

City of Watsonville Local Hazard Mitigation Plan – Draft Goals and Objectives

The City of Watsonville strives to be a resilient community that can avoid, mitigate, survive, recover from, and thrive after a disaster. The City’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) sets forth goals and objectives that will guide policy decisions in respect to hazards and mitigation measures and should consider future planning and protection visions for the City.

Goals:

1. Avoid or reduce the potential for loss of life, injury and property damage caused by natural disasters.
2. Keep critical services and government functions operational by protecting key infrastructure.
3. Promote hazard mitigation as an integrated policy.
4. Improve community emergency management preparedness, collaboration and outreach.
5. Develop and implement mitigation strategies that optimize public funds in an efficient and cost-effective way.

Objectives:

1. Encourage the incorporation of mitigation measures into changes in the built environment; especially in areas at substantial hazard risk, and strengthen community resilience under present and anticipated future conditions.
2. Plan for and regulate the uses of land in order to provide a pattern of urban development that will minimize exposure to hazards.
3. Maintain development standards that minimize risks to human lives and property resulting from hazards.
4. Monitor and support the natural environment’s capacity to deal with the impacts of natural hazards, taking into account the potential impacts of global climate change.
5. Ensure that hazard mitigation measures and allocation of mitigation funds are protective of the City’s low-income, underserved, linguistically isolated, minority, access and functional needs, and other highly vulnerable populations so that hazards do not have a disproportionately negative impact on those populations, and improve coordination with those populations to ensure that hazard, risks, and preparedness options are well understood.