



Council Agenda Report

From: Paul Patti, Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal

Subject: Approval of Resolution Adopting the 2025-2030 Paso Robles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

CEQA Determination: The City finds that this action is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15306, Information Collection, and 15262, Planning Studies.

Date: April 21, 2026

Facts

1. A Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is a long-term planning document that identifies natural disaster risks in a community. It also incorporates mitigation strategies and actions to reduce impacts from possible future disasters, including, but not limited to, adverse weather; agricultural pests and disease; biological agents; dam incidents; drought and water storage; earthquake; flooding; landslides and debris flows; subsidence; wildfire; and human-caused hazardous materials incidents.
2. Pursuant to the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 2013 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the City is required to identify the risks to lives and property created by natural and artificial hazards, and to formulate a set of goals, objectives, and actions to mitigate risks created by these hazards
3. The City's LHMP can be viewed in its entirety in Exhibit A of Attachment No. 1. The City's LHMP is also Annex E of the San Luis Obispo County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) and can be viewed in its entirety in Attachment No. 2. The MJHMP includes all 22 local jurisdictions throughout San Luis Obispo County.
4. The City adopted the current LHMP in 2019. The proposed 2025-2030 LHMP would supersede the existing LHMP.
5. Federal regulations governing assistance from the FEMA provide that local jurisdictions must have a FEMA-approved LHMP in order to apply for Hazard Mitigation Grants and disaster relief.
6. Both the LHMP and the MJHMP were prepared by WSP Consulting Group, under contract with multiple SLO County agencies.
7. Copies of the draft LHMP were submitted to the California Office of Emergency Services and to FEMA. Both agencies provided comments, which were incorporated into the plan. On December 29, 2025, FEMA reported that they were satisfied with the revised draft LHMP (See Attachment No. 3).

Stakeholder and Public Outreach

Public involvement tools included outreach through social media, disseminating an online public survey, utilizing the City of San Luis Obispo's City Hall web platform, and community workshops. To promote the workshops, County staff reached out to local media outlets and stakeholders to inform the public of the opportunity to participate and posted on several community calendars and local government websites. The public workshops occurred on January 14, 2025, at the Katcho Achadjian Government Center in San Luis Obispo and virtually on May 29, 2025.

Options

1. Take no action.
2. Adopt the 2025-2030 Paso Robles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Annex E).
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

Analysis and Conclusions

The requirement for local jurisdictions to prepare a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) was established by Congress through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Maintaining an up-to-date LHMP is a prerequisite for eligibility for competitive state and federal grant funding. These funds support capital improvements that reduce long-term risk to public infrastructure and safety, such as stormwater system upgrades to minimize flood impacts. As such, adoption and periodic update of the LHMP is not only a regulatory requirement, but also a critical step in securing external funding and advancing the City's resilience goals. The LHMP is also developed through a coordinated regional approach, reflecting collaboration among multiple jurisdictions and partner agencies. This regional coordination strengthens the City's ability to address hazards that cross jurisdictional boundaries, align mitigation priorities, and improve competitiveness for grant funding opportunities that favor multi-agency and regionally consistent planning efforts.

The LHMP identifies and evaluates hazards with the highest likelihood of occurrence in the City, including:

- Adverse Weather: Thunderstorm/Heavy Rain/Hail/Lightning/Dense Fog/Freeze
- Adverse Weather: High Wind/Tornado
- Adverse Weather: Extreme Heat
- Agricultural Pest Infestation, Plant Disease, Tree Mortality
- Biological Agents (Naturally Occurring)
- Dam Incidents
- Drought and Water Storage
- Earthquake
- Flooding
- Landslides and Debris Flows
- Subsidence
- Wildfires
- Human-Caused: Hazardous Materials

Development of the City's LHMP was led by an interdisciplinary Hazard Mitigation Plan Revision Group, consisting of the Fire Chief, Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal, Police Commander, Finance Manager, City Planner, Public Works Operations Manager, Solid Waste and Recycling Manager, and Recreation Services Manager. This cross-departmental collaboration ensures that the plan reflects a comprehensive assessment of risks, operational considerations, and mitigation priorities across all City functions.

Fiscal Impact

The San Luis Obispo County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) total cost was \$245,030. Participation in the countywide MJHMP allowed the County to secure a federal grant covering 75% of total development costs. The remaining 25% of costs were divided on a per capita basis among the participating agencies, requiring the City to contribute \$3,500.

Recommendation

Approve Resolution 26-XXX, adopting the 2025-2030 Paso Robles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and finding this action exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 and 15262.

Attachments

1. Resolution 26-XXX - 2025-2030 Paso Robles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - a. Exhibit A – 2025-2030 Paso Robles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Annex E)
2. San Luis Obispo County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2025-2030 [Link](#)
3. FEMA Approval Letter – December 29, 2025