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2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

Final Draft Plan

Planning Commission

February 5, 2025

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Agenda

- About Mitigation Plans
- 2024 LHMP Outline
- First Draft
 - Public Outreach
 - Feedback and Resulting Plan Changes
- Final Draft
 - Technical Review
 - Disaster and Fire Safety Commission recommendation to Council
 - Planning Commission recommendation to Council

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Local Hazard Mitigation Plans

- Federal requirement per the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, under the Stafford Act
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency specifies exactly what goes into an approved LHMP and how
- Local government must develop a LHMP every five years to be eligible for critical federal funding
 - Mitigation grant funding
 - Post disaster recovery money
- California Senate Bill 379 requires local jurisdictions to adopt the LHMP into the Safety Element of the City's General Plan to maintain maximum post disaster aid eligibility.
- Berkeley's 2019 LHMP expired on December 10, 2024. We're currently out of compliance until Council adopts the Plan into the Safety Element.

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2024 LHMP Outline

- Element A: Planning Process
- Element B: Risk Assessment
- Element C: Mitigation Strategy
- Element D: Plan Maintenance
- Element E: Plan Update
- Element F: Plan Adoption
- Element G: Community Education

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First Draft Plan: Public Outreach

- First Draft Plan
 - Public Review: May 24, 2024 – August 8, 2024
 - Staff presentations at Disaster and Fire Safety Commission
 - Staff Presentation at Council Public Safety Committee
 - Public Workshops at Central Library and Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch
 - 20 letters with 100 comments/questions
 - Over 50 comments at Public Workshops
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- See Element A: *Planning Process*

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Public Feedback Trends and Resulting Plan Changes

- Hazardous vegetation
 - Evacuation in the Berkeley Hills
 - Land Use Controls' Impacts on Emergency Services
 - Hard to read maps
 - www.berkeleyca.gov/mitigation
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- *See Summary of Changes to First Draft 2024 LHMP*

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Final Draft: Technical Review

- Cal Office of Emergency Services
 - ✓ Approved November 27, 2024
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
 - ✓ Approved January 13, 2025
 - “Approval pending adoption”



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Final Draft : Approval and Adoption

- ✓ January 22: Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Recommendation to Council to Adopt the Plan

- February 5: Planning Commission Recommendation to Council (**First Public Hearing**)

- March 18: City Council Adoption Decision (**Second Public Hearing**)

- Final FEMA Approval

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Proposed Technical Amendment to General Plan

The proposed changes to the fifth paragraph on page S-3 of the Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element are as follows (in ~~strikethrough~~ and underlined text):

In 2004, the City adopted its first Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is part of the Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element of the General Plan. The City updated the Disaster Mitigation Plan in 2014 and renamed it the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). On 12/16/14, the City Council adopted the LHMP (by reference) into the General Plan. (Reso. 66,897-NS (Exh. A), 2014). The LHMP has since been updated ~~again~~ in 2019 (Reso. 69,237-NS (Exh. A), 2019) and in 2024 [City Council Resolution # to be inserted at later date], superseding previously adopted plans, ~~and has replaced the 2014 plan.~~ The LHMP will continue to be updated periodically, as required by State and Federal regulations. (~~Reso. 69,237-NS (Exh. A), 2019~~)

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General Plan Amendment - Findings

1. The proposed amendment is in the public interest
2. The proposed amendment is consistent and compatible with the rest of the General Plan
3. The potential effects of the proposed amendment have been evaluated and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare
4. The proposed amendment has been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Government Code and the California Environmental Quality Act

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Staff Recommendation

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion:

Recommend to the City Council to adopt a resolution adopting the 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and amending the General Plan Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element to incorporate the updated LHMP adoption year by reference