



Help Reduce Disaster Losses in Your Community by Participating in the Placer County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Placer County is developing a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update to their 2010 plan. The purpose of this LHMP Update is to assess risk to natural hazards, implement actions to reduce future losses, and maintain eligibility for federal mitigation funds in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Partners in this planning effort include the cities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Rocklin, the Town of Loomis, and several special districts.

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Hazard mitigation means any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards.

Why is Natural Hazard Mitigation Important?

Most people who live or work in Placer County have been affected by natural hazards in one way or another. Placer County and its residents are vulnerable to a variety of hazards including floods, wildfire, drought, and other severe weather events.

The rising costs associated with disaster response and recovery have focused the attention of federal, state, and local governments on addressing natural hazards before they occur. Obviously, torrential rains and floods cannot always be prevented from occurring. Planning for natural hazards and implementing mitigation measures, however, can reduce the impact of such events when they do occur. Emergency response and recovery costs; property damage and monetary losses; personal injury and loss of life; and the overall economic and social impact on the community can all be reduced, and in some instances eliminated through natural hazard mitigation.

Hazard Mitigation Plan and Plan Update Process

After securing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mitigation grant funding, Placer County is using the funds to support an update of their LHMP. This LHMP Update is being developed by a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee comprised of representatives from various County and City departments; neighboring jurisdictions, key federal, state, and local agency stakeholders and the public.

The plan is addressing an updated list of hazards, including, flood, drought, wildfire, earthquake, severe weather, and agricultural hazards. The plan will assess the likely impacts of these hazards to the people and assets of the Placer County planning area and will also establish updated goals and prioritize projects to reduce the impacts of future disasters on people and property as well as to critical facilities and infrastructure.

Another benefit of mitigation planning is that it can also help lessen the cost of flood insurance to the residents of Placer County through FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) Community Rating System.

National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions in meeting the goals of the CRS Program. The reduction in flood insurance premium rates is provided according to a community’s CRS classification. Placer County is currently a CRS Class 5, which provides a 25 percent discount on flood insurance for those located within the special flood hazard area (SFHA) and a 10 percent discount for those located in non-SFHA areas.

Opportunities for Input

Members of the community have a very important role in this process. A draft of the LHMP Update will be available early fall 2015 for review and comment by the public and all interested stakeholders on the County website and other identified locations. Planning team and public stakeholder meetings will also occur throughout the plan development process. .

For more information on this project and how you can get involved, contact:

Rod Rodriguez	Jeanine Foster
Placer County Office of Emergency Services	Foster Morrison Consulting Ltd.
Phone: (530) 886-4600	Phone: (303) 717-7171
YRodrigu@placer.ca.gov	jeanine.foster@fostermorrison.com