



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Napa County Board of Supervisors

Final Draft Safety Element Update

May 2, 2023



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Agenda

1. Purpose of today's hearing and staff's recommended action
2. Contents of the Safety Element Update
3. Timeline of events in the update
4. Response to comments



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Staff Recommendation

That the Board of Supervisors:

Hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution (Attachment A) replacing the 2009 Safety Element of the General Plan with the 2023 Safety Element Update.

As a reminder: the CEQA document (EIR) which analyzed this amendment was certified by the Board on January 24, 2023.

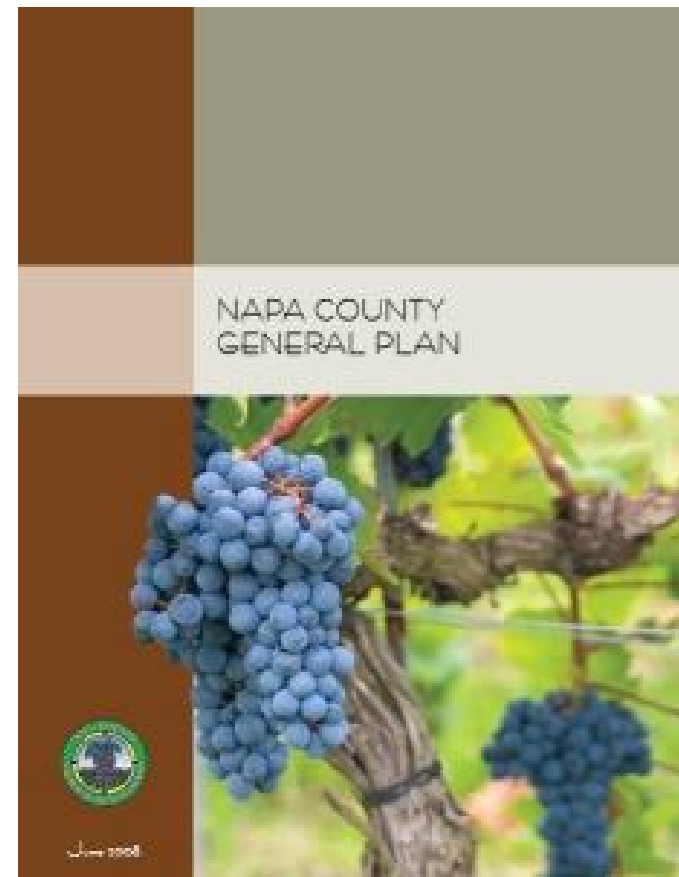


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Overview of Safety Element Update

- The Safety Element is a chapter of the County's General Plan that identifies public safety issues and needs anticipated to be of ongoing concern to people in Napa County.
- The purpose of the Safety Element Update is to ensure that the County takes action to reduce natural and man-made hazards and safety threats as well as respond quickly to any public safety incident.





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Overview of Safety Element Update

The safety element must, per State law, provide for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of:

Seismic Hazards

Tsunami, Seiche,
and Dam Failure

Slope Instability
– Mudslides and
Landslides

Subsidence

Liquefaction

Flooding

Wildland and
Urban Fires

Climate Change



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Overview of Safety Element Update

A Safety Element:

- Is required under Govt. Code Section 65302(g)(3)
- Must be updated upon each new Housing Element Update
- Addresses newly adopted requirements related to hazards (climate adaptation, fire, flooding, etc.)
- Requires a climate vulnerability assessment (SB 379)
- Provides scenarios and planning for emergency evacuation (SB 99, AB 747)
- Includes goals, policies, and actions to address each hazard and increase the community's resilience to climate impacts



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Overview of Safety Element Update – 2009 Safety Element Topics

- Seismic Hazards
- Fire
- Flooding
- Landslides
- Manmade Hazards
- Terrorism And Other Threats

SAFETY



Main Street in Napa, 1940. Flooding has long been a concern in the Napa Valley—major floods occurred in 1942, 1943, 1955, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1973, 1978, 1982, 1986, 1995, 1997, 1998, and 2006.



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Overview of Safety Element Update – Topics

- Agricultural Disaster (**new**)
- Climate Change & Adaptation (**new**)
- Dam Failure
- Drought (**new**)
- Emergency Preparedness & Evacuation Planning (**new**)
- Flooding
- Geologic and Seismic Hazards
- Hazardous Materials
- Pandemic Disease (**new**)
- Severe Weather (**new**)
- Slope Failure
- Wildfire Hazard



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Goals and Policy Topics

The Safety Element contains 9 goals and associated policies to address the following topics:

Emergency
Preparedness

Drought

Geologic &
Seismic

Disease &
Pandemic

Wildfire

Flooding

Severe
Weather

Hazards from
Human
Activities

Climate
Change &
Adaptation



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Key Revisions/Amendments

- New sections were added to Safety Element to address the following topics:
 - Agricultural disaster
 - Climate change
 - Drought
 - Pandemic disease
 - Severe weather
 - Emergency preparedness and evacuation planning
- Each new topic included existing conditions, goals and policies.
- All other topics were updated to reflect new data, State requirements, stakeholder/public input and best practices.

Public Review Draft

NAPA COUNTY GENERAL PLAN Safety Element Update

Prepared for
Napa County

June 2022





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Timeline:

- February 2022 – September 2022: Stakeholder participation
- September 21, 2022 – November 13, 2022: Public Review period of the Draft Safety Element Update.
- November 16, 2022: Planning Commission Study Session on the Draft Safety Element Update.
- November 17, 2022 – December 30, 2022: Revisions made to the Draft.
- January 17, 2023: Board of Forestry Resource Protection Committee hearing on the Draft Safety Element Update.
- April 19, 2023: Planning Commission holds a public hearing on the Final Draft recommends the Board adopt the 2023 Safety Element Update.



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Community & Stakeholder Comments Received

- **California Geological Survey (CGS) of the Department of Conservation**
 - Included recommendations related to liquefactions and landslide, and tsunami hazards.
- **Public Comments**
 - Included recommendations related to the County MJHMP, Wildland urban interface (WUI) areas, fire prevention, evacuation routes; and infrastructure improvements.
- **Planning Commission Comments**
 - Included questions and recommendations related to ingress/egress in new developments, agricultural threats, threats to drinking water and aircraft hazards
- **CAL FIRE General Plan Safety Element Assessment (checklist)**
 - Included recommendations for additional information, policy revisions, and implementation programs as they relate to mitigating wildfire risk and reducing the risk of wildfires.



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In response to comments received Staff...

- Reviewed policies in the draft for consistency.
- Sent the draft to the agricultural commissioner for review.
- Added a discussion on potential liquefaction and tsunamis as secondary hazards to earthquakes.
- Updated the definition of agriculture in the existing conditions report.
- Added requirements for specific language to differentiate standards according to location, especially in the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) and WUI areas.
- Added policies related to minimum standards for ingress and egress for hazard evacuation.
- Added a policy and action to prioritize capital improvements on evacuation or emergency access routes needing repair, maintenance, or replacement, especially in wildland urban interface areas.



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In response to Cal Fire and Board of Forestry review Staff...

- Updated fire hazard severity maps indicating the locations of essential public facilities.
- Added policies to avoid or minimize the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
- Added policies to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones.
- Edited policies to conform with specific statewide standards and regulations for fire and public safety.



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Thank you