

General Plan Safety Element Assessment

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection



City of Orange 2024

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Purpose and Background

Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, the safety element is required to be reviewed and updated as necessary to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3).)

The safety element is required to include:

- Fire hazard severity zone maps available from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- Any historical data on wildfires available from local agencies or a reference to where the data can be found.
- Information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey.
- The general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities. The location and distribution of planned uses of land shall not require defensible space compliance measures required by state law or local ordinance to occur on publicly owned lands or open space designations of homeowner associations.
- The local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(A).)

Based on that information, the safety element shall include goals, policies, and objectives that protect the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B).) To carry out those goals, policies, and objectives, feasible implementation measures shall be included in the safety element, which include but are not limited to:

- Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
- Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of high fire risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in the SRA or VHFHSZ.
- Designing adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in the SRA or VHFHSZ, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression.
- Working cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for fire protection. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(C).)

The safety element shall also attach or reference any fire safety plans or other documents adopted by the city or county that fulfill the goals and objectives or contains the information required above. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(D).) This might include Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Unit Fire Plans, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, or other plans.

There are several reference documents developed by state agencies to assist local jurisdictions in updating their safety elements to include wildfire safety. The Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), referenced in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and available at

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 322-2318

The Technical Advice Series is also available from the OPR website ([Technical Advice Series link](#)).^{*} The Technical Advice Series provides policy guidance, information resources, and fire hazard planning examples from around California that shall be considered by local jurisdictions when reviewing the safety element of its general plan.

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) utilizes this Safety Element Assessment in the Board's review of safety elements under Government Code section 65302.5. At least 90 days prior to the adoption or amendment of their safety element, counties that contain SRAs and cities or counties that contain VHFHSZs shall submit their safety element to the Board. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b).) The Board shall review the safety element and respond to the city or county with its findings regarding the uses of land and policies in SRAs or VHFHSZs that will protect life, property, and natural resources from

unreasonable risks associated with wildfires, and the methods and strategies for wildfire risk reduction and prevention within SRAs or VHFHSZs. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3).) The CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team provides expert fire protection assistance to local jurisdictions statewide. Fire captains are available to work with cities and counties to revise their safety elements and enhance their strategic fire protection planning.

Methodology for Review and Recommendations

Utilizing staff from the CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team, the Board has established a standardized method to review the safety element of general plans. The methodology includes

- 1) reviewing the safety element for the requirements in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3)(A),
- 2) examining the safety element for goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that mitigate the wildfire risk in the planning area (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B) & (C)), and
- 3) making recommendations for methods and strategies that would reduce the risk of wildfires (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3)(B)).

The safety element will be evaluated against the attached Assessment, which contains questions to determine if a safety element meets the fire safety planning requirements outlined in Government Code, section 65302. The reviewer will answer whether or not a submitted safety element addresses the required information, and will recommend changes to the safety element that will reduce the wildfire risk in the planning area. These recommended changes may come from the list of sample goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that is included in this document after the Assessment, or may be based on the reviewer's knowledge of the jurisdiction in question and their specific wildfire risk. By answering the questions in the Assessment, the reviewer will determine if the jurisdiction's safety element has adequately addressed and mitigated their wildfire risk. If it hasn't, any specific recommendations from the reviewer will assist the jurisdiction in revising the safety element so that it does.

Once completed, the Assessment should provide clear guidance to a city or county regarding any areas of deficiency in the safety element as well as specific goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures the Board recommends adopting in order to mitigate or reduce the wildfire threat in the planning area.

General Plan Safety Element Assessment

Jurisdiction: City of Orange	Notes: Formal Review	CAL FIRE Unit: Riverside	Date Received: 07/09/2024
County: Orange	LUPP Reviewer: J Kennedy	UNIT CONTACT:	Date Reviewed: 07/09/2024

BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUMMARY

The safety element must contain specific background information about fire hazards in each jurisdiction.

Instructions for this table: Indicate whether the safety element includes the specified information. If YES, indicate in the comments where that information can be found; if NO, provide recommendations to the jurisdiction regarding how best to include that information in their revised safety element.

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are Fire Hazard Severity Zones Identified? <i>CAL FIRE or Locally Adopted Maps</i>	YES	SE pg. PS-20 Figure PS-4 Very High Fire Severity Zones Map City of Orange LHMP Pg. 51 Figure 3.7: City of Orange Wildland Urban Interface Fire Severity Zones
Is historical data on wildfires or a reference to where the data can be found, and information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey, included?	YES	City of Orange LHMP-Past Occurrences-Pg. 51
Has the general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities, been identified?	YES-	SE pg. PS-20 Figure PS-4 Very High Fire Severity Zones Map SE pg. PS-24 Figure PS-6a Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in VHFSZ. SE pg. PS-25 Map Figure PS-6b Detail of Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in the VHFSZ map.
Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified?	YES	SE pg. PS-36. Standardized Emergency Management and Mutual Aid Assistance. The City participates in the SOLAR Plan, an agreement between the San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside County fire agencies to provide for common radio communications and coordinated response.

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are other fire protection plans, such as Community Wildfire Protection Plans, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, CAL FIRE Unit or Contract County Fire Plans, referenced or incorporated into the Safety Element?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-3 <i>Inclusion of the City of Orange Local Hazard Mitigation Plan</i></p> <p>SE pg. PS-22. The City participates in the county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Orange County. This plan addresses pre-suppression, suppression, and post-suppression tactics in the Natural Communities Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan areas within the City as identified on Figure PS-4. The suppression tactics identify desired actions and locations. The City is also a participant in mutual aid via the SOLAR plan, the mutual aid agreement between the counties of San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside County fire agencies to provide for common radio communications and a central ordering point (dispatch center) for resources during emergencies.”</p>
Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-24. Figure PS-6a Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in VHFSZ Map pg. Figure PS-6b Detail of Residential</p> <p>SE pg. PS-25. Figure PS-6b Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in the VHFSZ map</p>
Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-38. Figure PS-7. Generalized Evacuation Corridors</p> <p>SE pg. PS-39 Figure PS-8. Fire Evacuation Area Map</p> <p>City of Orange LHMP Pg. 28 Figure 2.4 Major Evacuation Corridors</p>

Is there any other information in the Safety Element regarding fire hazards in SRAs or VHFHSZs?
N/A

GOALS, POLICIES, OBJECTIVES, AND FEASIBLE IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

The safety element must contain a set of goals, policies, and objectives based on the above information to protect the community from unreasonable risk of wildfire and implementation measures to accomplish those stated goals, policies, and objectives.

Instructions for this table: Critically examine the submitted safety element and determine if it is adequate to address the jurisdiction’s unique fire hazard. Answer YES or NO appropriately for each question below. If the recommendation is irrelevant or unrelated to the jurisdiction’s fire hazard, answer N/A. For NO, provide information in the Comments/Recommendations section to help the jurisdiction incorporate that change into their safety element revision. This information may utilize example recommendations from Sample Safety Element Recommendations and Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan below, may indicate how high of a priority this recommendation is for a jurisdiction, or may include other jurisdiction-specific information or recommendations.

Section 1 Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
<p>Does local ordinance require development standards that meet or exceed title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1270) (SRA Fire Safe Regulations) and title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 3, article 3 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations) for SRAs and/or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner’s association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3.
Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3.13. Avoid expanding new development, critical facilities, and infrastructure in areas subject to extreme threat or high risk, such as High or Very High FHSZs or areas classified by CAL FIRE as having an Extreme Threat classification on Fire Threat maps, unless all feasible risk reduction measures have been incorporated into project designs or conditions of approval. Ensure subdivisions and developments exist in concert with the natural ecosystem. Pg. PS-6
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff. SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3.
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Pg. PS-6 Policy 3.13. Avoid expanding new development, critical facilities, and infrastructure in areas subject to extreme threat or high risk, such as High or Very High FHSZs or areas classified by CAL FIRE as having an Extreme Threat classification on Fire Threat maps, unless all feasible risk reduction measures have been incorporated into project designs or conditions of approval. Ensure subdivisions and developments exist in concert with the natural ecosystem. Pg. PS-6 Policy 3.14 Prohibit land uses that could place occupants at unreasonable risk in high or very high fire hazard severity areas, such as areas with large events or assembly of people, health care facilities, or similar uses.
Are there plans or actions identified to mitigate existing non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard?	YES	SE pg. PS-6. Policy 3.9 Obtain compliance with State Regulations, Building and Fire Codes, and City Guidelines for non-conforming properties particularly to increase resilience of existing development in high-risk areas built prior to modern fire safety codes or wildfire hazard mitigation guidance. Ensure all infill development projects within the SRA or VHFHSZ comply with all applicable State and City fire safety and defensible space regulations or standards which include using best practices for fire-resistant or fireproof construction methods, materials and landscaping to reduce susceptibility to wildfire.
Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3.</p>
<p>Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-5 Policy 3.3 Require defensible space maintenance agreements for new development projects and require extension of defensible space maintenance agreements to subsequent landowners. Landowners shall maintain minimum defensible space from all structures or improvements on their property and work with neighbors and the City to address defensible space within distances deemed necessary by Fire Prevention staff from structures existing on adjacent property. Planting and maintenance of fire-resistant slope cover shall improve defensible space and reduce the risk of brush fires within the wildland-urban interface areas located in the northern and eastern portions of the City and in areas adjacent to canyons, and the City shall refine and development shall implement structural hardening measures through stringent site design and maintenance standards for all areas with high wild land fire</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>potential. To the extent possible native, non-invasive plant materials shall be used to reduce the potential for conflicts between safety and environmental goals. Fuel modification plans shall be prepared for new development projects to describe and address allowable plant materials and hardscape measures and design; defensible space distances and maintenance; and how fuel and vegetation around homes and roadways will be maintained and cleared.</p> <p>City of Orange LHMP Pg. 50 3.4.2 “Wildland/Urban Fire Risks associated with fire hazards are generally reduced through compliance with municipal codes. Development located within or adjacent to the wildland fire area must prepare and implement a comprehensive fuel modification program in accordance with City regulations. The City will review new developments and fire services to ensure adequate emergency services and facilities to residents and businesses. Coordinating with adjacent local cities, and participating in regional, state, and federal programs will better prepare the City for wildfire emergencies and will reduce fire-related risks.”</p>
<p>Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p>
<p>Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p>
<p>Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City.</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3.</p>
<p>Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.
<p>If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?</p>	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-24 Figure PS-6a Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in VHFSZ.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-25 Map Figure PS-6b Detail of Residential Development in a Fire Hazard</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in the VHFSZ map.
Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?	YES	SE pg. PS-5 Policy 3.4. Educate the public regarding fire safety through public outreach, and support for localized efforts to become a Firewise Community. Public outreach efforts shall also include discussions relating to benefits and purpose of defensible space and maintenance, and evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes and programs.
Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?	YES	SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-22 Continue to monitor and forecast future water supply and fire flow availability and assess and ensure future fire suppression needs are satisfied. SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-23 Should new water supplies be required, the new water facilities and improvements shall be engineered and located in areas that best serve the community. These new water facilities and improvements shall be monitored annually and maintained by the appropriate agency or jurisdiction.
Does new development have adequate fire protection?	YES	SE pg. PS-9 Policy 6.8 Establish and maintain optimal emergency response times for fire safety. Require new development to ensure that City response times and service standards are maintained.

Section 2 Develop adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in SRAs or VHFHSZs.

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Water supply and fire flow?	YES	SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-22 Continue to monitor and forecast future water supply and fire flow availability and assess and ensure future fire suppression needs are satisfied.

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-23 Should new water supplies be required, the new water facilities and improvements shall be engineered and located in areas that best serve the community. These new water facilities and improvements shall be monitored annually and maintained by the appropriate agency or jurisdiction.</p>
Location of anticipated water supply?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-22 Continue to monitor and forecast future water supply and fire flow availability and assess and ensure future fire suppression needs are satisfied.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-23 Should new water supplies be required, the new water facilities and improvements shall be engineered and located in areas that best serve the community. These new water facilities and improvements shall be monitored annually and maintained by the appropriate agency or jurisdiction.</p>
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-22 Continue to monitor and forecast future water supply and fire flow availability and assess and ensure future fire suppression needs are satisfied.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-8 Policy 3-23 Should new water supplies be required, the new water facilities and improvements shall be engineered and located in areas that best serve the community. These new water facilities and improvements shall be monitored annually and maintained by the appropriate agency or jurisdiction.</p>
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p>
<p>Fuel modification and defensible space?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-5 Policy 3.3 Require defensible space maintenance agreements for new development projects and require extension of defensible space maintenance agreements to subsequent landowners. Landowners shall maintain minimum defensible space from all structures or improvements on their property and work with neighbors and the City to address defensible space within distances deemed necessary by Fire Prevention staff from structures existing on adjacent property. Planting and maintenance of fire-resistant slope cover shall improve defensible space and reduce the risk of brush fires within the wildland-urban interface areas located in the northern and eastern portions of the City and in areas adjacent to canyons, and the City shall refine and development shall implement structural hardening measures through stringent site design and maintenance standards for all areas with high wild land fire potential. To the extent possible native, non-invasive plant materials shall be used to reduce the potential for conflicts between</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		safety and environmental goals. Fuel modification plans shall be prepared for new development projects to describe and address allowable plant materials and hardscape measures and design; defensible space distances and maintenance; and how fuel and vegetation around homes and roadways will be maintained and cleared.
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner’s association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	YES	SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-19. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall prepare fire protection plans that confirm compliance with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Codes as adopted by the City. The fire protection plans shall also address

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities such as community fire breaks and private and public road vegetation clearances; delineate safe ingress and egress access area and routes; describe evacuation and emergency vehicle access routes; ensure that home and street addressing shall be visible to emergency vehicles; and provide appropriate signage that shows access areas and routes for evacuation and emergency vehicles. The City shall maintain vegetation clearances along public roads. Private roads shall be maintained by the appropriate private homeowner's association or easement holder with abatement inspections conducted at least annually by Fire Department staff.</p> <p>SE pg. PS-7 Policy 3-20. All new development and redevelopment in the VHFHSZ shall comply with the requirements found in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1.5, Chp. 7, Subchapter 2 Articles 1-5 and Subchapter 3 Article 3. Figure PS-6a Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in VHFSZ</p>
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	YES	<p>SE pg. PS-5 Policy 3.3 Require defensible space maintenance agreements for new development projects and require extension of defensible space maintenance agreements to subsequent landowners. Landowners shall maintain minimum defensible space from all structures or improvements on their property and work with neighbors and the City to address defensible space within distances deemed necessary by Fire Prevention staff from structures existing on adjacent property. Planting and maintenance of fire-resistant slope cover shall improve defensible space and reduce the risk of brush fires within the</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>wildland-urban interface areas located in the northern and eastern portions of the City and in areas adjacent to canyons, and the City shall refine and development shall implement structural hardening measures through stringent site design and maintenance standards for all areas with high wild land fire potential. To the extent possible native, non-invasive plant materials shall be used to reduce the potential for conflicts between safety and environmental goals. Fuel modification plans shall be prepared for new development projects to describe and address allowable plant materials and hardscape measures and design; defensible space distances and maintenance; and how fuel and vegetation around homes and roadways will be maintained and cleared.</p>

Section 3 Working cooperatively with public agencies responsible for fire protection.

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
<p>Is there a map or description of existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-20 Figure PS-4 Very High Fire Severity Zones Map SE pg. PS-24 Figure PS-6a Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in VHFSZ. SE pg. PS-25 Map Figure PS-6b Detail of Residential Development in a Fire Hazard Zone with a single emergency evacuation route and development planned in the VHFSZ map.</p>
<p>Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>SE pg. PS-10 Policy 6.10 Continue to train, license, and/or certify Fire Department staff. SE pg. PS-10 Policy 6.11 Ensure that the Police and Fire Departments have complete and available emergency supplies, sufficient</p>

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		capacity, facilities, personnel, training, technology, equipment, adequate emergency vehicle access, crime fighting equipment, and fire suppression resources to meet growth needs for combating crime, providing fire protection, and providing related emergency services for all segments of the population, including vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, in all areas of the City.
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?	YES	SE pg. PS-10 Policy 6.10 Continue to train, license, and/or certify Fire Department staff.
Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements?	YES	SE pg. PS-10 Policy 6.9 Continue to adopt and honor agreements with adjacent communities for mutual aid assistance.

Sample Safety Element Recommendations

These are examples of specific policies, objectives, or implementation measures that may be used to meet the intent of Government Code sections 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and 65302.5, subdivision (b). Safety element reviewers may make recommendations that are not included here.

A. MAPS, PLANS AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Include or reference CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps or locally adopted wildfire hazard zones.
2. Include or reference the location of historical information on wildfires in the planning area.
3. Include a map or description of the location of existing and planned land uses in SRAs and VHFHSZs, particularly habitable structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
4. Identify or reference a fire plan that is relevant to the geographic scope of the general plan, including the Unit/Contract County Fire Plan, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and any applicable Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
5. Align the goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures for fire hazard mitigation in the safety element with those in existing fire plans, or make plans to update fire plans to match the safety element.
6. Create a fire plan for the planning area.

B. LAND USE

1. Develop fire safe development codes to use as standards for fire protection for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs that meet or exceed the statewide minimums in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
2. Adopt and have certified by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection local ordinances which meet or exceed the minimum statewide standards in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
3. Identify existing development that do not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances.
4. Develop mitigation measures for existing development that does not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances or identify a policy to do so.

C. FUEL MODIFICATION

1. Develop a policy to communicate vegetation clearance requirements to seasonal, absent, or vacation rental owners.
2. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of vegetation clearance on public and private roads.
3. Include fuel breaks in the layout/siting of subdivisions.
4. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of existing or proposed fuel breaks.
5. Identify and/or map existing development that does not conform to current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
6. Identify plans and actions for existing non-conforming development to be improved or mitigated to meet current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance.

D. ACCESS

1. Develop a policy that approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in SRAs or VHFHSZs is conditional based on meeting the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations, particularly those regarding road standards for ingress, egress, and fire equipment access. (See Gov. Code, § 66474.02.)
2. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with an adequate road network and associated infrastructure.
3. Identify multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing in SRAs or VHFHSZs and develop a policy to create evacuation or shelter in place plans.
4. Include a policy to develop pre-plans for fire risk areas that address civilian evacuation and to effectively communicate those plans.
5. Identify road networks in SRAs or VHFHSZs that do not meet title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 2 and 3 (commencing with section 1273.00) or certified local ordinance and develop a policy to examine possible mitigations.

E. FIRE PROTECTION

1. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure.
2. Plan for the ongoing maintenance and long-term integrity of planned and existing water supply infrastructure.
3. Map existing emergency service facilities and note any areas lacking service, especially in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
4. Project future emergency service needs for the planned land uses.
5. Include information about emergency service trainings or standards and plans to meet or maintain them.
6. Include information about inter-agency preparedness coordination or mutual aid agreements.

Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan

When updating the General Plan, here are some ways to incorporate fire hazard planning into other elements. Wildfire safety is best accomplished by holistic, strategic fire planning that takes advantage of opportunities to align priorities and implementation measures within and across plans.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Goals and policies include mitigation of fire hazard for future development or limit development in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Disclose wildland urban-interface hazards, including fire hazard severity zones, and/or other vulnerable areas as determined by CAL FIRE or local fire agency.

Design and locate new development to provide adequate infrastructure for the safe ingress of emergency response vehicles and simultaneously allow citizen egress during emergencies.

Describe or map any Firewise Communities or other fire safe communities as determined by the National Fire Protection Association, Fire Safe Council, or other organization.

HOUSING ELEMENT

Incorporation of current fire safe building codes.

Identify and mitigate substandard fire safe housing and neighborhoods relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Consider diverse occupancies and their effects on wildfire protection (group housing, seasonal populations, transit-dependent, etc).

OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENTS

Identify critical natural resource values relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Include resource management activities to enhance protection of open space and natural resource values.

Integrate open space into fire safety planning and effectiveness.

Mitigation for unique pest, disease and other forest health issues leading to hazardous situations.

CIRCULATION ELEMENT

Provide adequate access to very high fire hazard severity zones.

Develop standards for evacuation of residential areas in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Incorporate a policy that provides for a fuel reduction maintenance program along roadways.