



RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BLACKBERRY FARM

21979 SAN FERNANDO AVE • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-2823

TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3140 www.cupertino.org

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: June 5, 2018

Subject

Accept the relevant portions of Santa Clara Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan Update of 2017 including all of Volume 1 and the City of Cupertino's portion of Volume 2 of the Santa Clara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan to enable the City to qualify for hazard mitigation grants to respond to disasters.

Recommend Action

Adopt Resolution No. 18-___ accepting all of Volume 1 and the City of Cupertino's portion of Volume 2 of the Santa Clara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan to enable the City to qualify for hazard mitigation grants to respond to disasters.

Background

Hazard Mitigation Planning in Santa Clara County:

In July of 2016, a coalition of Santa Clara County cities and special districts embarked on a planning process to prepare for and lessen the impacts of specified natural hazards by updating the Santa Clara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan. Responding to federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), the partnership was formed to pool resources and to create a uniform hazard mitigation strategy that can be consistently applied to the defined planning area and used to ensure eligibility for specified grant funding success.

This effort represents the third comprehensive update to the initial hazard mitigation plan, approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in November of 2005 and developed in partnership with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), as well as a return to a truly regional effort following the 2010 planning process. The 16 member coalition of partners involved in this program includes unincorporated Santa Clara County, 14 city and town governments and the Santa Clara County Fire District. The planning area for the hazard mitigation plan was defined as the Santa Clara County Operational Area. The result of the organizational effort will be a FEMA and California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) approved multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan.

Mitigation is defined in this context as any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event. Mitigation planning is the systematic process of learning about the hazards that can affect the community, setting clear goals, identifying appropriate actions and following through with an effective mitigation strategy. Mitigation encourages long-term reduction of hazard vulnerability and can reduce the enormous cost of disasters to property owners and all levels of government. Mitigation can also protect critical community facilities, reduce exposure to liability, and minimize post-disaster community disruption.

The hazard identification and profiling in the hazard mitigation plan addresses the following hazards of concern within the planning area:

1. Dam failure
2. Drought
3. Earthquake
4. Flood
5. Landslide
6. Severe weather
7. Tsunami
8. Wildfire

Climate change is incorporated as a summary assessment of current and anticipated impacts for each identified hazard of concern.

With the exception of dam failure, this plan does not provide a full risk assessment of human-caused hazards. However, brief, qualitative discussions of the following hazards of interest are included: terrorism, cyber threats, hazardous materials release, pipeline and tank failure, airline incidents.

A Planning Team consisting of local officials has taken the lead in developing the hazard mitigation plan. All participating local jurisdictions have been responsible for assisting in the development of the hazard and vulnerability assessments and the mitigation action strategies for their respective jurisdictions and organizations. The Plan presents the accumulated information in a unified framework to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated plan covering the entire Santa Clara County Operational Area planning area. Each jurisdiction has been responsible for the review and approval of their individual sections of the Plan.

Additionally, the plan has been aligned with the goals, objectives and priorities of the State's multi-hazard mitigation plan.

An 18 member Steering Committee (SC) composed of representative stakeholders was formed early in the planning process to guide the development of the Plan. In addition, residents were asked to contribute by sharing local knowledge of their individual area's vulnerability to natural hazards based on past occurrences. Public involvement has been solicited via a comprehensive public outreach campaign that included two rounds of public meetings, web-based information, a questionnaire, and multiple social media updates.

Why adopt this Plan?

Once the hazard mitigation plan is adopted by all of the jurisdictional partners and approved by FEMA, the partnership will collectively and individually become eligible to apply for hazard mitigation project funding from both the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

What is the Pre-Disaster Mitigation competitive grant program?

The PDM competitive grant program provides funds to State, Tribal, and local governments for pre-disaster mitigation planning and projects primarily addressing natural hazards. Cost-Effective pre-disaster mitigation activities reduce risk to life and property from natural hazard events before a natural disaster strikes, thus reducing overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for mitigation planning and project applications intended to make local governments more resistant to the impacts of future natural disasters (*For more details on this program see Attachment A*).

What is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program?

Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, the HMGP administered by FEMA provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster (*For more details on this program see Attachment A*).

Discussion

Where do we go from here?

Upon adoption of Volume 1 and City of Cupertino Annex of Volume 2 of the Santa Clara County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (HMP) and subsequent approval of said plan by CalOES and FEMA, the City of Cupertino will be eligible to apply for specified grants. The grant funds are made available to states and local

governments and can be used to implement the long-term hazard mitigation measures specified within the City of Cupertino's annex of the HMP before and after a major disaster declaration. The HMP is considered a living document such that, as awareness of additional hazards develops and new strategies and projects are conceived to offset or prevent losses due to natural disasters, the HMP will be evaluated and revised on a continual 5-year time frame.

Sustainability Impact

None

Fiscal Impact

None

Prepared by: Clare Francavilla, Emergency Services Coordinator

Reviewed by: Jeff Milkes, Director, Recreation and Community Services

Approved for Submission by: David Brandt, City Manager

Attachments:

- A- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) Fact Sheet
- B- City of Cupertino LHMP Annex (Chapter 3) of the Santa Clara County Operation Area Hazard Mitigation Plan
- C- Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft Resolution
- D- Santa Clara County Hazard Mitigation Executive Summary
- E- Vol 1 - OpArea Hazard Mitigation Plan
- F- Vol 2 - SCC Hazard Mitigation Plan (County only)