County-owned by other public entities and one is privately owned. The Los Angeles County Airports Map[11] identifies the locations of the airports within the jurisdiction of ALUC and their Airport Influence Area. Among 15 public airports within the County, Agua Dulce Airport in Santa Clarita Valley and Catalina Airport are located within the unincorporated area. LAX, Palmdale Regional Airport, and the William J. Fox Airfield also have airport influence areas that include portions of the unincorporated area. The policies in the Safety Element do not directly require activity within two miles of a public airport or public use airport that would result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area. Since the Safety Element is applied countywide, the impacts is considered to be less than significant.

f) Substantially impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

[11] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/ALUC_Airports_Aug2018_rev3.pdf

Less Than Significant Impact. The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for organizing and directing the preparedness efforts of the Emergency Management Organization of Los Angeles County. The emergency response plan for the unincorporated areas of the County is the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP), which is prepared by OEM. The OAERP strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in the County. The County has also prepared a Local All Hazards Mitigation Plan to be in compliance with federal law and to be eligible for disaster funding. Figure 12.6 of the Safety Element in the General Plan[12] depicts the County's designated Disaster routes. It identifies the routes that emergency responders are likely to use when responding to an emergency scenario and the field facilities that will be used by emergency responders to coordinate their activities. The Department of Public Works also maintains a "Disaster Routes with Road Districts" Map[13].

The Safety Element Policy S 7.3 ensures coordination with other County agencies, such as Public Works, Fire, and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning. This coordination is imperative to ensure consistency in different plans that revolve about hazard mitigation and evacuation. Two new legislation regarding evacuation planning is required to be incorporated into the Safety Element Update. Assembly Bill 747 (Levine, 2019) requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. Evacuation routes are determined by emergency responders who decide at the time of the emergency which routes should be used for evacuation after assessing the conditions and location of the emergency to avoid endangering the lives of others, personal injury, or death. Evacuation planning was also addressed in Senate Bill 99 (Nielsen, 2019) which focuses on identifying residential developments that have fewer than two evacuation routes. The data that is included in the Safety Element Update pertaining to these two legislation was confirmed by Public Works, Fire, and OEM to ensure that the data methodology did not conflict with their existing emergency response or evacuation plans. Therefore, the project will not substantially impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and the impact will be less than significant.

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, because the project is located:

i) within a high fire hazard area with inadequate access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The General Plan Safety Element addresses the magnitude of resources the County devotes to fire protection. Although multiple regulations are in place to ensure that adequate infrastructure, such as the ability to deliver peak load water supplies and access to necessary disaster routes in new development projects, older communities with aging and substandard infrastructure may face greater risks from exposure to fires. Policies S 4.6 and 4.8 address access issues for new construction and existing construction.

[12] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_2014-FIG_12-6_Disaster_Routes.pdf
[13] https://dpw.lacounty.gov/dsg/DisasterRoutes/map/disaster_rdm-North.pdf

- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

- Policy S 4.6: Ensure that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum state and local regulations for ingress, egress, peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within FHSZs.

- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations such, as the building and fire code, to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.

Policy S 4.1 prohibits new subdivisions in Very High FHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation and discourages similar subdivisions from being established in High and Moderate FHSZs. Policy S 4.6 ensures that development should meet the minimum state and local regulations with reference to ingress and egress. These two policies are important because additional density in the FHSZs will increase the risk of ignition of fire but also the number of residents that may potentially be affected by an oncoming wildfire. Policy S 4.8 supports retrofitting existing structures to make them more resilient against wildfires. Many existing structures may have access issues that can be difficult to solve after establishment. Therefore, retrofitting structures to make them more fire hardened can help to reduce the damage. Therefore, the potential for the Safety Element Update to expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires, because the project is located within a high fire hazard area with inadequate access is less than significant.

ii) within an area with inadequate water and pressure to meet fire flow standards?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Policy S 4.6 ensures that development should meet the minimum state and local regulations for peak load water supply availability. The availability of water supply is critical for structures that are within an area with wildfire risk. The inclusion of this policy reduces the risk and damages cause by wildfires and is considered a less than significant impact.

- Policy S 4.6: Ensure that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum state and local regulations for ingress, egress, peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within FHSZs.

iii) within proximity to land uses that have the potential for dangerous fire hazard?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Policy S 4.1 prohibits new subdivisions in Very High FHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation and discourages similar subdivisions from being established in High and Moderate FHSZs. Policy S 4.14 encourages the strategic placement of structures so developments that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire. This policy will enable the County to potentially prevent the increase of the Wildland-Urban Interface boundary and decrease the number of residents that may be at risk. The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact on exposure of people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires, because the project is located within proximity to land uses that have the potential for dangerous fire hazard.

- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

- Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

h) Does the proposed use constitute a potentially dangerous fire hazard? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element does not propose uses that can constitute a potentially dangerous fire hazard. The policies in the Safety Element Update will guide development in Los Angeles County to ensure reduction of risk of harm and damage that can come from a fire hazard. Therefore, the impact of the project is considered to be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Hazardous materials are generally defined as any material that because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or future hazard to human health and safety or to the environment, if released into the workplace or the environment (Health and Safety Code (H&SC), §25501(o)). The California Department of Toxic Substances (DTSC) is responsible for classifying hazardous materials in the state of California. Hazardous materials are commonly stored and used by a variety of businesses and are commonly encountered during construction activities.

DTSC oversees the cleanup of disposal and industrial sites that have resulted in contamination of soil and groundwater. In close cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, DTSC administers both state and federal hazardous waste programs including The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601–9675), the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and a number of other State and Federal bodies of law dealing with hazardous materials and the environment. The Envirostar database lists properties regulated by DTSC where extensive investigation and/or cleanup actions are planned or have been completed at permitted facilities and clean-up sites. No hazardous materials sites or properties listed in compliance with California Government Code, Section 65962.5 (e.g., Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System [CERCLIS], Resource Conservation and Recovery Act [RCRA]) are located on the project site. Any sites within the general vicinity are not likely to have contaminated the project site.

Projects in close proximity to airports are within the jurisdiction of the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC). The Regional Planning Commission meets in the capacity of the ALUC to consider projects requiring ALUC review and it makes a determination of the compatibility of the proposed project with the nearby airport.

The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for organizing and directing the preparedness efforts of the Emergency Management Organization of Los Angeles County. The OEM is the day-today Los Angeles County Operational Area coordinator for the County. The emergency response plan for the unincorporated areas is the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP), which is prepared by OEM. The OAERP

strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in the County. The disaster response plan is the County Local All Hazards Mitigation Plan.

None of the policies will alter the primary uses allowed by the underlying zone and therefore, none of the policies will expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires and impacts will be less than significant.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on hazards and hazardous materials. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's hazards and hazardous materials. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Los Angeles County is split between two water quality regions: the Los Angeles Region and the Lahontan Region. Each regional board prepares and maintains a Basin Plan, which identifies water quality objectives to protect all beneficial uses of the waters of that region. The objectives detailed in the Basin Plan range from controlling the amount of oxidized ammonia in inland surface waters to regulating the mineral quality of ground waters. The Basin Plans achieve the identified water quality objectives through implementation of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). These water quality objectives are achieved by employing three strategies for addressing water quality issues: control of point source pollutants, control of nonpoint source pollutants, and remediation of existing contamination

Point sources of pollutants are well-defined locations at which pollutants flow into water bodies (discharges from wastewater treatment plants and industrial sources, for example). These sources are controlled through regulatory systems including permitting under California's Waste Discharge Requirements and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program; permits are issued by the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board and may set discharge limitation or other discharge provisions. Individual properties are required to provide an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) and would include point-source discharges.

The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. These policies influence how ground water quality will be maintained since water supply is threatened by climate change and risks from flood hazards can be exacerbated by climate change.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Policy S 3.7 ensures that run-off from development is handled in a way that the water is retained within the property and not infiltrated outside. In unincorporated Los Angeles County, projects are required to comply with the requirements of the Low-Impact Development (LID) Ordinance in order to control and minimize potentially polluted runoff. Because all projects are required to comply with these requirements in order to obtain construction permits and certificates of occupancy, they would not impact any nonpoint source requirements. The Safety Element Update will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality with the inclusion of these two policies and the lack of direct development initiated by the project. Therefore, the impact is considered to be less than significant.

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. None of the policies in the Safety Element Update relate to extraction from a water source, nor will any of the policies prevent infiltration or natural recharge. No policies will trigger grading activities or alter the permitted uses allowed by the underlying zone. None of the policies are growth-inducing or will allow an increased density.

- Policy S 5.10: Protect and improve local groundwater quality and supply to increase opportunities for use as a potable water source during drought periods.

- Policy S 5.11: Encourage the conservation of water by employing soil moisture sensors, automated irrigation systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and weather-based irrigation controllers.

Policies S 5.10 and 5.11 encourage the conservation and retention of water. Policy S 5.10 plans for sustaining and improving groundwater in case of future drought events. Policy S 5.11 encourages the conservation of water through smart irrigation measures. The inclusion of these policies will not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin and the impacts are considered to be less than significant.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or a river through the addition of impervious surfaces. The Safety Element does not require direct development of the County at a parcel-level. The policies provide guidance for how long-range planning of the County shall occur over the next decade.

- Policy S 3.3: Promote the use of natural, or nature-based, flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.

Policy S 3.3 promotes the use of nature-based flood protection measures that can reduce the amount of impervious surfaces used to channel drainage and prevent erosion or siltation on or off site. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or a river through the addition of impervious surfaces that will substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff that results in flooding on or offsite. The Safety Element does not require direct development of the County at a parcel-level. The policies provide the guidance as to how the long-range planning of the County shall occur over the next decade.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Policy S 3.7 promotes retaining stormwater runoff onsite and restoring the natural hydrological function of the site through infiltration of the run-off. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or a river through the addition of impervious surfaces that will create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The Safety Element does not require direct development of the County at a parcel-level. The policies provide the guidance as to how the long-range planning of the County shall occur over the next decade.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Policy S 3.7 requires infiltration of runoff onsite to help with the preservation or restoration of the natural hydrological function of the site. This will result in minimizing the amount of runoff that leaves the development parcel and decreases the amount of water that is channel through wastewater treatment. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

iv) Impede or redirect flood flows? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or a river through the addition of impervious surfaces that will impede or redirect flood flows. Housing will not be allowed to impede flood flows and any redirection of the floodway would be conditioned to obtain a Conditional Letter of Map Revisions (CLOMR) and Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) from FEMA. An area that has been designated a 100-year flood plain is considered likely to flood during the 100-year storm event. The Safety Element does not require direct development of the County at a parcel-level. The policies provide the guidance as to how the long-range planning of the County shall occur over the next decade.

- Policy S 3.3. Promote the use of natural, or nature-based, flood protection measures to prevent or minimize flood hazards, where feasible.

Policy 3.3 promotes the use of nature-based flood protection measures that can reduce the amount of impervious surfaces used for flood protection measures. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

d) Conflict with the Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Ordinance (L.A. County Code, Title 12, Ch. 12.84? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Low Impact Development Ordinance is designed to promote sustainability and improve the County's watersheds by preserving drainage paths and natural water supplies in order to "…retain, detain, store, change the timing of, or filter stormwater or runoff."

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Policy S 3.7 requires infiltration of runoff onsite to help with the preservation or restoration of the natural hydrological function of the site. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

e) Use onsite wastewater treatment systems in areas with known geological limitations (e.g. high groundwater) or in close proximity to surface water (including, but not limited to, streams, lakes, and drainage course)? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. The project does not suggest use onsite wastewater treatment systems in areas with known geological limitations or in close proximity to surface water (including, but not limited to, streams, lakes, and drainage course). Therefore, the impact is less than significant.

f) In flood hazard , tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. Two policies discourage development from being established in areas that are at risk for flooding. This includes a 100-year flood hazard area identified by FEMA, tsunami inundation areas, and areas that are downslope from aqueducts.

- Policy S 3.1: Strongly discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones.
- Policy S 3.2: Strongly discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts.

These policies were in the previous version of the Safety Element and were further strengthened in the update since these are fundamental policies that protect the residents of Los Angeles County from flood hazards and reduce the harm and damages that are caused by such hazard events. The impacts from this project are considered to be less than significant.

g) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Los Angeles County is split between two water quality regions: the Los Angeles Region and the Lahontan Region. The policies of the Safety Element Update will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of water quality control plans or sustainable groundwater management plans as they only relate to policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County. None of the policies will require additional water consumption and therefore, will not impact the water supply for the area. The policies encourage the conservation and retention of water. Therefore, the project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of water quality control plans and impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Los Angeles County is split between two water quality regions: the Los Angeles Region and the Lahontan Region. Each regional board prepares and maintains a Basin Plan which identifies narrative and numerical water quality objectives to protect all beneficial uses of the waters of that region. The Basin Plans achieve the identified water quality objectives through implementation of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and by employing three strategies for addressing water quality issues: control of point source pollutants, control of nonpoint source pollutants, and remediation of existing contamination.

Point sources of pollutants are well-defined locations at which pollutants flow into water bodies (discharges from wastewater treatment plants and industrial sources, for example). These sources are controlled through regulatory systems including permitting under California's Waste Discharge Requirements and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program; permits are issued by the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board and may set discharge limitation or other discharge provisions.

Nonpoint sources of pollutants are typically derived from project site runoff caused by rain or irrigation and have been classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) into one of the following categories: agriculture, urban runoff, construction, hydromodification, resource extraction, silviculture, and land disposal, according to the Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. This type of pollution is not ideally suited to be addressed by the same regulatory mechanisms used to control point sources. Instead, California's Nonpoint Source Management Plan describes a three-tiered approach including the voluntary use of Best Management Practices, the regulatory enforcement of the use of Best Management Practices, and effluent limitations. Generally speaking, each Regional Water Quality Control Board implements the least restrictive tier until more stringent enforcement is necessary.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board addresses on-site drainage through its construction, industrial, and municipal permit programs. These permits require measures to minimize or prevent erosion and reduce the volume of sediments and pollutants in a project's runoff and discharges based upon the size of the project site.

During the construction phase of a proposed project, the pollutants of greatest concern are sediment, which may run off the project site due to site grading or other site preparation activities, and hydrocarbon or fossil fuel remnants from the construction equipment. Construction runoff is regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit. This permit applies to all construction which disturbs an area of at least one acre.

The Los Angeles County Low Impact Development Ordinance is designed to promote sustainability and improve the County's watersheds by preserving drainage paths and natural water supplies in order to '…retain, detain, store, change the timing of, or filter stormwater or runoff.' Policy S 4.6 promotes the expansion of Low Impact Development (LID) best practices to help retain stormwater runoff onsite. The policy encourages LID best practices to be applied to all new development as well as retrofitting existing development to improve water quality along with the retention of stormwater runoff. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, prepares hydrological studies throughout the country, called Flood Insurance Studies, in order to identify areas that are prone to flooding. From the results of these studies, FEMA prepares Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that are designed to geographically depict the location of areas prone to flooding for purposes of determining risk assessment for flood insurance. An area that has been designated a 100-year flood plain is considered likely to flood under the 100-year storm event. Policy S 2.6 promotes the use of nature-based flood protection measures that can reduce the amount of impervious surfaces used for flood protection measures. The impact of the Safety Element Update is less than significant.

Dam inundation areas are areas that have been identified as being potentially susceptible to flooding from a catastrophic failure of one or more of the dams in Los Angeles County. These areas were mapped in accordance with California Government Code Section 8589.5 and do not suggest with certainty that a particular plot of land would be inundated given a catastrophic dam failure. A seiche is the sudden oscillation of water that occurs in an enclosed, landlocked body of water due to wind, earthquake, or other factors. A tsunami is an unusually large wave or set of waves that is triggered in most cases by a seaquake or an underwater volcanic eruption. A mudflow is flow consisting predominantly of earthen materials/soil and water. The policies discourage development from being established in areas that are at risk for flooding. This includes a 100-year flood hazard area identified by FEMA, tsunami inundation areas, and areas that are downslope from aqueducts.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on hydrology and water quality. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's hydrology and water quality. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

11. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. This project is updating the Safety Element and Land Use sections of the General Plan. The policies provide guidance on the future development of Los Angeles County. These policies do not require direct development at a parcel-level and will not physically divide an established community. No physical changes are proposed as part of this project. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any County land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The General Plan provides the framework for consistency amongst the different land use plans, policies, and regulations. The Safety Element Update is not in conflict with the rest of the elements in the General Plan and will not cause a significant environmental impact. This will ensure that all regulations that come from the guiding policies from the General Plan are consistently implemented. The Implementation Programs of the Safety Element will assist in ensuring that consistency is met.

c) Conflict with the goals and policies of the General Plan related to Hillside Management Areas or Significant Ecological Areas?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project will not conflict with the goals and policies of the General Plan related to Hillside Management Areas (HMAs) or Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs). The HMAs and SEAs are components of the Conservation and Natural Resources Element of the General Plan. The different elements of the General Plan are not implemented independently of the other elements. Consistency amongst the policies of all the different General Plan elements is imperative. Several of the policies of the Safety Element Update include the protection of biological resources during the mitigation of fire or flood related property damage and loss. Other Safety Element policies include mitigating landsliding hazards in HMAs. Because of the consistency with the goals and policies of the Conservation and Natural Resources Element, the impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The policies of the Safety Element Update high-level policies that provide guidance on how the County will be reducing harm and risk from natural and climate-induced hazards. These policies do not conflict with the other elements in the General Plan. The consistency amongst the elements is the reason that the project will have a less than significant impact. Any regulations found to be inconsistent after when the Safety Element is updated and adopted will be required to be consistent with the updated Safety Element.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's land use and planning. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's land use and planning. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

12. MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Mineral resources are commercially-viable aggregate or mineral deposits, such as sand, gravel, oil, and other valuable minerals. The County depends on the State of California's Geological Survey (State Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology) to identify deposits of regionally- significant aggregate resources. No policies in the Safety Element Update will have significant impacts to mineral resources as none of them relate to grading or ground disturbance activities and does not involve any construction or development activities. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The County depends on the State of California's Geological Survey (State Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology) to identify deposits of regionally- significant aggregate resources. These clusters or belts of mineral deposits are designated as Mineral Resources Zones (MRZ-2s) that can be found within Los Angeles County. However, none of the Safety Element policies relate to grading or ground disturbance activities and does not involve any construction or development activities. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The County depends on the State of California's Geological Survey (State Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology) to identify deposits of regionally- significant aggregate resources. These clusters or belts of mineral deposits are designated as Mineral Resources Zones (MRZ-2s), and there are four major MRZ-2s are designated in the County: the Little Rock Creek Fan, Soledad Production Area, Sun Valley Production Area, and Irwindale Production Area. The California Department of Conservation protects mineral resources to ensure adequate supplies for future production. However, none of the Safety Element policies relate to grading or ground disturbance activities and does not involve any construction or development activities. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

The California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) was adopted to encourage the production and conservation of mineral resources, prevent or minimize adverse effects to the environment, and protect public health and safety. In addition, Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code (Chapter 22.190) requires that applicants of surface mining projects submit a Reclamation Plan prior to receiving a permit to

mine, which must describe how the excavated site will ultimately be remediated and transformed into another use.

Small-scale oil production still occurs in many parts of the County, including the Baldwin Hills and the Santa Clarita Valley. The California Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) permits and tracks each operating production well and natural gas storage well and ultimately monitors the decommissioning process.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on mineral resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's mineral resources. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

13. NOISE

Would the project result in:	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the County General Plan or noise ordinance (Los Angeles County Code,Title 12, Chapter 12.08), or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not generate substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the General Plan or noise ordinance (Los Angeles County Code, Title 12, Chapter 12.08), or applicable standards of other agencies. The project is an update to a General Plan element, which contains policies that guide how the County can reduce the risk and harm from natural disaster or climate-induced hazards. These policies are not directly related to development on a parcel-level or propose any uses. The impact of this project is considered to be less than significant.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Sensitive receptors that could be impacted by excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels include schools, hospitals, senior citizen facilities, day-care facilities, libraries, churches, nursing homes, residential properties, and open space/recreation areas where quiet environments are necessary for enjoyment, public health, and safety (page 5.12-6 of General Plan EIR). The policies of the Safety Element Update are not directly related to development on a parcel-level or propose any uses. The impact of this project is considered to be less than significant.

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. There are 15 airports within the Los Angeles Airport Land Use Commission's (ALUC) jurisdiction. Five are County-owned by other public entities and one is privately owned. The Los Angeles County Airports Map[14] identifies the locations of the airports within the jurisdiction of ALUC and their Airport Influence Area. The policies of the Safety Element Update are not directly related

[14] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/ALUC_Airports_Aug2018_rev3.pdf

to development on a parcel-level or propose any uses. The impact of this project is considered to be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The proposed project will conform to Los Angeles County Code Title 12, Chapter 12.08 (Noise Control Ordinance). Section 12.08.390 of the County Code provides a maximum exterior noise level of 45 decibels (dB) between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (nighttime) and 50 dB from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (daytime) in Noise Zone II (residential areas).

Noise generated by construction equipment during the construction phase of the project may result in a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels. Construction activities will be conducted according to best management practices, including maintaining construction vehicles and equipment in good working order by using mufflers where applicable, limiting the hours of construction, and limiting the idle time of diesel engines. Noise from construction equipment will be limited by compliance with the Noise Control Ordinance and County Code Section 12.12.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on noise. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's noise. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

The Safety Element Update will not generate substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the County General Plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies. The project is an update to a General Plan element, which contain policies that guide how the County can reduce the risk and harm from natural disaster or climate-induced hazards. These policies are not directly related to development on a parcel-level or propose any uses. The impact of this project is considered to be less than significant.

14. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Los Angeles County General Plan and Housing Element uses population, household, and employment projections from a growth forecast that is developed from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council in the Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy) that was adopted on September 3, 2020. The County estimates that the 2018 population in unincorporated Los Angeles County is 1,057,162 persons, representing approximately 10.3% of Los Angeles County's total population. The total population of Los Angeles County was approximately 10,283,729 persons . There were 986,050 residents in unincorporated Los Angeles County in 2010, representing 10.3% of Los Angeles County's total population in 2010. Between 2000 to 2018, the population of unincorporated Los Angeles County increased by 71,112 persons. According to SCAG's Connect SoCal, the 2020–2045 RTP/SCS population forecasts, the unincorporated Los Angeles County is estimated to reach a population of 1,258,000 by 2045. However, the policies in the Safety Element Update will not induce substantial unplanned population growth because some of the policies discourage or prohibit new development in hazard areas.

- Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.
- Policy S 2.3: Require new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.
- Policy S 3.1: Strongly discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones.
- Policy S 3.2: Strongly discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts.
- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

The policies listed above are the policies that discourage growth in areas that are identified as at-most risk from natural or climate-induced hazards. These areas are in the seismic hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones, flood hazard zones, downslope from aqueducts, and fire hazard severity zones. Policy S 4.1 prohibits the development of high-density subdivisions in fire hazard zones. Policy S 2.3 requires new residential subdivisions and accessory dwelling units meet evacuation standards. These policies will not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area and the impact of this project is less than significant.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, especially affordable housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The policies in the Safety Element Update are not intended to displace people or cause the demolition of existing housing units. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. These policies include retrofitting of existing buildings but do not require the demolition of existing structures that can result in the displacement of people and housing. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Typical local thresholds of significance for housing and population growth include effects that would induce substantial growth or concentration of a population beyond a city's or county's projections; alter the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the population beyond that projected in the city or county general plan housing element; result in a substantial increase in demand for additional housing, or create a development that significantly reduces the ability of the county to meet housing objectives set forth in the city or county general plan housing element.

The Los Angeles County General Plan and Housing Element uses population, household, and employment projections from a growth forecast that is developed from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council in the Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy) that was adopted on September 3, 2020. The County estimates that the 2018 population in unincorporated Los Angeles County is 1,057,162 persons, representing approximately 10.3% of Los Angeles County's total population[15]. The total population of Los Angeles County was approximately 10,283,729 persons[16]. There were 986,050 residents in unincorporated Los Angeles County in 2010, representing 10.3% of Los Angeles County's total population in 2010. Between 2000 to 2018, the population of unincorporated Los Angeles County increased by 71,112 persons[17].According to SCAG's Connect SoCal, the 2020–2045 RTP/SCS population forecasts, the unincorporated Los Angeles County is estimated to reach a population of 1,258,000 by 2045[18].

The State law requires that all local jurisdictions accommodate a share of the region's projected housing needs, or the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation, for the planning period. Compliance with this requirement is measured by the local jurisdiction's ability to provide adequate land to accommodate the RHNA. The state law mandates that local jurisdictions provide sufficient land to accommodate a variety of housing opportunities for all economic segments of the community. The Southern California Association of

[15] Profile of Unincorporated Los Angeles County. Adopted May 2019. Accessed August 2, 2021. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/unincarealosangelescounty.pdf?1604708602.

[16] Profile of Los Angeles County. Adopted May 2019. Accessed August 2, 2021. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/losangelescountylp.pdf?1605653130.

[17] Profile of Unincorporated Los Angeles County. Adopted May 2019. Accessed August 2, 2021. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/unincarealosangelescounty.pdf?1604708602.

[18] Connect SoCal: The 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategies of the Southern California Association of Governments. Adopted September 3, 2020. Accessed August 2, 2021. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/0903fconnectsocal-plan_0.pdf?1606001176.

Governments (SCAG), as the regional planning agency, is responsible for allocating the RHNA to each local jurisdiction within its six-county region. The County's existing inventory of residential sites is insufficient to accommodate the 90,052 units in its RHNA for 2021-2029. As such, as part of the Proposed Project, the County includes a rezoning to accommodate its RHNA gap. The 6th Cycle RHNA allocation plans for a total housing production need of 90,052 units for the unincorporated Los Angeles County[19]. Table 4.14-6, SCAG Regional Housing Needs Allocations, details the allocated housing needs assessment for the unincorporated Los Angeles County and Los Angeles County as a whole.

The policies for the Safety Element Update will not impact population growth. They will not induce growth or cause the displacement of residents. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. These policies include retrofitting of existing buildings but do not require the demolition of existing structures that can result in the displacement of people and housing. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on population and housing. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's population and housing. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

[19] "6th Cycle Final Regional Housing Needs Assessment Proposed Final Allocation Plan." March 4, 2021. Accessed August 2, 2021. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ 6th-cycle-rhna-proposed-final-allocation-plan.pdf?1614911196.

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Would the project create capacity or service level problems, or result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Fire suppression services in unincorporated Los Angeles County are provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD), which has 177 fire stations providing services to 60 cities and the whole unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. Development in the unincorporated areas must comply with the requirements of the Fire Code (Title 32), which provides design standards for all development in the unincorporated County.

The Safety Element Update has several policies that provide support to County emergency providers. These policies ensure that response time goals are met through coordination and adequate resources.

- Policy S 7.2: Support County emergency providers in reaching their response time goals.
- Policy S 7.3: Coordinate with other County agencies, such as Public Works, Fire, and the Office of Emergency Management on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning.
- Policy S 7.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.

Although fires are a natural part of the wildland ecosystem, development in wildland areas increases the danger of wildfires to residents, property, and the environment. Increased fire frequency is the primary threat to wildland ecosystems, which are adapted to an infrequent fire return interval. Wildfires are increasing in frequency and intensity due to climate change, while the capacity of fire agencies to respond to heightened fire risks within their own jurisdictions and to provide mutual aid to other areas is becoming increasingly strained. Policies S 7.2, 7.3, and 7.5 will assist the LACoFD in providing the required fire suppression and other emergency response services for the County. The impact for this project will be less than significant.

Sheriff protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Law enforcement services within the unincorporated Los Angeles County are provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). LASD is the largest sheriff's department in the country. In addition to specialized services, the LASD is divided into 10 divisions, including the Office of Homeland Security, which focuses on potential threats related to local homeland security issues,

such as terrorism or bioterrorism. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department strives to maintain a service ratio of approximately one officer for every 1,000 residents within the communities it serves.

The project will not result in a net increase in individuals to service areas because no development is proposed as part of this project that may accommodate additional growth. The Safety Element Update has several policies that are meant to provide support to County emergency providers. These policies ensure that response time goals are met through coordination and adequate resources.

- Policy S 7.2: Support County emergency providers in reaching their response time goals.
- Policy S 7.3: Coordinate with other County agencies, such as Public Works, Fire, and the Office of Emergency Management on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning.
- Policy S 7.5: Ensure that there are adequate resources, such as sheriff and fire services, for emergency response.

While the Safety Element Update does not spur an increase in development, continued growth in Los Angeles County will significantly affect LASD operations. Coordination among various County departments is necessary to ensure adequate emergency response. Collaboration can also ensure that development occurs at a rate that keeps pace with service needs. Policies S 7.2, 7.3, and 7.5 will assist the LASD in providing the law enforcement services for the County. The impact for this project will be less than significant.

Schools? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not result in a net increase in individuals to service areas because no development is proposed as part of this project that may accommodate additional growth. The policies in the Safety Element Update will not induce substantial unplanned population growth because of the policies that discourage or prohibit new development in hazard areas.

- Policy S 1.1: Discourage development in Seismic Hazard and Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones.
- Policy S 2.3: Require new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.
- Policy S 3.1: Strongly discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones.
- Policy S 3.2: Strongly discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts.
- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

These policies will not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area that would increase the school age population of the community beyond the capacity of existing schools. There will not be a need for new school construction. Therefore, the impact of this project is less than significant.

Parks? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. In Los Angeles County, parks are operated and maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The County's park system, including facilities that are owned, operated, and maintained by the County totals approximately 70,000 acres.[20] The Los Angeles County General Plan Parks and Recreation Element, provides the standard for the allocation of parkland in the unincorporated county. This standard is four acres of local parkland per 1,000 residents, and six acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents. This project will not reduce the parkland-to-population service ratio because it is not a development project and none of the policies will increase housing opportunities. These policies will not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area that would reduce the parkland-to-population service ratio. Therefore, the impact of this project is less than significant.

Libraries? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. In the unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County, as well as in 49 of the 88 cities within the County, library services are provided by the County of Los Angeles Public Library. There are approximately 84 libraries operated by the County with roughly 7.5 million volumes in its book collection.[21] According to the General Plan, the Library's planning guidelines specify that 2.75 library material items should be available per capita as well as 0.5 gross square feet of library space per capita. The Public Library also imposes Library Facilities Mitigation Fees on residential development based on the cost estimation of providing the appropriate library facilities and services to each library planning area. This project will not require new libraries because it is not a development project and none of the policies will increase housing opportunities. Therefore, the impact of this project is less than significant.

Other public facilities? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The availability of essential public facilities like resilience hubs, cooling centers, evacuation centers, or hospitals is imperative for emergency response. The Safety Element Update policies ensure that essential public facilities are located outside of hazard areas and are maintained during disaster events.

- Policy S 7.6: Ensure that essential public facilities are maintained during disasters, such as flooding, wildfires, extreme temperature and precipitation events,drought, and power outages.

- Policy S 7.7: Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals, where feasible, outside of hazard zones to ensure their reliability and accessibility during disasters.

Policies S 7.6 and S 7.7 provide the services that will assist people during disaster events and make sure that they are out of harm's way. These public facilities are different from emergency response facilities like fire and police stations, which those emergency response stations may need to be located within hazardous areas to meet response time goals. This project will have a less than significant impact.

[20] Los Angeles County General Plan, Chapter 10: Parks and Recreation Element, Page 172
[21] https://lacountylibrary.org/aboutus/

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Fire suppression services in unincorporated Los Angeles County are provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD), which has 22 battalions providing services to 58 cities and the whole unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. The LACoFD uses national guidelines of a 5-minute response time for the 1st-arriving unit for fire and EMS responses and 8 minutes for the advanced life support (paramedic) unit in urban areas, and 8-minute response time for the 1st-arriving unit and 12 minutes for advanced life support (paramedic) unit in suburban areas.

Law enforcement services within the unincorporated Los Angeles County are provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department strives to maintain a service ratio of approximately one officer for every 1,000 residents within the communities it serves.

In Los Angeles County, parks are operated and maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. As of 2010, there were approximately 153 recreational facilities managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation totaling approximately 65,528 acres of recreation and open space. The Los Angeles County General Plan, Regional Recreation Areas Plan, provides the standard for the allocation of parkland in the unincorporated county. This standard is four acres of local parkland per 1,000 residents and six acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents. For subdivision projects, the Quimby Act permits the County, by ordinance, to require the dedication of parkland or the payment of an in-lieu fee to achieve the parkland-to-population ratio sought in the General Plan. Further, as a condition of a zone change approval, General Plan amendment, or Specific Plan approval, the County may require the applicant pursuing the subdivision to dedicate and/or improve land according to the applicable General Plan policies. This requirement is justified as long as an appropriate nexus between the proposed project and the dedication can be shown.

In the unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County, as well as in 50 of the 88 cities within the County, library services are provided by the County of Los Angeles Public Library. There are approximately 84 libraries operated by the County with roughly 7.5 million volumes in its book collection. The County of Los Angeles Public Library is a special district and is primarily funded by property taxes, but other funding mechanisms include a Mello-Roos Community Facilities District, developer impact fees, developer agreements, and a voter-approved special tax.

According to the General Plan, the Library's planning guidelines specify that 2.75 library material items should be available per capita as well as 0.5 gross square feet of library space per capita. The Public Library also imposes a mitigation fee on residential development based on the cost estimation of providing the appropriate library facilities and services to each library planning area. The current fees are as follows and also listed in County Code 22.246.040:

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on public resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's public resources. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

The Safety Element Update has several policies that are meant to provide support to County emergency providers. These policies ensure that response time goals are met through coordination and adequate resources. The project will not result in a net increase in individuals to service areas because no development is proposed as part of this project that may accommodate additional growth.

16. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The policies for the Safety Element Update will not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. The project will not potentially create a substantial permanent residential population increase because no development is proposed as part of this project that may accommodate additional growth. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant

b) Does the project include neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of such facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project does not include neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of such facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. This project will not reduce the parkland-to-population service ratio and therefore, require the construction or expansion of park facilities, because it is not a development project and none of the policies will increase housing opportunities. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant

c) Would the project interfere with regional open space connectivity?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not interfere with regional open space connectivity. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. The Safety Element is consistent with the Conservation and Natural Resources Element and Goal C/NR 1 that states open space areas must meet the diverse needs of Los Angeles County. This project is not proposing any policies that will conflict with the Conservation and Natural Resource Element and the impacts will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

In Los Angeles County, parks are operated and maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The County's park system, including facilities that are owned, operated, and maintained by the County totals approximately 70,000 acres.[22] The Los Angeles County General Plan Parks and Recreation Element, provides the standard for the allocation of parkland in the unincorporated county. This standard is four acres of local parkland per 1,000 residents, and six acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact recreation in Los Angeles County. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's recreation. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

This project will not reduce the parkland-to-population service ratio and therefore, require the construction or expansion of park facilities, because it is not a development project and none of the policies will increase housing opportunities. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant

[22] Los Angeles County General Plan, Chapter 10: Parks and Recreation Element, Page 172

17. TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. This project will not conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The Safety Element is consistent with the General Plan Mobility Element for the unincorporated communities. The Mobility Element provides an overview of the transportation infrastructure and strategies for developing an efficient and multimodal transportation network.

Measure T-6 of the General Plan Environmental Impact Report Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program requires traffic engineering firms retained to prepare traffic impact studies to consult with Caltrans when a development proposal meets the requirements of Statewide, regional, or area wide significance per CEQA Guidelines §15206(b). Development proposals that meet this criterial include residential development projects of more than 500 dwelling units, shopping centers or business establishments with more than 1,000 persons or encompassing more than 500,000 square feet of floor space, commercial office buildings employing more than 1,000 persons or encompassing more than 250,000 square feet of floor space, or a proposed hotel/motel with more than 500 rooms. None of the policies for the Safety Element Update will exceed these thresholds since the project is not proposed any direct development at a parcel-level.

Policy S 2.3 requires new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet evacuation requirements. This policy is to improve evacuation route access for future subdivisions. While this may have some impact to circulation system, projects will be analyzed at the time of permitting. The impacts of this project are less than significant.

b) Would the project conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. Section 15064.3(b) of the CEQA Guidelines lists the criteria for analyzing transportation impacts. In this subdivision, it specifies that projects where vehicle miles traveled exceed an applicable threshold of significance may have a significant impact. However, if projects will decrease vehicle miles traveled in the project area, then the project may have a less than significant impact. None of the policies for the Safety Element Update will exceed these thresholds since the project is not proposing any direct development at a parcel-level. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not exacerbate dangerous road conditions since the project is not proposing any direct development at a parcel-level. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not result in inadequate emergency access. The Safety Element Update is proposing a policy that will prevent development with inadequate access. Policy S 2.3 requires new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet required evacuation standards.

The Safety Element Update is not proposing any direct development at a parcel-level. Development projects will continue to be reviewed on a project-specific level by Public Works and Fire to ensure that no emergency access is blocked by construction, operation, or structural design. The impacts of this project are less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The Safety Element is consistent with the General Plan Mobility Element for the unincorporated communities. The Mobility Element provides an overview of the transportation infrastructure and strategies for developing an efficient and multimodal transportation network. The Element assesses the challenges and constraints of the Los Angeles County transportation system and offers policy guidance to reach the County's long-term mobility goals.

Policy S 2.3 requires new residential subdivisions and new accessory dwelling units within hazard areas to meet evacuation requirements. The Safety Element Update is not proposing any direct development at a parcel-level. Development projects will continue to be reviewed on a project-specific level by Public Works and Fire to ensure that no emergency access is blocked by construction, operation, or structural design. The impacts of this project are less than significant.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on transportation. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's transportation. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code § 5020.1(k), or	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. There are several resources listed in the California Register of Historical Resources[23] and in the Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks Registry[24]. These sites could potentially meet the criteria set forth in the CEQA guidelines or should be evaluated because of their proximity to an area that may contain tribal cultural resources. However, the Safety Element Update does not propose any ground disturbance or grading as part of the project scope, so there will be no substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource. The General Plan is a guiding document for the future development of Los Angeles County. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant.

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☒	☐

[23] California Register of Historical Resources and Landmarks (https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/ListedResources/?view=county&criteria=19)

[24] Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks Registry (http://hlrc.lacounty.gov/HLRC/pdf/Registry%202020.pdf?ver=2020-06-24-172750-153)

Less Than Significant Impact. In compliance with AB 52, staff notified the tribes that have requested to be informed when Los Angeles County, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, considers projects in the geographic area that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribe. The formal notification letter was emailed to the tribes on August 3, 2021. The tribes had 30 days from receipt of the letter to request a formal consultation with the County regarding the proposed project. Considering that the Safety Element policies are high-level policies that do not propose any ground disturbance or grading, and no requests for formal consultations were received from the notified tribes, the impact of this project is less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

There are several resources listed in the California Register of Historical Resources[25] and in the Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks Registry[26]. These sites could potentially meet the criteria set forth in the CEQA guidelines or should be evaluated because of their proximity to an area that may contain tribal cultural resources. However, the Safety Element Update does not propose any ground disturbance or grading as part of the project scope, so there will be no substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource. The General Plan is a guiding document for the future development of Los Angeles County. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. In compliance with AB 52, staff has notified the tribes that have requested to be informed when Los Angeles County, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, considers projects in the geographic area that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribe. Considering that the Safety Element policies are high-level policies that do not propose any ground disturbance or grading, and no requests for formal consultations were received from the notified tribes, the impact of this project is less than significant.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on tribal cultural resources. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's tribal cultural resources. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

[25] California Register of Historical Resources and Landmarks (https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/ListedResources/?view=county&criteria=19)

[26] Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks Registry (http://hlrc.lacounty.gov/HLRC/pdf/Registry%202020.pdf?ver=2020-06-24-172750-153)

19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects. The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. These policies influence how ground water quality will be maintained since water supply is threatened by climate change and flood risks can be exacerbated by climate change.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

Policy S 3.7 ensures that run-off from development is handled in a way that the water is retained within the property and not infiltrated outside. In unincorporated Los Angeles County, projects are required to comply with the requirements of the Low-Impact Development (LID) Ordinance in order to control and minimize potentially polluted runoff. Because all projects are required to comply with these requirements in order to obtain construction permits and certificates of occupancy, they would not impact any nonpoint source requirements. Therefore, the impact is considered to be less than significant.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. None of the policies in the Safety Element Update will require additional water supply as they relate to accessory uses and commercial aesthetic design. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards.

- Policy S 3.7: Infiltrate development runoff on-site, where feasible, to preserve or restore the natural hydrologic cycle and minimize increases in stormwater or dry weather flows.

- Policy S 5.10: Protect and improve local groundwater quality and supply to increase opportunities for use as a potable water source during drought periods.

- Policy S 5.11: Encourage the conservation of water by employing soil moisture sensors, automated irrigation systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and weather-based irrigation controllers.

The project has three proposed policies to allow for more water conservation and retention within the development site. These policies will contribute to the efforts to adapt to drought years by encouraging measures that ensures that the region will be able to have sufficient water supplies in the future. The project will have less than significant impacts.

c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments. The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. Development projects that are required to be consistent with the Safety Element may result in the need for onsite wastewater treatment systems, but each project will be analyzed on a project-specific level. Therefore, impacts from the project will be less than significant.

d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The project will not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. Development projects that are required to be consistent with the Safety Element may generate solid waste, but each project will be analyzed on a project-specific level. Therefore, impacts from the project will be less than significant.

e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. All projects must comply with the Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) and other solid waste diversion documents required by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939). In addition to AB 939, certain businesses must comply with Assembly Bill 341 (2011) and Assembly Bill 1826 (2014) to set up recycling services for recyclables and organic waste. Environmental documents should include/discuss methods that are or will be provided for adequate collection of recyclable and organic waste materials as a result of the project for such businesses. The California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, as amended, requires each "development project" to provide an adequate storage area for collection and removal of recyclable materials. Environmental documents should include/discuss standards to provide adequate recyclable storage areas for collection/storage of recyclable and green waste materials for such projects.

The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. The project will not generate organic waste or recyclables; therefore, the project will not need to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Development projects that are required to be consistent with the Safety Element may generate solid waste, but each project will be analyzed on a project-specific level. Therefore, impacts from the project will be less than significant.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

All public wastewater disposal (sewer) systems are required to obtain and operate under the terms of an NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit, which is issued by the local Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The NPDES is a permitting program that established a framework for regulating municipal, industrial, and construction stormwater discharges into surface water bodies and stormwater channels.

The Los Angeles and Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Boards are responsible for implementing the federally-mandated NPDES program in the County through the adoption of an Order, which is effectively the NPDES Permit for that region. The Los Angeles Regional Board's Permit designates 84 cities within the Board's region as permittees, and the County as the principal permittee of the NPDES Permit. The NPDES Permit defines the responsibilities of each permittee to control pollutants, including the adoption and enforcement of local ordinances and monitoring programs. The principal permittee is responsible for coordinating activities to comply with the requirements set forth in the NPDES Permit but is not responsible for ensuring the compliance of any other permittee. The County's Stormwater Ordinance requires that the discharge, deposit, or disposal of any stormwater and/or runoff to storm drains must be covered by a NPDES permit.

For the unincorporated areas, in accordance with the NPDES Permit, the County implements LID standards at the project site level to address pollutants generated by specific activities and types of development. The main purpose of this planning program is to identify new construction and redevelopment projects that could contribute to stormwater pollution, and to mitigate run-off from those projects by requiring that certain Best Management Practices be implemented during and after construction. Moreover, the LID standards prevent erosion by controlling runoff rates, protecting natural slopes and channels, and conserving natural areas.

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP), which is compiled by the interagency Integrated Waste Management Task Force and updated annually, has identified landfills with sufficient disposal capacity for the next 15 years, assuming current growth and development patterns remain the same.

In addition to the projections of the IWMP (see above), all projects must comply with other documents required by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939).

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on utilities and service systems. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's utilities and service systems. Future development impacted by this ordinance, proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

The Safety Element Update is not requiring direct development at a parcel-level but provides policies that will guide the development of Los Angeles County in the next decade. Development projects that are required to be consistent with the Safety Element may result in the need for onsite wastewater treatment systems, but each project will be analyzed on a project-specific level. The Safety Element Update policies are meant to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be inflicted by natural and climate-induced hazards. The policies also include strategies to help residents adapt and become more resilient to climate-induced hazards. Therefore, impacts will be less than significant

20. WILDFIRE

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. This update was mandated by the State per Senate Bill 379 to include adaptation and resilience strategies for a changing climate. Wildland fire threats are increasing, in part due to climate change. The rise in temperatures and prolonged periods of drought increase the fire ignition potential and may increase the frequency and duration of wildfires. Although multiple regulations are in place to ensure that adequate infrastructure is incorporated into new developments, older communities with aging and substandard infrastructure may face greater risks from wildland fires.

- Policy S 4.1: Prohibit new subdivisions in VHFHSZs unless entirely surrounded by existing built development, will connect to public infrastructure, and the level of service capacity of adjoining major highways can accommodate evacuation. Discourage subdivisions in all other FHSZs.

- Policy S 4.14: Encourage the strategic placement of structures in FHSZs that conserves fire suppression resources, increases safety for emergency fire access and evacuation, and provides a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

Policies S 4.1 and 4.14 provide guidance on how new development in fire hazard severity zones will be established. Limiting the density in fire hazard areas are a way to prevent the loss of life and property from wildfire events. Additional density within a fire hazard area also affects the rate of emergency response.

- Policy S 4.4: Reduce the risk of wildland fire hazards through meeting minimum state and local regulations for fire-resistant building materials, vegetation management, fuel modification and other fire hazard reduction programs.

- Policy S 4.6: Ensure that infrastructure requirements for new development meet minimum state and local regulations for, ingress, egress, peak load water supply availability, anticipated water supply, and other standards within FHSZs.

Policies S 4.4 and 4.6 provide additional protection through defensible space and water supply availability for development that is established in fire hazard zones.

- Policy S 4.8: Support the retrofitting of existing structures in FHSZs to meet current safety regulations such as the building and fire code to help reduce the risk of structural and human loss due to wildfire.

- Policy S 4.15: Encourage rebuilds and additions to comply with fire mitigation guidelines.

Policy S 4.8 and 4.15 address the need for existing structures to be retrofitted to be fire-hardened. These measures may reduce the risk of damage to the property.

The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact due to the comprehensive list of policies that may reduce the risk of harm and damage that comes from an oncoming wildfire. The project does not establish development on a parcel-level. Those development will be analyzed on a project-specific basis.

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element reduces the risk of exposing occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire due to slope, winds, and other factors. Policy S 4.7 discourages building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides. Specific development established in fire hazard zones will be required to undergo review by the Fire Department to get a fuel modification plan approved. The project-specific review will analyze the site of the development and required adequate fuel modification. The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element Update does not directly require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Policy S 4.12 supports efforts to incorporate systematic fire protection improvements for open space, including facilitation of safe fire suppression tactics, standards for adequate access for firefighting, fire mitigation planning with landowners and other stakeholders, andwater sources for fire suppression. Specific development established in fire hazard zones will be required to undergo review by the Fire Department to get a fuel modification plan approved. The project-specific review will analyze the site of the development and required adequate fuel modification. The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Safety Element reduces the risk of exposing people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. Policy S 4.7 discourages building mid-slope, on ridgelines and on hilltops, and employ adequate setbacks on slopes to reduce risk from wildfires and post-fire, rainfall-induced landslides. Specific development established in fire hazard zones will be required to undergo review by the Fire Department to get a fuel modification plan approved. The project-specific review will analyze the site of the development and required adequate fuel modification. Development projects will continue to be reviewed for compliance with the Low Impact Development and Stormwater Ordinances. The Safety Element Update will have a less than significant impact.

e) Substantially impair implementation an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Less Than Significant Impact. The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for organizing and directing the preparedness efforts of the Emergency Management Organization of Los Angeles County. The emergency response plan for the unincorporated areas of the County is the Operational Area Emergency Response Plan (OAERP), which is prepared by OEM. The OAERP strengthens short and long-term emergency response and recovery capability and identifies emergency procedures and emergency management routes in the County. The County has also prepared a Local All Hazards Mitigation Plan to be in compliance with federal law and to be eligible for disaster funding. Figure 12.6 of the Safety Element in the General Plan[27] depicts the County's designated Disaster routes. It identifies the routes that emergency responders are likely to use when responding to an emergency scenario and the field facilities that will be used by emergency responders to coordinate their activities. The Department of Public Works also maintains a "Disaster Routes with Road Districts" Map[28].

The Safety Element Policy S 7.3 ensures coordination with other County agencies, such as Public Works, Fire, and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) on emergency planning and response activities, and evacuation planning. This coordination is imperative to ensure consistency in different plans that revolve about hazard mitigation and evacuation. Two new legislation regarding evacuation planning is required to be incorporated into the Safety Element Update. Assembly Bill 747 (Levine, 2019) requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. Evacuation routes are determined by emergency responders who decide at the time of the emergency which routes should be used for evacuation after assessing the conditions and location of the emergency to avoid endangering the lives of others, personal injury, or death. Evacuation planning was also addressed in Senate Bill 99 (Nielsen, 2019) which focuses on identifying residential developments that have fewer than two evacuation routes. The data that is included in the Safety Element Update pertaining to these two legislation was confirmed by Public Works, Fire, and OEM to ensure that the data methodology did not conflict with their existing emergency response or evacuation plans. Therefore, the project will not substantially impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and the impact will be less than significant.

[27] https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_2035_2014-FIG_12-6_Disaster_Routes.pdf
[28] https://dpw.lacounty.gov/dsg/DisasterRoutes/map/disaster_rdm-North.pdf

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The General Plan Safety Element addresses the magnitude of resources the County devotes to fire protection. The update to the Safety Element was mandated by the State per Senate Bill 379 to include climate change adaptation and resilience strategies for a changing climate. Wildland fire threats are increasing, in part due to climate change. The rise in temperatures and prolonged periods of drought increase the fire ignition potential and may increase the frequency and duration of wildfires. Although multiple regulations are in place to ensure that adequate infrastructure is incorporated into new developments, older communities with aging and substandard infrastructure may face greater risks from wildland fires.

The project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires will not have a significant impact on Los Angeles County's wildfires. This ordinance does not directly propose any development, and it does not indirectly encourage the approval of development that would have a significant impact on the County's wildfires. Wildfires have a significant impact Los Angeles County, and this ordinance would not increase either the intensity or frequency of wildfires. Furthermore, future development impacted by this ordinance, that is proposed after the approval of the ordinance, would require discretionary review, and would be analyzed separately consistent with CEQA requirements.

21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	*Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment that would substantially reduce or degrade the habitat of sensitive biological resources. This project is the update to the General Plan Safety Element, which provides goals and policies that set the direction of how Los Angeles County can reduce the risk of natural and climate-induced hazards. The project does not establish any direct development of land. Any future development will be required to be consistent with the goals and policies of the Safety Element and undergo a project-specific environmental analysis.

b) Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The General Plan Safety Element Update is a long-range planning document that provides guidance in form of policies to help direct how Los Angeles County can reduce risk of harm and damaged that is caused by natural disasters and climate-induced hazards. The nature of the project is to think of the long-term environmental goals since climate change has been exacerbating the known hazards that affect Los Angeles County. The policies in the Safety Element Update are consistent with other elements of the General Plan and therefore will have a less than significant impact.

c) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Safety Element Update does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. The policies are comprised previous policies that were carried over to the update, revisions of previous

policies, and new policies that address the changing needs of the current climate. The cumulative impact of all the policies in the Safety Element will still have a less than significant impact since the implementation of these policies will contribute to the reduction of risk of harm and damage from natural and climate-induced hazards.

d) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

As discussed in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not result in any environmental effects which will cause substantial direct or indirect adverse effects to human beings. The policies for the Safety Element Update, and the project's implementation ordinance to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires, will not create any direct impacts as this project is an update to a General Plan element and no development or construction activities are proposed.

However, the policies will not cause significant impacts to humans related to flooding, drainage issues, wastewater, air quality, noise, water quality, wildfires, emergency operations, or to existing infrastructure or public services because the nature of the policies is to reduce the risk of harm and damage that can be caused by natural or climate-induced disasters, such as fire, flood, seismic and geotechnical hazards. The policies provide guidance on how future development will be established in Los Angeles County. The policies provide guidance on site development in hazardous areas, preventative measures for flooding, support for programming, climate change adaptation and resilience strategies. With these policies, impacts to humans, whether direct or indirect, will be less than significant.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
SAFETY ELEMENT UPDATE
PROJECT NO. PRJ2021-002039
PLAN AMENDMENT NO. RPPL2021011001
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. RPPL202100552

December 15, 2021 Regional Planning Commission Hearing

At the public hearing on December 15, 2021, staff presented an overview of the Safety Element Update. Staff also presented on public engagement efforts and agency consultations conducted for the Safety Element Update.

Ten individuals testified at the hearing. Seven individuals representing environmental conservation groups spoke in support of the Safety Element Update, in particular, the wildfire hazard policies.

Two individuals representing the Acton Town Council expressed concern that the ordinance to amend Titles 21 and 22 have not been made publicly available and there is not enough information on the implementation programs. They also emphasized the need for local emergency planning to protect communities rather than prohibiting future subdivisions.

A representative from the Building Industry Association testified that the policies proposed in the Safety Element do not strike an appropriate balance between the need to avoid unreasonable risks and the ability to mitigate risk through new technology and construction methods. The representative was concerned that the proposed policies will prevent the County from addressing future housing needs.

The Director of Regional Planning clarified to the RPC that the policies in the Safety Element does not conflict with the pending Disaster Recovery Ordinance. The Director also confirmed that the new Safety Element policies will not apply to subdivision projects with complete applications or with approvals prior to the effective date of the Safety Element Update.

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) expressed its support for the policy to limit subdivisions in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) and for the prohibition of plan amendments in the VHFHSZ that would increase density. Other policies that were discussed include policies that require sustainable maintenance of urban tree canopies and architectural shade structures to mitigate the effect of extreme heat. The RPC also inquired about the extent of update to the seismic section and level of involvement from the State Department of Conservation. The RPC expressed interest in including solar farm heat islands under the Human-made Hazards section in the next

iteration of the Safety Element Update as more information is released on this specific hazard.

The RPC closed the hearing, and voted 5-0 to recommend approval of the Safety Element Update and adoption of the Negative Declaration environmental assessment to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

RESOLUTION
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROJECT NO. PRJ2021-002039
PLAN AMENDMENT NO. RPPL2021011001
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. RPPL2021005522

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WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") of the County of Los Angeles ("County") conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the matter of the update to the County General Plan Safety Element and amendment to the County General Plan Land Use Element, collectively referred to as "Safety Element Update"; and Negative Declaration environmental assessment on December 15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds as follows:

1. The County Board of Supervisors adopted the County General Plan, pursuant to California Government Code ("Government Code") section 65300 on October 6, 2015;

2. The General Plan must contain a Safety Element that serves as a policy guide to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, economic loss, and social dislocation resulting from natural and human-made hazards, such as earthquakes, fire, flood, extreme heat, and drought;

3. The Department of Regional Planning ("Department") has prepared an update to the Safety Element, with concurrent amendments to the Land Use Element, to meet the requirements of Senate Bill ("SB") 1035, SB 379, Assembly Bill ("AB") 747, SB 99, AB 1409, and Government Code section 65302(g);

4. SB 1035 requires the Safety Element to be updated on the Housing Element Update cycle. The concurrent update of these two elements ensures new information relating to hazards and climate adaptation is considered when updating the Housing Element. The Housing Element was adopted for the planning period of 2021-2029 on November 30, 2021;

5. SB 379 requires the Safety Element to address climate adaptation and resilience strategies through inclusion of goals, policies, and objectives based on a climate vulnerability assessment. These strategies are included as policies within the climate adaptation and resiliency section that cuts across all hazards and individual hazard sections;

6. AB 747 requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. The Safety Element includes a new policy map that identifies roads that are public,

paved and through-ways, which may be used for evacuation if they are viable routes during an actual emergency;

7. SB 99 requires the Safety Element to identify residential developments in hazard areas that have fewer than two emergency evacuation routes. Unincorporated communities with residential developments with limited egress are identified in the Emergency Response section;

8. AB 1409 requires the Safety Element to identify evacuation locations. The Safety Element describes the process the County utilizes to identify evacuation locations based on the nature and scale of the emergencies;

9. Goals and policies are proposed for seismic and geotechnical hazards, climate adaptation and resiliency, flood, fire, extreme heat and drought, human-made hazards, and emergency response;

10. Two new policy maps are proposed for County Floodways/Floodplains and Possible Evacuation Routes. Eight existing policy maps are updated with the most currently available data;

11. The Safety Element contains nine implementation programs: three existing and six new programs. The six new implementation programs address wildfire planning, climate-adapted landscaping, community capacity and resiliency, shaded corridors, oil and gas operations, and continued implementation of the OurCounty Sustainability Plan;

12. Figure C.1, Hazard, Environmental, and Resource Constraints Model, and Table C.1 in Appendix C of the General Plan were updated to reflect mapping changes based on the most current data available and the change in name of the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas to Sensitive Environmental Resource Areas.

13. The text and figures in Appendix H of the General Plan were comprehensively updated with the most currently available data and to account for the changes in development from 2015 to present day;

14. The Department consulted with CAL FIRE, California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation, and the Office of Emergency Services prior to updating the Safety Element to ensure that all information known to the agencies and required per Government Code section 65302(g) were included in the Safety Element. A draft of the Safety Element Update was submitted to the agencies for review on August 9, 2021;

15. The amendment is consistent with and supportive of the principles, goals, and policies of the General Plan. The Safety Element Update strengthens the concept of sustainability that is woven through the five guiding principles of the General Plan. The goals and policies of the Safety Element maintain these principles, while reducing the risks from future natural and human-made hazards that could impact communities and the economy;

16. Approval of the amendment will be in the interest of public health, safety, and general welfare and in conformity with good zoning practice. The Safety Element considers foremost the interest of public health, safety, and welfare of the communities and its residents. The purpose of the Safety Element is to provide that guidance to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, economic loss, and social dislocation resulting from natural and human-made hazards;

17. A Negative Declaration is the appropriate environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County environmental guidelines. The Initial Study concluded that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant impact on the environment;

18. A Notice of Completion and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration was filed with the State Clearinghouse on November 10, 2021. The formal public review period of 30 days for the Negative Declaration was held from November 15 to December 15, 2021;

19. In accordance with California Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 and Government Code section 65352.3, the Department notified California Native American Tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area that have requested project notification via email and mail and tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission, and invited them to request consultation regarding the Project. Upon request, the Department reached out to Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians but received no response for scheduling a consultation;

20. Five focus groups were conducted in April and May 2020 for the Adaptive Capacity Assessment (ACA). The ACA provides a general profile of communities' current and near-term ability to cope with and adapt to climate hazards. Additionally, surveys on wildfire, flood, and extreme heat were made available on the project website to gather information on adaptive capacity from a wider audience. The surveys were offered in English, Spanish, and Chinese from May 2020 through September 2020. Staff received 768 responses in total;

21. An introductory webinar to the Safety Element Update was conducted on March 24, 2021;

22. Four workshops were conducted in June 2021 to discuss climate adaptation with members of the public. One general workshop was held on July 13, 2021, and three additional regional workshops were held on July 15, 2021; July 20, 2021; and July 22, 2021;

23. Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 22.222.180, a public hearing notice was published in 14 local newspapers countywide, including the Spanish language newspaper, *La Opinion*. The public hearing notice and materials were posted on the Department's website and promoted through social media. On November 4, 2021, a total of 662 Notices of Public Hearing were mailed to those on the courtesy mailing list;

24. The Commission instructed staff to include any revisions by the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation and State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in compliance with Government Code § 65302.5; and

25. On December 15, 2021, the Commission conducted a duly-noticed public hearing on the Safety Element Update. The Commission closed the hearing and voted 5-0 to recommend approval of the Project and adoption of the Negative Declaration environmental assessment to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regional Planning Commission recommends to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (Board) as follows:

1. That the Board holds a public hearing to consider the Safety Element and Land Use Element amendments;

2. That the Board adopts the Negative Declaration and certify its completion and determine that the project will not have a significant impact upon the environment; and

3. That the Board adopt Plan Amendment No. RPPL2021011001, amending the General Plan with the updated Safety Element and Land Use Element, and determine that the Safety Element is compatible with and supports the goals and policies of the County General Plan.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the voting members of the Regional Planning Commission on the County of Los Angeles on December 15, 2021.

Elida Luna

Elida Luna, Interim Secretary
Regional Planning Commission
County of Los Angeles

APPROVED AS TO FORM: OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By Elaine Lemke

Elaine Lemke, Assistant County Counsel
Los Angeles County

VOTE:

Concurring: Shell, Hastings, Duarte-White, Louie, Moon

Dissenting:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Action Date: December 15, 2021

TH:IC
2/2/22

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Celia Zavala, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING

PROJECT NO. PRJ2021-002039-(ALL DISTRICTS)
PLAN AMENDMENT NO. RPPL2021011001-(ALL DISTRICTS)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. RPPL2021005522-(ALL DISTRICTS)

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the matter referenced above on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**, in Room 381B of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. Interested persons will be given an opportunity to testify. **Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a virtual public hearing may be held.** Please visit http://bos.lacounty.gov/Board-Meeting/Board-Agendas for details on how to listen to the virtual meeting and/or address the Board. Written comments may be submitted to the address above, attention: Public Hearing Section or e-mailed to https://publiccomment.bos.lacounty.gov with the Project No. in the "Subject". The Project status can be obtained online at: http://bos.lacounty.gov/Board-Meeting/Public-Hearings or you may also call (213) 974-1426.

Location: Unincorporated Los Angeles County.

General Description of Proposal: Proposed comprehensive update to the Los Angeles County General Plan Safety Element and the associated amendment to the Land Use Element to update goals and policies, incorporate new adaptation and resilience strategies to address impacts from climate change hazards. The Board will also consider the Negative Declaration prepared for this project, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, that assessed impacts of proposed amendments to Los Angeles County Codes, Title 21 - Subdivisions and Title 22 – Planning and Zoning to reduce damage to life and property from wildfires in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

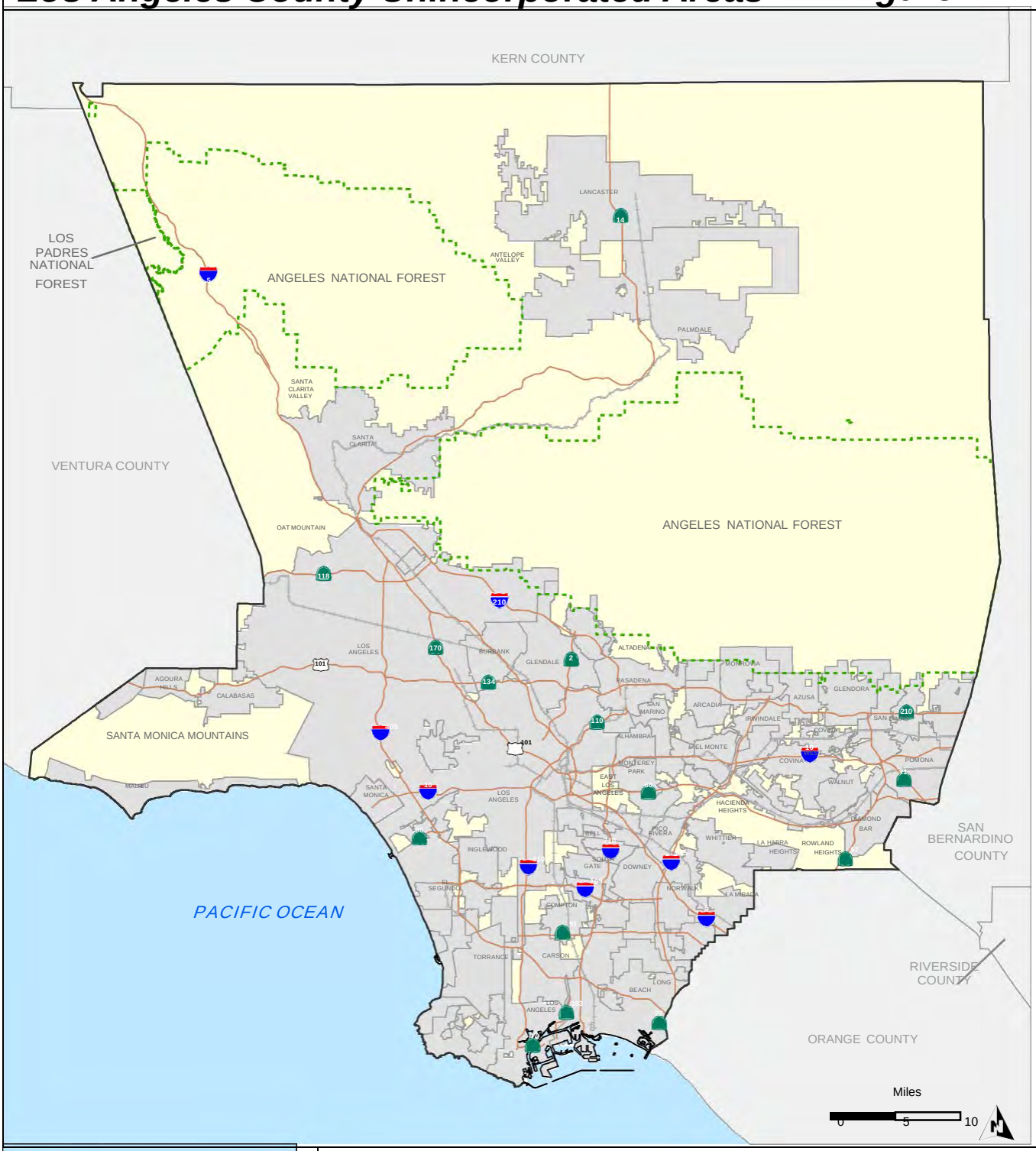
Contact the Department of Regional Planning, **Iris Chi at (213) 974-6411** between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday (office is closed Fridays) or lchi@planning.lacounty.gov directly for questions or additional information. Project materials are available at https://planning.lacounty.gov/site/climate/se_documents/. **Si necesita más información en Español, por favor llame al (213) 974-6411.**

If you need reasonable accommodations, such as assistive listening devices, agenda in Braille, interpreters, disability-related accommodations or other auxiliary aids, please contact the Executive Office of the Board at (213) 974-1411 or (213) 974-1707 (TTY), Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at least three business days prior to the Board meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible. Máquinas de traducción estan disponibles o si necesita intérprete para las juntas del Condado de Los Angeles, por favor llame al (213) 974-1426, de lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m., con tres días de anticipación.

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Los Angeles County Unincorporated Areas

Figure 4.2



Unincorporated Areas

Cities

Source: Department of Regional Planning, May 2014

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