

General Plan Safety Element Assessment

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection



June 2020

Contents

Purpose and Background.....	1
Methodology for Review and Recommendations.....	2
General Plan Safety Element Assessment	3
Background Information Summary	3
Goals, Policies, Objectives, and Feasible Implementation Measures	5
Section 1 Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land	5
Section 2 Develop adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in SRAs or VHFHSZs.....	10
Section 3 Working cooperatively with public agencies responsible for fire protection.	11
Sample Safety Element Recommendations.....	13
A. Maps, Plans and Historical Information	13
B. Land Use	13
C. Fuel Modification.....	13
D. Access.....	14
E. Fire Protection	14
Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan.....	15
Land Use Element.....	15
Housing Element	15
Open Space and Conservation Elements.....	15
Circulation Element	15

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: Perris	Notes: 2ND Informal Review	CAL FIRE Unit: RRU	Date Received: 11/10/2021
County: Riverside	LUPP Reviewer: Redden	UNIT CONTACT:	Date Reviewed: 11/11/2021

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>		Figure S-5 – Wildfire Hazards (Page 20)
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	Table S-1 – Cal FIRE Historic Wildfires for the City of Perris (Page 21)
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	Future development within the VHFHSZ is addressed within the City of Perris Housing Element. Figures 7-1 (Pg.184) and 7-2 (Pg. 187) within the element displays potential constraints and development opportunity sites for future development. (Page 20) Housing: The Housing Element is more closely associated with land use and incorporates many safety considerations into its goals and objectives. Building practices and codes addressed in the Housing Element contribute to community safety by improving the built environment's resiliency to natural and human-caused hazards. Additionally, the Housing Element can help identify vulnerable populations and inform the Safety Element to ensure proper protections.
Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified?	Yes	Figure S-5 Wildfire Hazards (Page 20)

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>“The LHMP complies with all requirements set forth under the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and received approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2018. Sections of the Safety Element are supplemented by the LHMP, incorporated by reference in this element, as allowed by California Government Code Section 65302(g).” (Page 5)</p> <p>“The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is primarily responsible for informing the City of Perris's emergency management strategies. These strategies are typically organized under four categories: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recover.” (Page 9)</p>
Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified?	Yes	Figure S-2 Single Ingress/Egress Parcels (Page 12) depicts the two neighborhoods within the west Perris and south Perris that have these conditions. Future developments in these areas may prioritize improved access and mobility to reduce constraints to evacuation and emergency response.
Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified?	Yes	Figure S-1 Potential Evacuation Routes (Page 11) illustrates the primary evacuation routes used for planning purposes, training, and exercises. These activities occur periodically in coordination with the Riverside County Operational Area. In addition, to comply with Government Code Section 65302 (g) 5 [Senate Bill 99], the City has identified residential neighborhoods with more than 30 parcels that have a single means of ingress/egress.

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

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>Policy S-5.2 “All development projects within the VHFHSZ are required to prepare a Fire Protection Plan (FPP) to reduce or eliminate fire threats. FPPs shall be consistent with the following guidance: A Fire Protection Plan (FPP) approved by the fire code official is required for all new development within the Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). FPPs are required to include mitigation strategies that consider location, topography, geology, flammable vegetation, sensitive habitats/species, and climate of the proposed site. FPPs must address water supply, access, building ignition and fire resistance, fire protection systems and equipment, proper street signage, defensible space, vegetation management, and long-term maintenance. All required FPPs must be consistent with the requirements of the California Building and Residential Codes, the California Fire Code as adopted by the City of Perris, and the City of Perris Municipal Code.” (Page 23)</p>
<p>Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-5.1 “Require all new development and major remodels within the wildland urban interface (high and very high fire hazard severity zones) to incorporate fuel modification, fire resistive construction and/or defensible space management strategies consistent with State requirements, and the City's fuel modification program.” (Page 23)</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	Yes	Policy S-5.2 “All development projects within the VHFHSZ are required to prepare a Fire Protection Plan (FPP) to reduce or eliminate fire threats. FPPs shall be consistent with the following guidance: A Fire Protection Plan (FPP) approved by the fire code official is required for all new development within the Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). FPPs are required to include mitigation strategies that consider location, topography, geology, flammable vegetation, sensitive habitats/species, and climate of the proposed site. FPPs must address water supply, access, building ignition and fire resistance, fire protection systems and equipment, proper street signage, defensible space, vegetation management, and long-term maintenance. All required FPPs must be consistent with the requirements of the California Building and Residential Codes, the California Fire Code as adopted by the City of Perris, and the City of Perris Municipal Code.” (Page 23)
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	Yes	Policy S-2.4 “Provide adequate emergency facilities to serve existing and future residents, ensuring that all new essential facilities are located outside of hazard prone areas.” (Page 13)
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	Policy S-5.1e “Identify existing non-conforming structures within the VHFHSZ’s and ensure that that these structures are brought into compliance with the latest fire safe regulations and best practices.” (Page 39)
Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire?	Yes	Policy S-5.1 “Require all new development and major remodels within the wildland urban interface (high and very high fire hazard severity zones) to incorporate fuel modification, fire resistive construction and/or defensible space management strategies consistent with State requirements, and the City’s fuel modification program.” (Page 23) Policy S-5.3 “Promote new development and redevelopment in areas of the City outside and

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		outside the VHFHSZ and allow for the transfer of development rights into lower-risk areas, if feasible.” (Page 23)
Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	Yes	Policy S-5.1 “Require all new development and major remodels within the wildland urban interface (high and very high fire hazard severity zones) to incorporate fuel modification, fire resistive construction and/or defensible space management strategies consistent with State requirements, and the City’s fuel modification program.” (Page 23) S-5.1a: “Ensure the City’s fuel modification requirements meet or exceed state requirements and best practices.” (Page 38)
Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Policy S-5.2 “All development projects within the VHFHSZ are required to prepare a Fire Protection Plan (FPP) to reduce or eliminate fire threats. FPPs shall be consistent with the following guidance: A Fire Protection Plan (FPP) approved by the fire code official is required for all new development within the Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). FPPs are required to include mitigation strategies that consider location, topography, geology, flammable vegetation, sensitive habitats/species, and climate of the proposed site. FPPs must address water supply, access, building ignition and fire resistance, fire protection systems and equipment, proper street signage, defensible space, vegetation management, and long-term maintenance. All required FPPs must be consistent with the requirements of the California Building and Residential Codes, the California Fire Code as adopted by the City of Perris, and the City of Perris Municipal Code.” (Page 23)
Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance?	Yes	Policy S-5.4 “Coordinate with Caltrans, Riverside County Transportation Commission, and neighboring communities on vegetation management, brush clearance, and the long-term maintenance of community fire breaks along

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		roadways in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.” (Page 23)
Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Policy S-5.8 “Adopt State Fire Safe Regulations as necessary for new development and require verification of adequate water supply, adequate ingress/egress for evacuation purposes, proper use of building design and materials, and proper treatment of fuels to reduce fire vulnerability.” (Page 23)
Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?	Yes	Policy S-5.7 “Residential developments in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones shall be limited to less than 20 building sites when a single means of ingress and egress or a cul-de-sac is proposed and require two means of ingress/egress where emergency equipment deployment and evacuation traffic are more than the design capacity of a single ingress/egress route, consistent with the Fire Code.” (Page 23)
If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?	Yes	Policy S-5.6 “All developments throughout the City Zones are required to provide adequate circulation capacity, including connections to at least two roadways for evacuation.” (Page 23) Figure S-2 – Single Ingress/Egress Parcels (Page 12) depicts the two neighborhoods within the west Perris and south Perris that have these conditions. Future developments in these areas may prioritize improved access and mobility to reduce constraints to evacuation and emergency response. Policy S-5.7 “Residential developments in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones shall be limited to less than 20 building sites when a single means of ingress and egress or a cul-de-sac is proposed and require two means of ingress/egress where emergency equipment deployment and evacuation traffic are more than the design capacity of a single ingress/egress route, consistent with the Fire Code.” (Page 23)

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
<p>Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-1.1c "Participate in ongoing disaster preparedness training programs in conjunction with other jurisdictions." (Page 38) Policy S-3.2a "Work with local school districts to distribute emergency information at the schools." (Page 38) Policy S-3.1 "Develop an all-hazards-oriented public awareness effort that identifies relevant information for residents and businesses regarding emergency preparedness, hazard mitigation, and tips and tools for homeowners and businesses within the City." (Page 38) Policy S-3.3a "Work with the local Chamber of Commerce to distribute evacuation plans for all business owner/operators, employees, and patrons." (Page 38)</p>
<p>Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-5.10 "Ensure that existing and new developments have adequate water supplies and conveyance capacity to meet daily demands and firefighting requirements." (Page 23)</p>
<p>Does new development have adequate fire protection?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-5.9 "Ensure that the City maintains adequate facilities and fire service personnel in conformance with the City's Fire Services Strategic Plan." (Page 23) "To ensure adequate fire service protection, the City contracts fire protection through Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD)/ Cal Fire. RCFD's 2009-2029 Strategic Plan, outlines how the department maintains adequate personnel and services throughout its areas of responsibility, including Perris. Currently RCFD has four mutual aid agreements, and seven automatic aid agreements with various jurisdictions (Cities, Fire Districts, March Air Reserve Base, and Native American Bands)." (Page 22)</p>

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	Policy S-5.10 "Ensure that existing and new developments have adequate water supplies and conveyance capacity to meet daily demands and firefighting requirements." (Page 23)
Location of anticipated water supply?	Yes	Policy S-5.10 "Ensure that existing and new developments have adequate water supplies and conveyance capacity to meet daily demands and firefighting requirements." (Page 23)
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	Yes	"The location and maintenance of long-term water supplies for Perris are discussed in the Eastern Municipal Water District's Urban Water Management Plan. This plan also includes discussions regarding future water supplies and the potential effects of climate change. Close coordination between the City and EMWD remains a priority to ensure adequate water supplies for daily water demands and fire suppression needs." (Page 22)
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	Yes	Policy S-5.11 "Ensure fuels reduction and fire risk reduction activities occur along key roadways and evacuation routes throughout the City." (Page 24) Policy S-5.8 "Adopt State Fire Safe Regulations as necessary for new development and require verification of adequate water supply, adequate ingress/egress for evacuation purposes, proper use of building design and materials, and proper treatment of fuels to reduce fire vulnerability." (Page 23)
Fuel modification and defensible space?	Yes	Policy S-5.1 "Require all new development and major remodels within the wildland urban interface (high and very high fire hazard severity zones) to incorporate fuel modification, fire resistive construction and/or defensible space management strategies consistent with State requirements, and the City's fuel modification program." (Page 23)

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		S-5.1a: "Ensure the City's fuel modification requirements meet or exceed state requirements and best practices." (Page 38)
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	Yes	Policy S-5.4 "Coordinate with Caltrans, Riverside County Transportation Commission, and neighboring communities on vegetation management, brush clearance, and the long-term maintenance of community fire breaks along roadways in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones." (Page 23)
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	Yes	Policy S-5.5 "All developments in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones are required to have highly visible street signs/addressing to aid effective emergency response." (Page 23)
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	Yes	Policy S-5.4 "Coordinate with Caltrans, Riverside County Transportation Commission, and neighboring communities on vegetation management, brush clearance, and the long-term maintenance of community fire breaks along roadways in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones." (Page 23)

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

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Is there a map or description of existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	Yes	Under RCFD five fire stations provide response services to the City, which ensure adequate coverage and timely response to all parts of the City. These locations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station 1-Perris Battalion 1 at 210 West San Jacinto Avenue • Station 9-Goodmeadow Battalion 1 at 21565 Steel Peak Road • Station 59-Mead Valley Battalion 1 at 21510 Pinewood Street • Station 90-North Perris City Battalion 1 at 333 Placentia Avenue

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station 101-City of Perris Battalion 1 at 105 S. F Street (Page 21)
Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?	Yes	Policy S-5.9 "Ensure that the City maintains adequate facilities and fire service personnel in conformance with the City's Fire Services Strategic Plan." (Page 23)
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?	Yes	<p>Policy S-1.1c "Participate in ongoing disaster preparedness training programs in conjunction with other jurisdictions." (Page 38)</p> <p>Policy S-3.2a "Work with local school districts to distribute emergency information at the schools." (Page 38)</p> <p>Policy S-3.3a "Work with the local Chamber of Commerce to distribute evacuation plans for all business owner/operators, employees, and patrons." (Page 38)</p> <p>Policy S-1.2 "Periodically participate in Operational Area training and exercises and include city staff and stakeholders when appropriate." (Page 13)</p>
Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements?	Yes	<p>Policy S-1.2 "Periodically participate in Operational Area training and exercises and include city staff and stakeholders when appropriate." (Page 13)</p> <p>"To ensure adequate fire service protection, the City contracts fire protection through Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD)/ Cal Fire. RCFD's 2009-2029 Strategic Plan, outlines how the department maintains adequate personnel and services throughout its areas of responsibility, including Perris. Currently RCFD has four mutual aid agreements, and seven automatic aid agreements with various jurisdictions (Cities, Fire Districts, March Air Reserve Base, and Native American Bands)." (Page 22)</p>

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.