

2. Planning Process

The 2025 Los Angeles County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan (AHMP) update builds upon the robust all-hazard planning framework established by the 2020 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, while incorporating new methodologies, stakeholder engagement, and compliance requirements. The planning process for this update emphasized inclusivity, transparency, and the integration of emerging climate adaptation considerations.

2.1 Overview of the Planning Process

This planning process followed a structured, phased approach aligned with FEMA’s Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide (2022), 44 CFR requirements, and guidance from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). This approach began with project initiation where the scope, timeline, and stakeholders were defined. Stakeholder and public engagement were prioritized to ensure representation from diverse groups, including historically underrepresented communities and climate-vulnerable populations.

Data collection and analysis leveraged updated hazard, climate, and vulnerability data from local, state, and federal sources, providing a foundation for enhanced risk and vulnerability assessments. Hazard profiles were updated to include climate projections and cascading impact scenarios. Mitigation strategies were revised and prioritized with a renewed focus on climate resilience and nature-based solutions. Strategies were also developed incorporating people with access and functional needs throughout each component of the AHMP. Finally, methods for monitoring and evaluation of mitigation efforts were defined in the plan maintenance and implementation strategy. Table 2.1 provides a timeline of the major plan update tasks and milestones over the planning process.

Table 2-1 AMHP Planning Timeline

Date	Tasks	People Involved
February 2025	Reviewed the 2020 AHMP and identified components that require update.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Collected and reviewed existing related plans and other documents to incorporate into the updated AHMP, including the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) along with resources for people with access and functional needs and people experiencing homelessness.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Met with state Hazard Mitigation Planning Team.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Identified the initial list of stakeholders and ensured organizations that work with and represent people with access and functional needs were engaged in the planning process. External stakeholders include neighboring communities, local and regional agencies, and others.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Conducted 2025 AHMP Kickoff Meetings with internal stakeholders.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division

Date	Tasks	People Involved
February 2025	Determined hazards to be profiled including both natural (i.e., wildland fire, earthquake, etc.) and human-caused (i.e., cybersecurity, terrorism, etc.).	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group
	Drafted initial sections of the 2025 AHMP.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Shared drafts of initial sections with internal and external stakeholders for their review.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Met with internal and external stakeholders to obtain feedback on draft plan elements.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
March 2025	Developed the Public Outreach Engagement Plan to collect feedback from the public on the public draft of the 2025 AHMP.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Drafted subsequent sections of the 2025 AHMP including updating existing mitigation actions and developing new mitigation actions as needed.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Shared drafts of the subsequent sections with internal and external stakeholders for their review.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Met with internal and external stakeholders to obtain feedback on subsequent draft plan elements.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
April 2025	Drafted final sections of the 2025 AHMP and produced a Final Draft AHMP.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Shared Final Draft of the AHMP with internal and external stakeholders for their review.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Met with internal and external stakeholders to obtain feedback on subsequent Final Draft AHMP.	OEM AHMP Project Team, Internal County Stakeholder Group, External Stakeholder Group, Cal OES Mitigation Division
	Produced Final AHMP and submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.	OEM AHMP Project Team

2.2 Stakeholder Engagement

Inclusive stakeholder involvement was central to the planning process. The County ensured broad representation and participation, consistent with the "Whole Community Approach" outlined in the 2023

Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Key stakeholders that comprised the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee included:

- County departments such as, but not limited to, Public Works, Public Health, and Regional Planning.
- Cities within the operational area (OA) and neighboring communities through Disaster Management Area Coordinators (DMACs) and city representation.
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including environmental and disability advocacy groups.
- Special District partners managing critical infrastructure.
- Representatives of academia and school districts.
- Community representatives from Access and Functional Needs (AFN) populations and historically underrepresented populations.

Regular meetings, workshops, and focus groups were held to gather input and refine mitigation strategies. Stakeholder feedback was documented and incorporated into the plan, ensuring diverse perspectives informed the process. Tables 2-2 and 2-3 includes a list of representatives of each agency that contributed to the planning process.

Table 2-2 Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee – County Partners

Department/Agency	Name	Title	Planning Contribution	Group
Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management	Michael Morin	Emergency Management Coordinator	Functioned as lead planners, led planning meetings, drafted plan, reviewed mitigation actions submitted by departments.	OEM AHMP Project Team
	Matthew Topoozian	Emergency Management Coordinator		
	Karen Haro	Emergency Management Coordinator		
	Girma Wollela	Emergency Management Coordinator		
Los Angeles County Department of Aging and Disabilities	Mike Tsao	Administrative Deputy	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
	Henry Lopez	Program Manager		
	Carin Anderson	Administrative Services Manager		
	Keilah Kelso	Administrative Services Manager		
Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office – Homeless Initiative	Onnie Williams III	Principal Analyst	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	Matthew Gosner	Climate Resilience Officer	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors	Katharine de la Cruz	Administrative Services Manager	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
	Vanessa Huerta	Safety Officer		
Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity	Maritza Dubie	Human Services Administrator	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group

Department/Agency	Name	Title	Planning Contribution	Group
Los Angeles County Department of Health Services	Elaine Forsyth	Senior Nursing Instructor	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
	Isabel Sanchez	Disaster Services Specialist		
Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation	Ramon Bernal	Disaster Services Analyst	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Elizabeth Rubin	Epidemiologist	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services	Manuel Gutierrez	Disaster Services Analyst	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works	Joseph Marble	Disaster Services Analyst	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning	Thuy Hua	Supervising Planner	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
	Edgar De La Torre	Principal Regional Planner		
Los Angeles County Fire Department	Nick Duvally	Deputy Fire Chief	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Internal Services Department	Juan-Raul Cardenas	GIS Analyst	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department	Jordan Kennedy	Sergeant	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	Internal Stakeholder Group

Table 2-3 Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee – External Partners

Department/Agency	Planning Contribution	Group
Alzheimer's Association California	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Catholic Charities	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
City of Beverly Hills Emergency Management Division	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
City of Long Beach Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Communications	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group

City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disability Community Resource Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area A	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area B	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area C	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area D	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area E	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area F	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area G	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Disaster Management Area Coordinator, Area H	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Emergency Network Los Angeles	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Habitat for Humanity	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Harbor Regional Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Lanterman Regional Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Office of Education	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group
Westside Regional Center	Attended planning meetings, reviewed section drafts, and provided feedback.	External Stakeholder Group

2.3 Public Involvement and Outreach

Public outreach efforts aimed to foster transparency, inclusivity, and fortify public trust. The County engaged the public during the planning process through multiple media formats to share information and collect feedback taking into account language and other access and functional needs. A rolling outreach strategy was used to ensure that as each section was drafted and reviewed by planning stakeholders, it was concurrently made available for public commentary. To accomplish this, each section was posted to the Los Angeles County Hazard Mitigation Program website as it was completed by the planning team. A survey designed to gauge community perceptions of hazard risks and mitigation priorities was used on the website (Attachment XX). This approach ensured that the public was a key partner in every step of the planning process and had a voice as each section was being developed by the planning team. A social media campaign using all LA County OEM social media channels was initiated to direct the public to the survey.

To address equity, targeted outreach efforts focused on engaging historically underrepresented communities and AFN populations, using multilingual and accessible materials and culturally appropriate techniques. Aside from public outreach, stakeholders that work with or represent people with access and functional needs, people experiencing homelessness, and a diverse array of cultural groups were targeted to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee. These measures ensured that the public had meaningful opportunities to participate in shaping the plan.

2.4 Review and Incorporation of Existing Plans and Reports

The planning process included a comprehensive review of existing documents and protocols to ensure consistency and alignment. The 2020 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan served as the foundational document for this update. Additionally, key concepts from the 2023 Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), such as Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) and disaster management areas, were integrated. The Los Angeles County Climate Vulnerability Assessment provided valuable insights into climate risks and social sensitivity, while local Climate Action Plans ensured alignment with municipal climate adaptation initiatives. Furthermore, the 2021 UASI THIRA (Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment) provided critical data for identifying evolving threats and capability targets, enhancing the accuracy and relevance of the plan. The demographic data from the 2020 U.S. Census was utilized to ensure an accurate representation of Los Angeles County's population, now estimated at over 10 million residents. The demographic breakdown includes 48% Hispanic or Latino, 26% White, 15% Asian, 8% African American, and 3% other, with over 40% speaking a language other than English at home, emphasizing the need for multilingual and culturally appropriate outreach.

Table 2-3 Existing Plans, Maps, and Reports

Plan, Map, or Report	Information to be Incorporated into the 2025 Updated AHMP
Los Angeles County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (2023)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and Section 5: Mitigation Strategy
Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan (2024)	Safety element mitigation policies used to inform Section 5 – Mitigation Strategy
Los Angeles County Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan (2021)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and Section 5: Mitigation Strategy for elements related to flood hazards
County of Los Angeles Floodplain Management Plan Progress Report from (2024)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and Section 5: Mitigation Strategy for elements related to flood hazards

Plan, Map, or Report	Information to be Incorporated into the 2025 Updated AHMP
County of Los Angeles Repetitive Loss Area Analysis Progress Report (2021)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and Section 5: Mitigation Strategy for elements related to flood hazards
Los Angeles County 2045 Climate Action Plan (2024)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, Section 5: Mitigation Strategy, and Section 6: Climate Change for elements related to hazard risk posed by climate change
Los Angeles County Fire Department Fire Plan (2023)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and Section 5: Mitigation Strategy for elements related to wildland fire hazards
Our County: Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan (2019)	Used to inform Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, Section 5: Mitigation Strategy, and Section 6: Climate Change for elements related to hazard risk posed by climate change
Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Strategy Plan (2022)	Used to inform vulnerable populations information across all sections of the plan.
Disability Among Adults in Los Angeles County (2019)	Used to inform vulnerable populations information across all sections of the plan.
Southern California Earthquake Data Center's Earthquake Catalogs (Current as of 2025)	Historical seismic information used in Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.
Maritime Tsunami Response Playbooks: Background Information and Guidance for Response and Hazard Mitigation Use (2016)	Historical tsunami information used in Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.
FEMA Flood Insurance Study, Los Angeles County, California (2020)	Historical flood information used in Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS): Rainfall and Landslides in Southern California (2015)	Historical landslide information used in Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.
Burn Scar Information and Maps	Historical fire information used in Section 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment.

2.5 Continued Public Participation

To maintain transparency and community involvement, the County has outlined several measures for continued public participation:

- Public Access to Hazard Mitigation Documents:** A copy of the 2025 AHMP will be maintained on the Los Angeles County Hazard Mitigation Program website along with contact information. Los Angeles County OEM will notify the public of any changes or updates, including mitigation projects identified in the plan as they are implemented, via social media, and traditional local media channels.
- Annual Public Engagement Opportunities:** Los Angeles County OEM will endeavor to hold multiple in-person public engagement opportunities for hazard mitigation to keep the public informed of progress on hazard mitigation projects, obtain ongoing public feedback, and educate the public about the County's hazard mitigation efforts.

- **Online Portal:** A Los Angeles County Hazard Mitigation Program website will be established to provide the public with more information on hazard mitigation and project updates. This portal will serve as a mechanism to obtain continuous public feedback as projects are implemented and offers access to mitigation resources.
- **Standing Advisory Committee:** The Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will be expanded to a standing status and will meet at least once per year or more often as determined necessary to support hazard mitigation projects. The standing Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will be comprised of representatives from diverse community groups to provide ongoing input and oversight of hazard mitigation efforts. The standing Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will also serve as an important forum for future updates of the AHMP.

These activities ensure that the community remains informed and actively engaged in the plan's implementation and maintenance.

2.6 Plan Update Method and Schedule

The 2025 LHMP includes an updated methodology for future revisions, ensuring compliance with federal and state guidelines. A full plan update will occur every five years with the next scheduled in 2030. The plan will be reviewed annually to assess progress on mitigation actions and update risk data as needed. Annual review will include the following elements:

- **Annual Review Worksheets:** Every year, LA County OEM will email each member of the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee an Annual Review Worksheet to complete. As shown in Appendix A, the Annual Review Worksheet reflects the FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Tool and includes the following sections: planning process, hazard profile, risk assessment, and mitigation strategy. Each member of the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will email completed worksheets back to LA County OEM to review. LA County OEM will summarize these findings and email them out to the committee. Additionally, the findings from the review worksheets will be presented to the full Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee at its next regular meeting.
- **Mitigation Progress Project Reports:** Mitigation actions will be monitored and updated using the Mitigation Project Progress Report. During each annual review, each department or agency currently administering a mitigation project will submit a progress report to LA County OEM. For projects that are being funded by a FEMA mitigation grant, FEMA quarterly reports may be used as the preferred reporting tool. As shown in Appendix A, the progress report will discuss the current status of the mitigation project, including any changes made to the project, identify implementation problems, and describe appropriate strategies to overcome them.
- **Post-Incident Mitigation Review:** Following a major disaster event impacting Los Angeles County, a post-disaster review will be initiated by LA County OEM to evaluate the need to update the AHMP based on the circumstances of the disaster and incorporate any specific mitigation actions required due to the incident. If LA County OEM finds that an update to the AHMP is needed, the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will be convened to begin drafting the update.
- **2030 AHMP Update Kickoff:** Following receipt of the Annual Review Worksheets in early 2029, LA County OEM will convene the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee for a meeting to review the worksheet findings and begin the process of updating the AHMP in 2030. LA County OEM, in consultation with the Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee will develop a work plan for the update, conduct research and review relevant documentation, determine hazards to be included in the 2030 AHMP, and begin the process to draft an updated AHMP.