

Section 8

Health and Safety

SECTION 8

HEALTH AND SAFETY

SEISMIC AND GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Goal 8.A: To minimize the loss of life, injury, and property damage due to seismic and geological hazards.

Policies

- 8.A.1. The County shall require the preparation of a soils engineering and geologic-seismic analysis prior to permitting development in areas prone to geological or seismic hazards (i.e., ground shaking, landslides, liquefaction, critically expansive soils, avalanche).
- 8.A.2. The County shall require submission of a preliminary soils report, prepared by a California registered civil engineer and based upon adequate test borings, for every major subdivision and for each individual lot where critically expansive soils have been identified or are expected to exist.
- 8.A.3. The County shall prohibit the placement of habitable structures or individual sewage disposal systems on or in critically expansive soils unless suitable mitigation measures are incorporated to prevent the potential risks of these conditions.
- 8.A.4. The County shall ensure that areas of slope instability are adequately investigated and that any development in these areas incorporates appropriate design provisions to prevent landsliding.
- 8.A.5. In landslide hazard areas, the County shall prohibit avoidable alteration of land in a manner that could increase the hazard, including concentration of water through drainage, irrigation, or septic systems; removal of vegetative cover; and steepening of slopes and undercutting the bases of slopes.
- 8.A.6. The County shall require the preparation of drainage plans for development in hillside areas that direct runoff and drainage away from unstable slopes.
- 8.A.7. In areas subject to severe ground shaking, the County shall require that new structures intended for human occupancy be designed and constructed to minimize risk to the safety of occupants.
- 8.A.8. County shall continue to support scientific geologic investigations which refine, enlarge, and improve the body of knowledge on active fault zones, unstable areas, severe ground shaking, avalanche potential, and other hazardous conditions in Placer County.
- 8.A.9. The County shall require that the location and/or design of any new buildings, facilities, or other development in areas subject to earthquake activity minimize exposure to danger from fault rupture or creep.
- 8.A.10. The County shall require that new structures permitted in areas of high liquefaction potential be sited, designed, and constructed to minimize the dangers from damage due to earthquake-induced liquefaction.
- 8.A.11. The County shall limit development in areas of steep or unstable slopes to minimize hazards caused by landslides or liquefaction.

Implementation Programs

- 8.1. The County shall continue to enforce provisions of the *California Building Code* which address seismic concerns, including masonry building design requirements.
 Responsibility: Building Division
 Time Frame: Ongoing
 Funding: General Fund
- 8.2. The County shall assess the need for an ordinance requiring evaluation of unreinforced masonry structures and the repair or replacement of identified hazardous structures.
 Responsibility: Building Division
 Time Frame: Completed 1996
 Funding: General Fund
- 8.3. The County shall require and review preliminary soils reports submitted by applicants for every major subdivision and for each individual lot or project site where critically expansive soils have been identified or are expected to exist.
 Responsibility: CDRA Engineering and Surveying Division
 Time Frame: Ongoing
 Funding: Development Fees
 General Fund

FLOOD HAZARDS

- Goal 8.B:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from flood hazards.

Policies

- 8.B.1. The County shall promote flood control measures that maintain natural conditions within the 100-year floodplain of rivers and streams.
- 8.B.2. The County shall continue to participate in the Federal Flood Insurance Program.
- 8.B.3. The County shall require flood proofing of structures in areas subject to flooding.
- 8.B.4. The County shall require that the design and location of dams and levees be in accordance with all applicable design standards and specifications and accepted state-of-the-art design and construction practices.
- 8.B.5. The County shall coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions to mitigate the impacts of new development in Placer County that could increase or potentially affect runoff onto parcels downstream in a neighboring jurisdiction.
- 8.B.6. The County shall prohibit the construction of facilities essential for emergencies and large public assembly in the 100-year floodplain, unless the structure and access to the structure are free from flood inundation.
- 8.B.7. The County shall require flood control structures, facilities, and improvements to be designed to conserve resources, incorporate and preserve scenic values, and to incorporate opportunities for recreation, where appropriate.
- 8.B.8. The County shall require that flood management programs avoid alteration of waterways and adjacent areas, whenever possible.

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.E.; Stormwater Drainage; and Goal 4.F., Flood Protection.]

Implementation Programs

- 8.4. The County shall continue to maintain flood hazard maps and other relevant floodplain data and shall revise or update this information as new information becomes available.
- Responsibility: Department of Public Works
Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.5. The County will continually review and revise its applicable portions of the *County Emergency Operations Plan* that concern Dam Failure. The Office of Emergency Services will continue to provide public information on dam failure preparedness and response.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Every Five Years
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.6. The County shall continue to implement and enforce its *Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance*.
- Responsibility: Department of Public Works
CDRA Engineering and Surveying Division
Flood Control District
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund

FIRE HAZARDS

- Goal 8.C:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, and damage to property and watershed resources resulting from unwanted fires.

Policies

- 8.C.1. The County shall ensure that development in high-fire-hazard areas is designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes the risk from fire hazards and meets all applicable state and County fire standards.
- 8.C.2. The County shall require that discretionary permits for new development in fire hazard areas be conditioned to include requirements for fire-resistant vegetation, cleared fire breaks, or a long-term comprehensive fuel management program. Fire hazard reduction measures shall be incorporated into the design of development projects in fire hazard areas.
- 8.C.3. The County shall require that new development meets state, County, and local fire district standards for fire protection.
- 8.C.4. The County shall refer development proposals in the unincorporated County to the appropriate local fire agencies for review for compliance with fire safety standards. If dual responsibility exists, then both agencies shall review and comment relative to their area of responsibility. If standards are different or conflicting, the more stringent standards shall be applied.
- 8.C.5. The County shall ensure that existing and new buildings of public assembly incorporate adequate fire protection measures to reduce the potential loss of life and property in accordance with state and local codes and ordinances.

- 8.C.6. The County shall encourage fire protection agencies to continue education programs in schools, service clubs, organized groups, industry, utility companies, government agencies, press, radio, and television in order to increase public awareness of fire hazards within the County.
- 8.C.7. The County shall work with local fire protection agencies, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the U.S. Forest Service to promote the maintenance of existing fuel breaks and emergency access routes for effective fire suppression.
- 8.C.8. The County shall encourage and promote installation and maintenance of smoke detectors in existing residences and commercial facilities that were constructed prior to the requirement for their installation.
- 8.C.9. The County shall work with local fire agencies to develop high-visibility fire prevention programs, including those offering voluntary home inspections and promoting awareness of home fire prevention measures.
- 8.C.10. The County shall continue to implement state fire safety standards through enforcement of the applicable standards contained in the *Placer County Land Development Manual*.
- 8.C.11. The County shall continue to work cooperatively with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and local fire protection agencies in managing wildland fire hazards.
- 8.C.12. The County shall support annexations and consolidations of fire districts and services to improve service delivery to the public.

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.1, Fire Protection Services.]

Implementation Programs

- 8.7. The County shall periodically evaluate fire protection services in the County to determine if fire protection resources are being effectively and efficiently used.
 - Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
 - Time Frame: Periodically
 - Funding: General Fund
- 8.8. The County shall work with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, local fire protection agencies, and city fire departments to maximize the use of resources to develop functional and/or operational consolidations and standardization of services and to maximize the efficient use of fire protection resources.
 - Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
 - Time Frame: Ongoing
 - Funding: General Fund

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.1., Fire Protection Services.]

AIRPORT HAZARDS

Goal 8.D: To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from airport hazards.

Policies

- 8.D.1. The County shall ensure that new development around airports does not create safety hazards such as lights from direct or reflective sources, smoke, electrical interference, hazardous chemicals, or fuel storage in violation of adopted safety standards.
- 8.D.2. The County shall limit land uses in airport safety zones to those uses listed in the applicable airport comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs) as compatible uses. Exceptions shall be made only as provided for in the CLUPs. Such uses shall also be regulated to ensure compatibility in terms of location, height, and noise.
- 8.D.3. The County shall ensure that development within the airport approach and departure zones complies with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Administration Regulations (objects affecting navigable airspace).

Implementation Programs

- 8.9. The County shall review all development projects within the overflight zones of Placer County airports for consistency with applicable airport land use plans (ALUPs).
 - Responsibility: CDRA Planning Services Division
Planning Commission
 - Time Frame: Ongoing
 - Funding: Permit fees

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Goal 8.E: To ensure the maintenance of an Emergency Management Program to effectively prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of natural or technological disasters.

Policies

- 8.E.1. The County shall continue to maintain, periodically update, and test the effectiveness of its *Emergency Operations Plan*.
- 8.E.2. The County shall continue to coordinate emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities with special districts, service agencies, voluntary organizations, cities within the County, surrounding cities and counties, and state and federal agencies.
- 8.E.3. The County shall continue to provide promotional programs that inform the general public of emergency preparedness and disaster response procedures.
- 8.E.4. The County shall, through its Office of Emergency Services, maintain the capability to effectively respond to emergency incidents.
- 8.E.5. The County shall maintain an emergency operations center to coordinate emergency response, management, and recovery activities.
- 8.E.6. The County shall ensure that the siting of critical emergency response facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, sheriff's offices and substations, dispatch centers, emergency operations centers, and other emergency service facilities and utilities have minimal exposure to flooding, seismic and geological effects, fire, avalanche, and explosions.

Implementation Programs

- 8.10. The County shall adopt and implement current emergency management principles and practices in all aspects of its emergency management program.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.11. The County shall adopt regulations and standards for incident management, allocation of resources, and continuity of government.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.12. The County shall develop and maintain agreements with other local, state, and federal agencies to ensure coordinated disaster response.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.13. The County shall periodically conduct emergency exercises to evaluate the County's emergency planning, operations, and training.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.14. A Local Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be prepared and adopted in accordance with the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and Government Code 65302.6 shall serve as the implementation program for the coordination of hazard mitigation planning and disaster response within the County. The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be reviewed annually by the County Office of Emergency Services and updated as necessary to ensure compliance with the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, as it exists or as may be amended.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Status: Adopted 2005, Updated 2010
- Time Frame: Ongoing Review, Five Year Updates
- Funding: General Fund
- 8.15. The County shall comply with AB 2140 by preparing a Placer County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) The LHMP shall outline all natural hazards in or potentially affecting the county and the corresponding mitigation measures being undertaken in the unincorporated County, cities and towns, as well as by special districts. The LHMP maintains the most current status of the natural threat as well as the mitigation measures taken to ensure public safety in Placer County. The completed LHMP is

incorporated within this General Plan by reference.

Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services

Time Frame: Completed

Funding: General Fund

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

Goal 8.F: To protect public health and safety through safe location of structures necessary for the protection of public safety and/or the provision of emergency services.

Policies

- 8.F.1. The County shall not locate new County structures necessary for the protection of public safety and/or the provision of emergency services in areas subject to inundation, subsidence, slope failure, surface rupture, or ground failure in a seismic event. Exception to this policy may be granted if the only alternative location would be so distant as to jeopardize the safety of the community, given that adequate precautions are taken to protect the facility.
- 8.F.2. The County shall, within its authority, ensure that emergency dispatch centers, emergency operations centers, communications systems, vital utilities, and other essential public facilities necessary for the continuity of government be designed in a manner that will allow them to remain operational during and following an earthquake or other disaster.

Implementation Programs

- 8.16. The County shall conduct an evaluation of County-owned safety and emergency management facilities and public utility systems for susceptibility to damage due to flood inundation or geological or seismic hazards, and shall analyze the extent of acceptable risk of the effects of such flooding or ground shaking.
- Responsibility: Department of Public Works
Office of Emergency Services
Building Division
- Time Frame: Completed 1999
- Funding: General Fund

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Goal 8.G: To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, serious illness, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from the use, transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous materials wastes.

Policies

- 8.G.1. The County shall ensure that the use and disposal of hazardous materials in the County complies with local, state, and federal safety standards.
- 8.G.2. The County shall discourage the development of residences or schools near known hazardous waste disposal or handling facilities.
- 8.G.3. The County shall review all proposed development projects that manufacture, use, or transport hazardous materials for compliance with the County's *Hazardous Waste Management Plan* (CHWMP).

- 8.G.4. The County shall ensure that the mining and processing of toxic metals in the County is conducted in compliance with applicable environmental protection standards and minimizes impacts on adjacent lands and the surrounding natural environment.
- 8.G.5. The County shall strictly regulate the storage of hazardous materials and wastes.
- 8.G.6. The County shall require secondary containment and periodic examination for all storage of toxic materials.
- 8.G.7. The County shall ensure that industrial facilities are constructed and operated in accordance with current safety and environmental protection standards.
- 8.G.8. The County shall require that new industries that store and process hazardous materials provide a buffer zone between the installation and the property boundaries sufficient to protect public safety. The adequacy of the buffer zone shall be determined by the County.
- 8.G.9. The County shall require that applications for discretionary development projects that will generate hazardous wastes or utilize hazardous materials include detailed information on hazardous waste reduction, recycling, and storage.
- 8.G.10. The County shall require that any business that handles a hazardous material prepare a plan for emergency response to a release or threatened release of a hazardous material.
- 8.G.11. The County shall encourage the State Department of Health Services and the California Highway Patrol to review permits for radioactive materials on a regular basis and to promulgate and enforce public safety standards for the use of these materials, including the placarding of transport vehicles.
- 8.G.12. The County shall identify sites that are in appropriate for hazardous material storage, maintenance, use, and disposal facilities due to potential impacts on adjacent land uses and the surrounding natural environment.
- 8.G.13. The County shall work with local fire protection and other agencies to ensure an adequate Countywide response capability to hazardous materials emergencies.

Implementation Programs

- 8.17. The County shall maintain and implement a *County Hazardous Waste Management Plan* (CHWMP). The plan shall address the following: hazardous waste generators; emergency response programs; transportation, storage, collection, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes generated within Placer County; the siting of hazardous waste facilities; and enforcement activities. Any proposed hazardous waste facility or expansion of an existing hazardous waste facility shall be consistent with the CHWMP.
- Responsibility: Department of Public Works
Health Department
CDRA Planning Services Division
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: Tipping fees
General Fund
- 8.18. The County shall prepare and maintain a *Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan*.
- Responsibility: Environmental Health Division
County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund

- 8.19. The County shall enter into agreements with other agencies for mutual aid during hazardous materials emergencies.
- Responsibility: County Executive Office
Office of Emergency Services
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund

AVALANCHE HAZARDS

Goal 8.H: To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, and damage to property due to avalanche.

Policies

- 8.H.1. The County shall maintain maps of potential avalanche hazard areas.
- 8.H.2. The County shall require new development in areas of avalanche hazard to be sited, designed, and constructed to minimize avalanche hazards.
- 8.H.3. The County shall not issue permits for new development in potential avalanche hazard areas (PAHA) as designated in the Placer County *Avalanche Management Ordinance* unless project proponents can demonstrate that such development will be safe under anticipated snow loads and conditions of an avalanche.

Implementation Programs

- 8.20. The County shall amend local ordinances as necessary to reflect updated avalanche hazard information.
- Responsibility: CDRA Planning Services Division
- Time Frame: Ongoing
- Funding: General Fund

PUBLIC HEALTH

Goal 8.I: To provide municipal-type environmental health services to the unincorporated urban development areas in Western Placer County.

Policies

- 8.1.1. Within overall County budgetary constraints, the County shall strive to provide one environmental health specialist per every 9,000 persons in the Western Placer County.
- 8.1.2. The County shall endeavor to identify and control important diseases transmitted by environmental factors in the Western Placer County.

Implementation Programs

- 8.21. The County shall pursue means such as County Service Area or assessment district to provide mosquito abatement activities to prevent the spread of disease in the Western Placer County.
Responsibility: Placer County Mosquito Abatement District
Time Frame: Completed 1996 and Ongoing
Funding: General Fund
- 8.22. The County shall identify and seek to provide a suitable location for a branch office of the Environmental Health Division in the western county.
Responsibility: Environmental Health Division
Time Frame: 2004
Funding: General Fund