



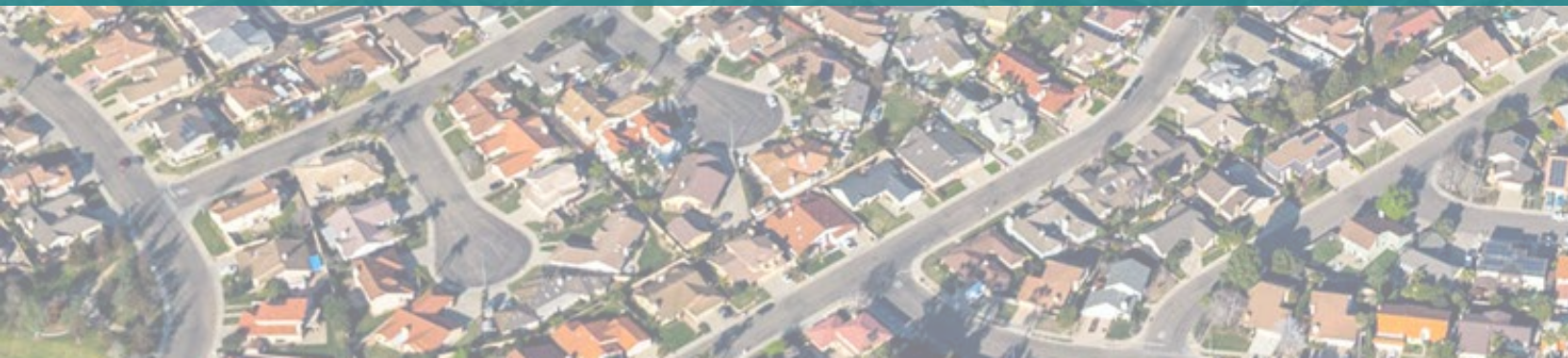
Santa Maria  
General Plan

**imagine**



# Safety Policy Framework

Public Draft | January 31, 2025



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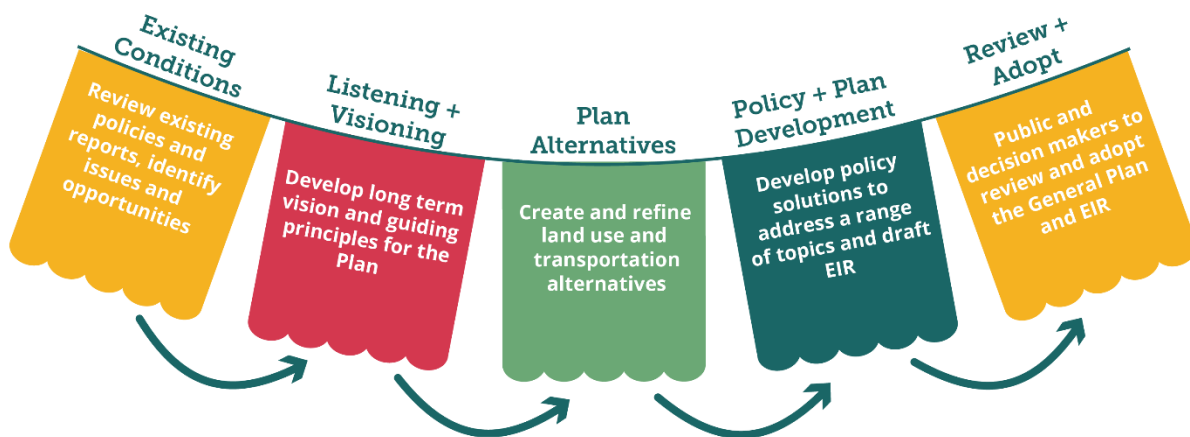
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# Safety Policy Framework

## I. Introduction

The City of Santa Maria has embarked on its first comprehensive update to the General Plan, called “Imagine Santa Maria,” to create a forward-looking document that will serve as the blueprint for the city through the year 2045. A General Plan is a policy document required by State law that provides long-range guidance for land use, development and other issues such as economic growth, open space, conservation, affordable housing, and employment. The goals, policies, and implementation actions in the General Plan will serve as a compass for decision-makers and will shape future plans and actions of the City. This revised policy document will replace the existing General Plan.

The General Plan Update has five major phases, which are designed as step-by-step building blocks (see the image below). The project is currently in the “Policy and Plan Development” phase.



During the Existing Conditions phase, City staff worked closely with the consultant team to identify trends, issues, opportunities, and priorities, which are summarized in seven existing conditions reports that are available on the project website, [www.ImagineSantaMaria.com](http://www.ImagineSantaMaria.com). Throughout the Listening + Visioning Stage, community members shared their vision for the future, qualities of Santa Maria to preserve, and issues to address. This feedback was incorporated in the [Vision, Guiding Principles, and Areas of Change and Stability](#). From there, City staff and the consultant team developed [Plan Alternatives](#) to identify different land use, mobility, and urban design options the City has to achieve the community’s Vision and implement the Guiding Principles. City Council approved a [Preferred Land Use Alternative](#) in 2023.

This Safety policy framework is a step in the General Plan Update process prior to drafting General Plan Elements. This framework highlights the key direction for the Safety Element and includes goals, policies, and implementation activities to achieve that direction. This policy framework was developed by incorporating findings from previous project phases, including technical analysis, relevant content from the existing General Plan, current planning best practices and requirements from State law, and feedback from community members, Technical Advisory Committee members, Planning Commission, City Council, and

City staff. Nine policy frameworks have been prepared covering the following topics: Conservation and Open Space, Safety, Land Use and Community Design, Circulation and Mobility, Public Facilities and Services, Recreation and Parks, Economic Development, Noise, and Health and Environmental Justice. Community feedback on the frameworks will shape goals, policies, and implementation actions in the General Plan.

## II. Statutory Requirements

### General Plan Requirements

California Government Code Section 65302(g) requires a jurisdiction's General Plan include a Safety Element to protect the community from natural and manmade hazards. The Safety Element identifies and maps hazard risk and historical hazard events that have affected the community, including seismic, flooding, and wildland and urban fire risk. For hazards identified as a concern to the community, the Safety Element is required to establish policies and actions that avoid placing people and development in high hazard risk areas and minimize the impacts of potential hazard events through strategic zoning, subdivision, and entitlement decisions. Additionally, the Safety Element must address climate change adaptation and resilience by including a vulnerability assessment that identifies how climate change risks may affect the community. Other topics the Safety Element must address include evacuation routes, military installations, peakload water supply requirements, and minimum road widths and clearances around structures.

Santa Maria's Safety Element operates in conjunction with other local and regional hazard mitigation and disaster plans to protect the city, including the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation and the Santa Barbara County Operational Area Emergency Management Plan.

### Regulatory Setting

Regulations that affect policy direction of this Element include:

**Assembly Bill 3065 (2004). State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.** Assembly Bill 3065 requires that the draft Safety Element of any jurisdiction with a planning area that contains either state responsibility areas (SRAs) or a very high fire severity zone be submitted to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and local agencies that provide fire protection at least 90 days prior to the local adoption of the safety element.

**Assembly Bill 2140 (2006). Adopt LHMP into Safety Element.** Assembly Bill 2140 allows California counties and cities to adopt their current, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved local hazard mitigation plans (LHMPs) into the Safety Element of their General Plan. This adoption makes the county or city eligible to be considered for part or all of its local-share costs on eligible Public Assistance funding to be provided by the state through the California Disaster Assistance Act.

**Senate Bill 1241 (2012). State Responsibility Areas and Very High Fire Severity Zones.** Senate Bill 1241 requires review and update of the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, to address the risk of fire in state responsibility areas and very high fire hazard

severity zones. The specific requirements are codified in Government Code § 65302(g)(3) and 65302.5(b) and included as Attachment 1 to this memo.

**Senate Bill 379 (2015). Climate Change Adaptation.** Senate Bill 379 requires all cities and counties to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in the safety elements of their general plans beginning January 1, 2017. The bill requires the safety element update to include a set of goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures based on a vulnerability assessment.

**Senate Bill 1035 (2018). New Information on Flood, Fire, or Climate Hazards.** Senate Bill 1035 requires cities and counties to update their safety element during a housing element or local hazard mitigation plan update cycle, but not less than once every eight years, if new information on flood hazards, fire hazards, or climate adaptation or resilience is available that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.

**Senate Bill 99 (2019). Residential Emergency Evacuation Routes.** Senate Bill 99 requires all cities and counties, upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2020, to update the safety element to include information identifying residential developments located in any hazard area addressed in the safety element that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes.

**Assembly Bill 747 (2019) and Assembly Bill 1409 (2021). Evacuation Routes.** Assembly Bills 747 and 1409 require all cities and counties to identify evacuation routes and evacuation locations in the safety elements of their general plans upon the next revision of the local hazard mitigation plan, beginning on or after January 1, 2022. The bill requires evaluation of evacuation route capacity (e.g., the amount of traffic a roadway can handle in an emergency), safety, and viability (e.g., ability to function during an emergency scenario) under a range of emergency scenarios, as well as the identification of evacuation locations.

**Assembly Bill 1638 (2023). Local Government Emergency Response Services. Use Of Languages Other Than English.** Commencing January 1, 2025, this bill requires emergency response agencies that serve jurisdictions where 5% or more of the populations speaks a language other than English to provide information in that language in the event of an emergency. Local agencies are required to use the American Community Survey data to identify languages spoken by communities that speak English less than “very well” and provide appropriate emergency response translations.

**Assembly Bill 2684 (2024). Extreme Heat.** Assembly Bill 2684 requires cities and counties to update their safety elements after January 1, 2028, to address extreme heat hazards. If an Extreme Heat Action Plan exists, it can be used in the update, and information from the Extreme Heat Action Plan and the State Hazard Mitigation Plan can also be referenced to meet this requirement.

**Senate Bill 1137 (2022). Oil and Gas Operations.** Senate Bill 1137 prohibits the issuance of well permits and the construction and operation of new production facilities within a health protection zone (or HPZ) of 3,200 feet from a sensitive receptor. Sensitive receptors include residences, education resources (preschool, schools, daycare center, park, playground, university, etc.), community resource centers, health care facilities, live-in housing, or any building housing a business that is open to the public. Operators of existing oil and gas wells in an HPZ are required to submit a leak detection and response plan to the California Air Resources Board for approval.

### III. Related Vision and Guiding Principles

The General Plan Vision Statement describes Santa Maria as the community would like to see it in 2045.<sup>1</sup> The Guiding Principles establish the direction the community should follow and the major ideas that the General Plan Update will put forward to achieve the community’s shared Vision for 2045. The full [Vision, Guiding Principles, and Areas of Change and Stability](#), approved by the City Council in 2021, are available on the Imagine Santa Maria project website. The following full-sentence excerpts from the Vision and Guiding Principles informed the preparation of this policy framework:

#### Vision

*Santa Maria in 2045 is a community where families can establish and maintain multi-generational roots. It is close-knit, culturally diverse, and economically inclusive.*

*This is possible, in part, because Santa Maria offers affordable, safe, attractive, and healthy homes and neighborhoods for all residents.*

*People are proud of their history and heritage. This is reflected in the diverse, well-preserved historical resources and the attractive, inviting streets and public gathering places. Museums, art venues, a strong civic sector, and the many welcoming community events and celebrations are all evidence of a vibrant local culture.*

#### Guiding Principles

The following Guiding Principles establish the direction to follow to achieve the community’s shared Vision for 2045.

##### *Natural Environment and Resilience*

*Conserve water resources in the city and support efforts to maintain the Santa Maria River. Expand opportunities to enjoy the area’s natural resources and the region’s beauty. Safeguard the community from natural hazards, including those exacerbated by climate change.*

##### *Utilities, Facilities, and Services*

*Provide residents and businesses with equitable access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable infrastructure and utilities, including water, wastewater, flood control, gas, phone, cable, and broadband internet. Deliver high-quality services and facilities for all community members, including expedient emergency response, accessible health care, high-quality education and career training, and convenient and equitable access to well-maintained parks and recreational facilities.*

##### *Governance and Engagement*

*Continue to conduct and increase meaningful and inclusive civic engagement that empowers a diversity of perspectives in public decision-making. Provide residents and businesses with high-quality, equitable, and accessible customer service, including City communications and events in multiple languages and interpretation services. Partner with community organizations and institutions to build trust and increase participation, including among youth, who will be the city leaders in 2045.*

<sup>1</sup> Citation style: Author. Title. Publisher. Year. Retrieved from: website url. Date retrieved

## IV. Setting the Scene: Issues and Opportunities

The sections below outline opportunities, strengths, issues, and challenges that drove the direction of the Safety policy framework. This policy framework builds on the opportunities and strengths and identifies strategies to remedy the issues and challenges.

Opportunities, strengths, issues, and challenges were identified based on existing conditions, the Vision and Guiding Principles, technical studies, community engagement results, and conversations with City staff. Links to past project work may be found on the project website:

<https://www.imaginesantamaria.com/resources>.

### Opportunities and Strengths

Existing hazard and emergency response and preparedness plans are valuable tools for protecting the city from natural and manmade hazards. Santa Maria has several existing plans that evaluate existing risk and community capabilities, as well as identify resources and mitigation to reduce risk and better prepare the city for a potential disaster. However, even with careful and strategic planning the community may still be at risk from these hazards due to a variety of factors, including limited funding and resources, and uncertainties regarding future hazard events. Climate change further challenges the community's ability to prepare for hazards, as the frequency and severity of many natural hazards are expected to increase, which can overwhelm existing mitigation and response measures. In addition, broader climate change impacts on supply chains, including energy and water supplies, could also affect Santa Maria's ability to adapt to and mitigate climate-related hazards.

**Santa Maria Hazard Mitigation Plan.** The City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) was updated in 2023 and is an annex to the Santa Barbara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan. The purpose of a LHMP is to identify hazards, review and assess past disaster occurrences, estimate the probability of future occurrences, and set goals to mitigate potential risks to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural and man-made hazards. The Santa Maria Hazard Mitigation Plan creates decision tools for management, promotes compliance with both State and Federal program requirements, and enhances local policies for hazard mitigation capability. It covers a wide array of local hazards, including weather extremes, water shortages, agricultural pests, climate change, and other natural and manmade hazards. (*Santa Barbara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan*)

**Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan.** The Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan was adopted in 2016 and developed by the Santa Maria Fire Department. The plan covers Santa Maria and the city of Guadalupe. The goal of the plan is to clearly delineate the procedures and policies applicable to responding to a major emergency event, and the plan was designed to be applicable to all emergency incidents. Direction for the coordinated response of public services in both cities, including the Santa Maria Police Department and Fire Department, is included within the plan based on different types of emergency incidents. The City plans to update the Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan within the next few years to reflect changes in emergency response processes. (*Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan For the Cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe*)

**Community Risk Assessment: Standards of Cover.** The Santa Maria Fire Department’s Community Risk Assessment: Standards of Cover was released in 2021 and Fire Department Strategic Plan 2021. It outlines facilities that create more of an emergency risk than others in the city due to factors such as being high-occupancy or providing care to vulnerable populations. These facilities may require more emergency response resources in the event of an emergency incident. The report lists 102 critical facilities within Santa Maria, including the Santa Maria-Bonita School District, Santa Maria Joint Union High School District, and the Marian Regional Medical Center, which is Santa Maria’s primary medical facility and second-largest employer at more than 1,900 employees. (*Santa Maria Fire Department Community Risk Assessment: Standards of Cover*). These documents also reference the potential increased risk due to increases in population density by housing development requirements such as ADU’s and multi-story apartments. Parking impacts on roads due to waivers and required reductions for parking reduce capacity on the roads potentially inhibiting evacuation and fire apparatus and ambulance access. The City only has 1 Aerial apparatus with no backup cover during maintenance or concurrent assignment limiting multi-story response capability.

**Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP).** The Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for Santa Barbara County adopted the most recent Santa Maria ALUCP in 2023. The ALUCP serves as a tool for the Airport Land Use Commission to review land use plans and development proposals within Airport Influence Areas and promote compatibility between airports and their surrounding land uses. The ALUCP also provides land use compatibility policies and criteria to promote the orderly growth of the airport without significant impacts to the welfare of the community. The ALUCP includes airport safety zones, land use and development standards and policies, and overflight notification and real estate disclosure zones to mitigate safety hazards related to airport uses. (*Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*)

**California Building Standards Code.** Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, also referred to as Title 24, contains the California Building Standards Code (CBSC), which establishes minimum standards for the construction, design, quality of materials, use and occupancy, and maintenance of buildings to ensure the safety of people and property. This includes standards related to fire and seismic safety, which establish specific building requirements relative to the level of risk associated with each hazard. State law requires that cities and counties enforce Title 24 and as such, cities and counties are required to adopt portions of the CBSC that are relevant to local governments. However, cities and counties may adopt more restrictive regulations to address specific local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. (*Santa Maria Municipal Code*)

## Issues and Challenges

**Emergency Response.** Emergency preparedness and responses are primarily the responsibility of the Santa Maria Fire Department and Police Department. The City has identified Impacts related to radio propagation and sufficient appropriate apparatus and staffing are currently at threshold levels. In addition, the City has noted language and technology barriers that can make it challenging to disseminate information equitably to the entire community. Increased risk of various hazards due to climate change could also result in increased service needs, which will result in insufficient service levels from emergency responders. The City does not currently have any public facilities that meet disaster shelter standards set by FEMA, Department of Justice, or American Red Cross. Consequently, in the event of an emergency the



City will need to rely on temporary shelters and coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions and private organizations to provide adequate shelter and resources for affected residents. Furthermore, according to the Santa Barbara County Regional Growth Forecast 2050, Santa Maria is anticipated to experience the largest increase in population in the county which will result in a substantial increase in demand for emergency response resources (*Environmental Background Report, Input received during Department meetings, Santa Barbara County Regional Growth Forecast 2050*).

**Evacuation.** Hazard events such as flooding, fire, dam failure, and hazardous materials incidents can necessitate the need for evacuation of individuals from a particular area or the entirety of the city. The Police Department is primarily responsible for coordinating evacuation efforts in the event an evacuation is needed, including the management and allocation of mutual aid resources per the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) to execute evacuation. The main evacuation routes out of the city are U.S. Highway 101 and Highway 1. Without proper evacuation protocol and preparation, inadequate evacuation capacity could threaten the safety of residents. Recent state legislation encouraging the development of housing near transit and reduced parking requirements for housing is likely to result in more residents parking on the street and may reflect reduced dependence on personal vehicles, and in turn increase dependence on public transit. This shift will introduce additional evacuation challenges, including potential roadway obstructions and greater reliance on public or community transportation resources during an emergency evacuation. (*Environmental Background Report*)

**Seismic and Geologic Hazards.** Generally, Santa Maria has low potential for liquefaction. However, the city has a high risk for seismic hazards, including potential liquefaction areas near the Santa Maria Public Airport, due to perched groundwater in the area. There are several active faults in proximity to Santa Maria, including the Santa Maria Fault, the Santa Maria River Fault, and the Casmalia Fault. The risk of seismically induced ground rupture from these faults is expected to be minor. Areas of the city at risk due to expansive soils include areas near the northeastern city boundary and the proposed annexation area. Due to the complexity of the local geotechnical landscape and limited available historical data, existing information on seismic and geologic hazards in Santa Maria may significantly underestimate the true level of risk (*Environmental Background Report, Input received during Departmental meetings*).

**Flooding and Dam Failure.** Santa Maria is exposed to low risk of flood hazards related to Twitchell Dam, the Santa Maria River, and agricultural runoff; however, flat topography can result in localized incidents of flooding during rain events. Areas of the city within a 100-year flood zone are concentrated along the city's northern border, near the Santa Maria River areas within the 500-year flood zone are concentrated near Highway 166 and Orcutt Creek. The City's stormwater system has repeatedly been overwhelmed by winter storms leading to flooding of roadways. Agricultural practices exacerbate local flood issues by causing pooling, reducing ground absorption, and blocking drainage systems. Furthermore, the increased frequency and intensity of storm events due to climate change will exacerbate existing flood issues throughout the city. (*Environmental Background Report, Input received during Department meetings*)

**Wildfire.** According to the City of Santa Maria Hazard Mitigation Plan, there is low probability of wildland fires in the city. Santa Maria is surrounded by irrigated row crop farms and has not experienced a wildfire within or immediately adjacent to the city since the very early 20th Century. The most significant wildland

fire hazards in Santa Maria are associated with the coastal sage scrub and grass covered slopes in the Casmalia and Solomon Hills area, south of the City limits. In comparison to wildfire risk, there are potentially higher risks for urban fires in the city due to high occupancy housing units and older mobile home parks, which can have aging electrical systems. While a large urban fire would likely be limited in area, it has the potential to have greater adverse effects to property and life. (*Environmental Background Report*)

**Climate Change.** Based on the findings in California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment and the 5<sup>th</sup> National Climate Assessment, Santa Maria will be impacted by climate change, including increases in average maximum and minimum temperatures, increases in extreme heat events, changes in precipitation patterns, more severe storms, more urban flooding, more frequent and severe wildfires and associated poor air quality, and prolonged periods of drought. (*Environmental Background Report*)

- Average maximum and minimum temperatures in Santa Maria are expected to rise. Warmer minimum and maximum temperatures and more frequent temperature extremes may strain water supplies and increase water and energy prices, due to greater demand for air conditioning and from the agriculture sector. Local public health will also be negatively impacted, due to increases in heat-related illnesses. Endangered species and ecosystem functions in the region may be impaired due to the change in average temperatures.
- Santa Maria is projected to experience more extreme heat conditions with an anticipated increase in the number of extreme days per year. If not properly mitigated, increased intensity of urban development and the conversion of open space or agricultural land to urban uses will further exacerbate extreme heat conditions in urban areas. This will result in increased public health risks, particularly to vulnerable populations like farm workers through heat-related diseases, air quality degradation, more vector-borne illnesses, and an increase in harmful algal blooms.
- Projections show that Santa Maria will likely experience 1 to 3 inches more of annual average precipitation with fewer but more severe rainfall events projected. This will result in intense stormwater runoff that may overwhelm percolation ponds at the sewer and treatment facilities, and potentially adversely impact the Santa Maria River, Cuyama River, Sisquoc River, and coastal water quality.
- Climate change will increase the likelihood of drought due to higher average temperatures and changes in precipitation. However, the specifics of projected drought conditions are not currently available for California or Santa Maria.
- Climate change could cause low-lying areas throughout Santa Maria to experience more frequent flooding and an increase in the extent of 100-year floods. Flooding can occur by rivers and creeks following persistent precipitation. Both increased temperatures and more frequent short-duration, high intensity rainfall could increase the potential for flash flooding and debris flows, particularly after wildfires. These events have the potential to pose a major threat to life and property in Santa Maria.

**Vulnerable Populations.** Many characteristics can make individuals more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural and manmade hazards. Santa Maria has a large vulnerable population consisting of youth and children, persons with disabilities, people of color, immigrants, and linguistically-isolated individuals. In addition, farmworkers are disproportionately affected by adverse health impacts due to unique

working and living conditions such as exposure to pesticides and exposure to poor air quality due to frequently working outside. Low-income households and households living in poverty are also disproportionately affected by negative health impacts and pollution exposure. (*Environmental Background Report, Health + Environmental Justice Existing Conditions Report*)

**Hazardous Materials.** Santa Maria has 67 leaking underground storage tanks (LUST) sites and 22 contaminated groundwater sites. Crude oil in and near Santa Maria includes an extensive network of oil wells and crude oil and natural gas pipelines, which could pose a threat of potential fires and explosions and water supply contamination. There are numerous oil wells in and near the city, particularly in the southern area of the city and in the proposed annexation area. Industrial, commercial, and agricultural activities can utilize or store hazardous and toxic chemicals, and spills or mishandling of these materials can result in site contamination and illicit discharges to the stormwater drainage system, sewer system, and wastewater treatment plant. The presence of active oil wells in proximity to water sources can impact public health as well, including preterm births, asthma, respiratory disease, and cancer. The transport of hazardous materials is also a potential hazard, as truck and railroad accidents along transportation routes could result in hazardous materials spills. Areas with the highest risk of hazardous materials accidents include major transportation routes (such as U.S. 101 and Main Street (S.R. 166)), Betteravia Road, Blosser Road, railroads, and airport industrial zones. (*Environmental Background Report*)

**Solid Waste Sites.** Solid waste sites collect, process, and/or store household garbage and other types of waste from industry or commercial sources, including landfills, recycling facilities, transfer stations, and composting facilities. In Santa Maria, there are three disadvantaged communities impacted by three regulated solid waste sites in the city: Santa Maria Regional landfill; Engel & Gray composting site; and the Santa Maria Recycle Facility. Potential odors, waste gases, and fires can all threaten the health and wellbeing of nearby residents. (*Environmental Background Report, Health + Environmental Justice Existing Conditions Report*)

**Airport Hazards.** The Santa Maria Public Airport is in the southwestern corner of Santa Maria. Airport hazards include hazards related to obstructing landing and approach zones, airplane accidents, and noise. Height, safety, and noise policies apply to all three hazard zones. Noise concerns related to the Santa Maria Airport are covered in the Noise Policy Framework. The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments' Airport Land Use Commission released an updated Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for the Santa Maria Airport in 2023. The City's land use designations in the area of the Airport are consistent with the updated ALUCP; however updates to the Airport area zoning designations may be necessary to maintain consistency between the ALUCP and the City's Zoning Ordinance. (*Environmental Background Report*)

## V. Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

This section provides a blueprint for establishing a safe and resilient community that is prepared for potential hazard events and can effectively respond to and recover from disasters. Goals, policies, and implementation actions in this section address hazards related to seismic and geologic activity, wildland and urban fires, flood and dam inundation, hazardous materials, airports, and climate change. Additionally, this section includes goals, policies, and implementation actions for enhancing emergency response and preparedness and adequate emergency access and evacuation capacity.

Each goal, policy, and implementation action includes a source in parentheses. Sources include: the City's existing General Plan, State law, existing conditions reports, community input, guidance from City staff, industry or regional best practices, or related materials.

**Goal S-1: Seismic and Geologic Hazards. Minimal impact to people and property from geologic and seismic hazards. (Adapted from Goal 1)**

**Policy S-1.1: Mitigate seismic and geologic hazards.** Ensure new development is designed and constructed to adequately mitigate seismic and geologic hazards through the City's safety and development regulations. (Adapted from Goal 1 Implementation Program 3)

**Action S-1.1.1:** Update the Santa Maria Municipal Code as new versions of the California Building Code are published and review and adopt seismic safety standards as needed to reflect current, updated information on seismic hazards in relation to the city. (Adapted from Objective 1.1.b and Goal 1 Implementation Program 1)

**Action S-1.1.2:** Review and update seismic and geologic hazard assessments and policies within the Safety Element and LHMP as new data becomes available. (Adapted from Goal 1 Implementation Action 7)

**Action S-1.1.3:** Utilize the land use review processes to identify seismic and geologic hazard risk associated with proposed development and condition projects to mitigate risk to an acceptable level (acceptable level shall be consistent with the current CBC). (Adapted from Objective 1.1.a and Goal 1 Implementation Programs 3 and 6)

**Action S-1.1.4:** Enforce the Unreinforced Masonry Ordinance to require the rehabilitation of identified unreinforced masonry buildings in accordance with the "adopted by" dates outlined in the ordinance. (Objective 1.1.d)

**Action S-1.1.5:** Update the Santa Maria Municipal Code building foundation requirements to ensure building foundations are designed to withstand damage caused by groundshifting and compaction from seismic events. (New action, best practice)

**Policy S-1.2: Seismic and geologic safety standards.** Establish enhanced seismic and geologic safety standards to be applicable to development in high risk seismic and geologic hazard zones. (New policy, best practice)

**Action S-1.2.1:** Update the Santa Maria Municipal Code to require development projects in high seismic and geologic risk areas conduct a geotechnical investigation and analysis by a state-licensed engineering geologist or civil engineer , with the resulting report to be included as a part of the land use and/or subdivision permit application. The geotechnical investigation report shall assess hazard risk and identify appropriate mitigation measures to reduce identified risks to an acceptable level. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-1.2.2:** Update the Santa Maria Municipal Code to adopt stringent sites and building design standards appropriate for new development in high seismic and geologic risk areas. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-1.2.3:** Update the Municipal Code to prohibit the redevelopment of sites where habitable structures are significantly damaged or destroyed by a geologic hazard event, unless findings can be made by a state-licensed geologist that the proposed redevelopment would adequately mitigate future geologic hazard risks. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-1.3: Public Information on Seismic Hazards.** Inform the public of existing seismic and geologic hazards through community engagement efforts along with actions they can take to protect themselves and their property from these hazards. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-1.3.1:** Publish a guide that outlines the permitting process for retrofitting older structures that do not adhere to current seismic and geologic building standards. *(New action, best practice)*

**Goal S-2: Wildland and Urban Fires. Minimal impact of wildland and urban fire hazards to people and property. *(Adapted from Goal 3)***

**Policy S-2.1: Fire and emergency response capacity.** Maintain adequate firefighting capabilities and five-minute emergency response times. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1)*

**Action S-2.1.1:** Require all development maintain minimum fire flow requirements established by the California Fire Code. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1.a)*

**Action S-2.1.2:** Evaluate firefighting capacity and emergency response needs as new land is annexed and developed within the Santa Maria Fire Department jurisdiction. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-2.2: Weed abatement.** Enforce the City's weed abatement program. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1.b and Goal 3 Implementation Program 3)*

**Action S-2.2.1:** Require property owners remove cut down grass and other vegetation that could be a source of fuel for wildfires or urban fires. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-2.2.2:** Coordinate with Santa Barbara County and local property owners to ensure proper implementation of the City's weed abatement program. *(New action, best practice)*

**Goal S-3: Flood and Dam Inundation.** Minimal impacts from flood and dam inundation to people and property. *(Adapted from Goal 2)*

**Policy S-3.1: Floor elevation above floodplain.** Require new development in the 100-year flood zone construct finish floor elevation of 2 feet above the 100-year flood plain elevation. *(Adapted from Objective 2.1.a)*

**Policy S-3.2: Santa Maria River Levee development buffer.** Require new development and sites undergoing redevelopment provide a non-development buffer of 60 feet, measured from the toe of the Santa Maria River Levee, to provide access to the Santa Maria River levee for maintenance and repairs. *(Adapted from Objective 2.1.c)*

**Policy S-3.3: Agricultural runoff reduction.** Reduce offsite and urban flooding caused by agricultural runoff. *(Adapted from Objective 2.1.d)*

**Action S-3.3.1:** Establish a reporting and monitoring program to record flood events caused by agricultural runoff. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.3.2:** Work with the County to educate agricultural operators on best management practices for runoff and irrigation control and how to implement efficient onsite drainage systems by hosting an annual educational workshop and distributing flyers to nearby operators. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.3.3:** Collaborate with local agricultural operators and the Cachuma Resource Conservation District to implement and enforce agricultural runoff control measures. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-3.4: Low impact design.** Require new development and redevelopment projects incorporate low impact design measures for stormwater management, such as bioswales, permeable pavement, and onsite detention ponds. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-3.4.1:** Update the Municipal Code to adopt site design standards for stormwater management derived from principles of low impact design. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.4.2:** Partner with local conservation organizations, design professionals, and local nurseries to develop an outreach program to educate the public on low impact design practices. *(New action, best practice)*

- Provide targeted educational workshops to developers that teach best management practices for implementing low impact design projects aimed at reducing stormwater runoff and flooding.
- Develop fact sheets and publicize resources and example projects that implement low impact design practices for homeowners and property owners, such as rain gardens, rainwater storage, and permeable driveways.
- Create demonstration projects to showcase successful implementation of low impact design installations.

**Policy S-3.5: Stormwater drainage system.** Maintain and upgrade the City's stormwater drainage system to increase the system's capacity and reduce flooding. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-3.5.1:** Regularly evaluate the efficiency and capacity of the City's stormwater system for current and future projected increases to storm events and update the City's Stormwater Management Plan accordingly. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Action S-3.5.2:** Identify and develop capital improvement projects to improve system deficiencies and capacity constraints. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Policy S-3.6: NFIP participation.** Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. *(Adapted from Policy 2)*

**Policy S-3.7: Dam inundation safety.** Coordinate with the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District (SBCFCD) to maintain and upgrade dam infrastructure and safety protocols to ensure the safety of people and property in dam inundation zones. Maintenance and updates should account for the expected increase in precipitation and severity and frequency of storm events. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-3.7.1:** Support maintenance and monitoring efforts of SBCFCD. Encourage SBCFCD to conduct regular assessments of dam and levee infrastructure to identify potential maintenance needs and monitor the condition of dam infrastructure during significant storm events and evaluate infrastructure post storm to identify any damage. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.7.2:** Request SBCFCD conduct an analysis to evaluate climate change impacts on dam infrastructure and identify maintenance/improvement projects to prepare for extreme climate conditions such as increased flooding and storm events. This analysis could be incorporated into the City's annex of the LHMP. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.7.3:** Conduct a public outreach program to prepare residents in dam inundation zones, including sharing evacuation route information, establishing predetermined evacuation zones, and publicizing resources for residents to stay informed on dam conditions. All information on dam inundation shall be provided in all languages spoken by at least five percent of the population. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-3.7.4:** Incorporate emergency response protocol into the Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan to prepare the city for a potential dam inundation event that includes the following: *(New action, best practice)*

- Evacuation plans and routes to prepare for dam or levee failure of the Santa Maria River Levee and Twitchell Dam.
- Identification of emergency centers to provide shelter, medical care, and essential resources residents in the event of an evacuation.
- Evacuation assistance plan to support residents without a vehicle, residents with large animals, mobility challenged residents, and residents that speak a language other than English.
- Assignment of emergency management roles for City staff in the event of dam or levee failure.

- Identification of communication procedures to coordinate information sharing with emergency responders, local and regional agencies, and the public.

**Goal S-4: Hazardous Materials and Waste. Minimal public exposure to hazardous materials and waste. (Adapted from Goal 5, 6, and 8)**

**Policy S-4.1: Crude oil extraction, production and postproduction.** Maintain and as needed update local land use regulations pertaining to crude oil extraction, production and postproduction well site abandonment and closure. *(New Policy, best practice and Environmental Background Report)*

**Action S-4.1.1:** Update the City’s Petroleum Ordinance to maintain consistency with regulations and standards established by the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) and Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Division. *(Adapted from Objective 5.1.a and Goal 5 Implementation Program 1)*

**Action S-4.1.2:** Update the minimum no-build easement buffer of 10 feet surrounding abandoned and existing oil wells to be consistent with SB 1137 and to current CalGEM policies for unimpeded access to well heads. *(Adapted from Objective 5.1.b)*

**Action S-4.1.3:** Require responsible parties to remediate abandoned oil sumps and contaminated soils in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations upon termination of the operation of associated contaminating use or facility, and for abandoned sites, prior to development of the site. *(Adapted from Objective 5.1.d)*

**Action S-4.1.4:** Refer development applications for oil extraction, production, storage, or transport uses and sites to the County Petroleum Engineer for review and approval, including sites with existing or previous operations related to oil extraction, production, storage, or transport. *(Adapted from Goal 5 Implementation Program 2 and 3)*

**Action S-4.1.5:** Update the Municipal Code to require new development and redevelopment projects on sites with existing or abandoned oil wells or prior oil drilling operations conduct a Phase I Environmental Assessment, unless the applicant can provide a clearance letter from the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) or the County of Santa Barbara Environmental Health Services Department. *(Adapted from Goal 5 Implementing Program 5)*

**Action S-4.1.6:** Conduct an environmental assessment prior to new annexations containing or in proximity to active and plugged oil and gas wells to identify potential public health concerns. Based on the findings of the environmental assessment, restrict development in areas near active, idle, and/or abandoned oil and gas wells that could expose people to contamination. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-4.1.7:** Ensure development projects are designed to prevent impeding access to idle and abandoned petroleum wells per California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) requirements through the permitting and environmental review process. *(New action, Input from City)*



**Policy S-4.2: Hazardous materials.** Ensure the safe use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials. *(Adapted from Policy 9, Objective 9.1.b, 9.1.c, and 9.1.d)*

**Action S-4.2.1:** Continue to enforce regulations of hazardous materials established by the Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services Division and state Health and Safety Code. *(Adapted from Policy 9, Objective 9.1.b, 9.1.c, and 9.1.d)*

**Action S-4.2.2:** Enforce and periodically review hazardous materials transport routes designated by the City and the California Highway Patrol to ensure routes limit exposure to existing sensitive land uses and critical facilities to the greatest extent feasible. *(Adapted from Objective 9.1.c and Goal 9 Implementation Program 1)*

**Action S-4.2.3:** Maintain local hazardous materials disposal programs for businesses and residents to ensure safe disposal of hazardous materials. *(Adapted from Objective 9.1.d)*

**Action S-4.2.4:** Coordinate with the County of Santa Barbara Environmental Health Division and the California Highway Patrol to update and enforce local hazardous materials plans, programs, and transport routes. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-4.2.5:** Prior to issuance of a ministerial permit related to proposed railway facilities and related operations, require applicants submit written documentation that the Railroad Operations and Safety Branch (ROSB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has conducted review and inspection of the project, and found the project in compliance with all state and federal laws, regulations, orders, and directives relating to the handling and transportation of hazardous commodities. *(New action, Input from City)*

**Policy S-4.3: City hazardous materials usage.** Reduce the use of hazardous materials in City operations *(New policy, best practice)*.

**Action S-4.3.1:** Evaluate the feasibility of adopting procurement policies that prioritize the purchase of non-toxic and environmentally friendly products for City operations. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-4.3.2:** Eliminate the use of toxic pesticides on publicly owned land and implement integrated pest management practices and use of organic pesticides. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-4.4: Landfills.** Monitor and mitigate hazardous material exposure associated with landfill operations. *(New Policy, best practice and Health + Environmental Justice Existing Conditions Report)*

**Action S-4.4.1:** Update the Municipal Code to establish buffer zones surrounding landfill sites by restricting the placement of sensitive land uses adjacent to landfills. Allowed uses in buffer zones may include green spaces and parks. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-4.4.2:** Ensure all active and closed landfills maintain gas collection systems to capture, manage, and potentially reuse methane for on-site and off-site use. *(Adapted from Objective 6.1.a, best practice)*.

**Goal S-5: Airport Hazards. Reduced risk of aircraft hazards from the Santa Maria Public Airport. (Adapted from Goal 8)**

**Policy S-5.1: Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.** Maintain consistency between the City's General Plan and Municipal Code and the current Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-5.1.1:** Review and update the City's Land Use Element, Safety Element, and Zoning Code upon the adoption of an updated Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan to ensure consistency. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Policy S-5.2: Airport Commission and District project review.** Ensure new development within the Santa Maria Airport Area of Influence is consistent with the standards, regulations, and processes set forth by Article 3.5 of the Public Utilities Code, as described in the Santa Maria Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. *(Adapted from Objective 8.1.a)*

**Action S-5.2.1:** Refer all applications for General Plan Land Use amendments within the Santa Maria Airport Area of Influence to the Santa Barbara County Airport Land Use Commission and the Santa Maria Public Airport District for review, consistent with the processes of Article 3.5 of the Public Utilities Code. *(Adapted from Objective 8.1.b)*

**Goal S-6: Emergency Response and Preparedness. Effective emergency preparedness and response. (New goal, best practice)**

**Policy S-6.1: Emergency preparedness and response coordination.** Strengthen the City's emergency preparedness and response capabilities. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.1.1:** Maintain mutual aid agreements and establish shared resource networks within the Operational Area to provide additional emergency response capacity in the event of a large-scale disaster. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1.f and Goal 3 Implementation Program 6)*

**Action S-6.1.2:** Participate in updates to the regional emergency, safety, and hazard plans, including the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and Santa Barbara Operational Area Emergency Management Plan. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.1.3:** Engage Operational Area partners and the Whole Community (FEMA) in the City's emergency planning efforts to ensure a cohesive and coordinated response in the event of a large-scale disaster consistent with Incident Command System (ICS)/SEMS/NIMS. *(New action, best practice)*

- Work with other jurisdictions and regional agencies to develop a multi-jurisdictional emergency preparedness and response team to oversee and advise emergency planning efforts

**Action S-6.1.4:** Partner with local organizations and regional agencies to offer a broader range of training and education opportunities for emergency response personnel, City staff, and residents with the goal of sharing best practices and encouraging cross collaboration. This can be accomplished by organizing joint

training and cross training sessions and emergency drills with other agencies, organizations, or jurisdictions. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-6.2: Police response time.** Identify minimum standards for police response time and ensure compliance with these standards for all areas within the City Limits. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1)*

**Action S-6.2.1:** Continually monitor and report average law enforcement response time. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.2.2:** On an annual basis, evaluate police resource needs to achieve a five-minute response time, and include desired resources as needed. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-6.3: Police emergency response capacity.** Maintain adequate law enforcement capabilities and emergency response capacity. *(Adapted from Objective 3.1)*

**Action S-6.3.1:** Evaluate law enforcement capacity and emergency response needs as new land is annexed and developed within the Santa Maria Police Department jurisdiction. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-6.4: Resilient critical facilities.** Create resilient critical facilities that minimize exposure of people and property from disasters. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.4.1:** Update the Santa Maria Municipal Code to require the siting of new critical public facilities outside of high hazard risk areas, including the 100-year flood zone, wildland urban interface zone, and areas with high liquefaction potential, unless the facilities can be designed in such a way that the risk can be mitigated to an acceptable level. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.4.2:** Identify existing critical facilities in high-risk hazard zones that require relocation or retrofits. Create a ranked list of critical facilities requiring relocation and/or retrofits based on the degree of hazard risk and the magnitude of adverse impacts to the community in the event the functionality of the facility is reduced or interrupted. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.4.3:** Develop, prioritize, and implement a list of capital improvement projects to mitigate hazard risk for critical facilities: *(New action, best practice)*

- Prioritize improvement projects based on feasibility and impact, with emphasis on improvements that benefit disadvantaged communities.
- Identify and pursue sources of funding to support critical facility improvement projects, such as the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

**Action S-6.4.4:** Install backup energy systems, such as generators, renewable energy, and battery storage systems, for existing and new critical facilities to ensure continuity of operation in the event of a disaster or hazard event. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.4.5:** Conduct annual fire safety inspections for public buildings and recreational and utility infrastructure. *(Adapted from Goal 3 Implementation Program 4)*

**Policy S-6.5: Emergency response training.** Prepare and train City staff to support emergency responders in the event of a disaster. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.5.1:** Update the Emergency Response Plan to designate roles and responsibilities for City staff by department, including non-leadership support roles. *(New action, best practice and Emergency Response Plan)*

**Action S-6.5.2:** Designate alternative operating locations for critical City staff in the event that the primary location is inaccessible or unusable during and after an emergency. *(New action, best practice and Integrated Regional Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan)*

**Policy S-6.6: Emergency plans.** Maintain and update local emergency preparedness and response plans to ensure consistency between state, regional, and local safety requirements and current best management practices. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.6.1:** Upon adoption of an updated City or Regional Safety Element, Hazard Mitigation Plan, emergency response plan, or airport land use plan, review and update all other relevant City safety and emergency plans and regulations for consistency. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.6.2:** When updating a local safety or emergency plan, update hazard identification and mapping to include the most current state-approved data sources. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-6.7: Community emergency preparedness and response.** Create opportunities for meaningful community involvement throughout all aspects of emergency preparedness and response planning. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.7.1:** Implement a community outreach program with diverse engagement methodologies to educate and prepare residents for potential hazard and emergency events that include multiple forms of media, including social media and print media, as well as in person and virtual events. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Action S-6.7.2:** Integrate noticing for community outreach opportunities into a variety of City communications, including the City's website, social media pages, and utility and property tax bills. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Action S-6.7.3:** Establish community partnerships to assist in engaging disadvantaged and underserved populations. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.7.4:** Ensure all emergency preparedness and response materials and plans are provided in all languages spoken by at least five percent of the city's population. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Action S-6.7.5:** Develop an interactive online map of publicly accessible hazards information relevant to Santa Maria that allows residents and property owners to view the location of hazards relative to their own property or location of residence. Integrate links to emergency preparedness and resiliency resources for residents, including assistance programs for home retrofits for reducing hazard risk. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.7.6:** Create a dedicated webpage on the City's website that provides current information on hazard events, proactive measures residents can make to protect themselves and their property, and resources that can be utilized in the event a disaster occurs. Use translation software to provide this information in all languages spoken by at least five percent of the population. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-6.7.7:** Incorporate clear feedback loops that demonstrate to the community how their input has influenced local planning and programs related to hazards and emergency preparedness and response. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-6.8: Emergency response communication.** Develop clear, accessible, and reliable communication methods for the entire community to be used in the event of an emergency or disaster. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-6.8.1:** Upon the next update of the Emergency Response Plan, include a strategy that outlines communication protocols during and after disasters. This plan should include methods for information sharing among emergency service providers and the public and identify plans for communicating with individuals that speak languages other than English and individuals with visual and auditory impairments. *(New action, best practice)*

**Goal S-7: Emergency Access and Evacuation.** Effective evacuation procedures that ensure the safe and efficient evacuation of people during an emergency. *(New goal, best practice)*

**Policy S-7.1: Emergency access and evacuation capacity.** Enhance the emergency access and evacuation capacity of the City's transportation network by mitigating identified evacuation constraints and increasing evacuation roadway capacity. *(New policy, best practice)*

**Action S-7.1.1:** Develop a list of prioritized infrastructure improvements and capital improvement projects that address evacuation constraints identified in the Evacuation Capacity Analysis (Appendix to be added). *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-7.1.2:** Consider emergency access and evacuation needs in future updates to the Public Works road design standards. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.1.3:** Enforce a standardized street address and street signage system. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.1.4:** Regularly inspect and maintain major evacuation roadways to ensure safe road conditions. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Policy S-7.2: Multiple emergency access and evacuation routes.** Increase emergency access and evacuation capacity for existing residential developments with fewer than two points of ingress/egress. *(New policy, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.2.1:** Identify opportunities to create secondary and alternative access/evacuation routes for single-access neighborhoods. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.2.2:** Provide targeted training and educational materials to residents of single-access neighborhoods to ensure these neighborhoods are informed of evacuation routes and protocol. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Policy S-7.3: Evacuation assistance.** Provide evacuation assistance to vulnerable populations in the event of an emergency. *(New policy, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.3.1:** Develop a plan for providing evacuation assistance for vulnerable individuals. The plan should include strategies for evacuation assistance, including the following *(New action, best practice)*:

- Opportunities for utilizing public transit to support individuals who may not be able to self-evacuate, including those without vehicles, with disabilities, commuters, etc.
- Early evacuation warnings for individuals who may require longer to evacuate, including individuals with large animals, medical needs, etc.
- Communication plan for informing non-English speaking and auditory and visually impaired individuals during an evacuation order

**Action S-7.3.2:** Promote a neighborhood buddy system, including through the City CERT program, that organizes groups of three to five households to check in, share information, and assist one another with emergency response and evacuation. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-7.3.3:** Identify public facilities that can be retrofitted to be used as emergency shelters/centers that comply with FEMA, DOJ, and/or ARC requirements. Partner with community organizations to formalize agreements to establish additional facilities that serve as emergency shelters/centers. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-7.4: Community evacuation education.** Ensure the community is informed of evacuation routes and procedures. *(New policy, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.4.1:** Develop a city webpage that provides a consolidated source of information related to evacuation, including evacuation routes, evacuation assistance, location of evacuation centers, and evacuation orders and updates. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-7.4.2:** Develop targeted outreach programs that provide evacuation information and training to residents in high-risk hazard areas. *(New action, best practice and CAL FIRE guidance)*

**Action S-7.4.3:** Collaborate with local service providers and community leaders to educate vulnerable populations on evacuation preparedness, including individuals experiencing homelessness, individuals who

speaking a language other than English, individuals with a disability, and those in disadvantaged communities. *(New action, best practice)*

**Goal S-8: Climate Resiliency and Adaptation.** A climate resilient community prepared to adapt to the impacts of climate change. *(New goal, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Policy S-8.1: City sustainability plan.** Develop a comprehensive and consistent plan for adapting to the impacts of climate change. *(New Policy, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.1.1:** Develop and adopt a sustainability plan that identifies Santa Maria’s climate resiliency and adaptation efforts. through a variety of methods, such as hosting interviews, focus group discussions, and reviewing draft plans and policies. Identify climate change impacts on vulnerable populations and include strategies to address disproportionate impacts. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-8.2: Climate resilient design.** Require new development and redevelopment to incorporate climate resilient design to mitigate impacts of climate change. *(New Policy, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.2.1:** Adopt voluntary standards from CALGreen Tier 1 and 2 to implement more restrictive development standards to encourage energy efficiency and climate smart design for new development and redevelopment. *(New action, best practice and CALGreen development standards)*

**Action S-8.2.2:** Develop a climate change scorecard to be utilized during the development and environmental review process to evaluate the climate resiliency of proposed development projects. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-8.3: Natural cooling solutions.** Support natural cooling methods to mitigate increased temperatures and extreme heat events caused by climate change. *(New Policy, best practice)*

**Action S-8.3.1:** Review and revise City standards to increase requirements for shade trees, canopies, and landscaping cover to promote natural cooling methods. *(New action, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.3.2:** Implement natural cooling methods and increased landscaping cover on city-owned sites to demonstrate the effectiveness of alternative methods for mitigating heat. Prioritize implementation on City owned properties in and near disadvantage communities and communities with a concentration of vulnerable populations, as identified in the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment *(New action, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.3.3:** Partner with local organizations to pursue grant funding to support a community lending program to provide cooling devices to residents, prioritizing disadvantaged communities and vulnerable populations. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-8.4: Climate resilient public facilities.** Incorporate climate resilient design for all new public facilities with the intent of illustrating successful implementation of green infrastructure. *(New Policy, best practice)*

**Action S-8.4.1:** Identify and apply for grant funding to support the implementation of climate resilient and adaptation demonstration projects as part of public facility development and upgrades.

**Action S-8.4.2:** Prioritize funds for implementing climate adaptation projects in areas where vulnerable populations overlap with increased risk of hazards due to climate change, as identified in the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-8.5: Community resilience centers.** Establish community resilience centers that can provide shelter and distribute resources to residents to provide relief from extreme heat, extreme cold, poor air quality, and other hazards. Ensure disadvantaged communities have access to resiliency hubs by locating resiliency hubs near these communities and providing free transit options to and from these centers during hazard events. *(New Policy, best practice)*

**Action S-8.5.1:** Design new community serving public facilities to serve as dual functioning community resilience centers. Prioritize new and upgraded facilities in disadvantaged communities and areas with a high number of populations vulnerable to climate change impacts *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-8.5.2:** Partner with local religious institutions, schools, and other operators of community gathering facilities to serve as community resilience centers during an emergency. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-8.5.3:** Equip publicly owned community resilience centers with backup power and emergency water supplies to provide continuity of operation during an emergency. *(New action, best practice)*

**Policy S-8.6: Climate adaptation retrofits.** Support retrofit programs for existing buildings to adapt to the impacts of climate change. *(New Policy, best practice)*

**Action S-8.6.1:** Offer development incentives such as expedited building permit review, fee waivers or deferrals, and technical assistance to encourage building retrofits to support climate adaptation. *(New action, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.6.2:** Identify and apply for grant opportunities to initiate a financial assistance program to support building retrofits for low-income households, vulnerable populations, and disadvantaged communities. *(New action, best practice)*

**Action S-8.6.3:** Assess critical and public facilities to evaluate climate resiliency. Identify, prioritize, and implement capital improvement projects that address identified climate vulnerabilities of these facilities. Prioritize projects to address climate change impacts in areas with a high number of vulnerable populations. *(New action, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*



**Policy S-8.7: Water efficiency and conservation.** Continue water efficiency and water conservation efforts to support a stable water supply during periods of drought. *(New Policy, best practice, Environmental Impact Report)*

**Action S-8.7.1:** Revise the Municipal Code to adopt more restrictive water efficiency standards for new development and redevelopment, with specific requirements for high water demand uses. This can be accomplished by adopting CALGreen Tier 1 and/or Tier 2 voluntary water efficiency and conservation measures. *(New action, best practice and CALGreen standards)*

**Action S-8.7.2:** Coordinate with Santa Barbara County and agricultural operators to encourage the adoption of water saving irrigation methods. *(New action, best practice and meeting with City staff)*

**Action S-8.7.3:** Continue to update and enforce the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan alongside updates to the Urban Water Management Plan. *(New action, best practice)*