

Table 37: Capitola Hazard Mitigation Actions

Mitigation Action	Responsible Department	Potential Funding Source(s)	Target Completion Date	Priority	Status Since 2013 LHMP
1. Earthquake / Liquefaction Hazard Related Actions					
A. Continue to enforce the requirements of the Geologic Hazards District (Chapter 17.48) of the Capitola Municipal Code which requires the assessment of geologic hazards by a registered geologist or professional engineer for all new development projects. The geologic hazards identified through this assessment process are then mitigated by avoidance or through measures designed by civil engineers using the California Building Code.	Community Development, Public Works, and Building	Staff budget, Review Fees, Development Impact Fees	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
B. Continue to enforce the most current versions of both the California Building Code (CBC) and the California Building Standards with regards to seismicity, including requiring engineering and liquefaction studies for all potentially affected development.	Public Works and Building	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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C. In cooperation with other agencies, conduct seismic evaluations of all City owned critical facilities (including roadways, water, sewer, storm drains and emergency use facilities) and coordinate with other agencies to evaluate non-city owned critical facilities. Seek funding sources to assist in necessary upgrades of these critical facilities.	Public Works and Other Agencies	PDM, HMGP, Staff budget, and General Fund	2025	Low	Unchanged
D. Work with Caltrans and other relevant agencies to evaluate and retrofit the structural integrity of all bridges to ensure their safety during a seismic event.	Public Works	PDM, HMGP, Staff budget	2030	Low	Unchanged
E. Continue training appropriate plan check staff on seismic requirements for new and existing structures.	Building	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
2. Coastal Storm / Flooding Hazard Related Actions					
A. Evaluate the likelihood of debris flow impacts to the Stockton Avenue bridge during a catastrophic flooding event.	Public Works	FHA, FMA, Staff budget	2017	High	Completed
B. Improve the Noble Gulch storm drain facilities to protect against flooding within the Capitola Village.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, General Fund	2025	High	Unchanged

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C. Relocate or elevate critical facilities (e.g. City hall, police, fire, etc.) above the level of the 100-year flood elevation.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, General Fund	2035	High	Unchanged
D. Continue to implement the Soquel Creek Lagoon Management Plan.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, FMA, Staff budget	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
E. Participate in the National Weather Service (NWS) Storm Ready Program	Community Development and Public Works	Staff budget, General Fund	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
F. Assist in the planning and/or improvement of infrastructure (e.g. sewers) and facilities to help minimize flooding impacts, particularly in critical flood-prone areas (e.g. Capitola Village).	Public Works and Community Development in coordination with the County Sanitation District	FHA, PDM	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
G. Continually monitor and review CA State Water Resources Control Board regulations and permit requirements to ensure consistency with city policies and regulations. This includes on-site retention of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces and the implementation of Low Impact Development (LIDs) standards on new development.	Public Works and Community Development	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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H. Limit development and monitor conditions of development and grading permits to prevent sedimentation in natural channels and wetlands.	Community Development	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
I. Develop more accurate GIS maps of the City's drainage system in coordination with future updates of the Capitola Stormwater Management Program.	Public Works and Community Development	CalEMA, General Fund, Staff budget	2025	Low	Unchanged
J. In coordination with the Santa Cruz County Public Works & Flood Control & Water Conservation District (Zone 5), evaluate the effectiveness of current policies and ordinances to ensure that storm water runoff from impervious surfaces does not contribute to flooding.	Public Works and Community Development	Staff budget	2025	Low	Unchanged
K. Continually monitor and review FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements to ensure the City's floodplain management regulations are in compliance.	Public Works and Community Development	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
L. Participate in the FEMA NFIP Community Rating System (CRS).	Community Development	Staff budget	2025	Low	Unchanged

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M. Work in coordination with the Santa Cruz County Public Works & Flood Control & Water Conservation District (Zone 5) to develop and disseminate public education materials on flood protection and mitigation by working collaboratively with community groups, non-governmental organizations and the local media.	Community Development	General Fund	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
N. Review and update the city's existing ordinances as they relate to storm / flooding hazards, consistent with the risks identified in this LHMP.	Community Development	Staff budget, PDM, HMGP, General Fund	2025	Low	Unchanged
O. Adopt policies to limit municipal capital improvements that would be at risk.	Public Works and Community Development	Staff budget, General Fund	2030	Low	Unchanged
P. Improve resiliency to flooding along Soquel Creek and Coast such as the construction of flood walls and improved building guidelines (increase free board and first floor parking).	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, CDBG, CalEMA, FMA	2050	Low	New
Q. Investigate natural habitat buffering to reduce coastal flooding such as beach and kelp management.	Public Works and Community Development	HMGP	2030	Low	New

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R. Upgrade vulnerable storm drains with tidal flap gates and pumps, as appropriate.	Public Works	PDM, HMGP, FMA, CalEMA, General Fund	2030	Low	New
S. Investigate various opportunities for beach nourishment and replenishment in concert with rebuilding the City's groin located at the east end of the main beach.	Public Works	PDM, HMGP	2020	Medium	New
T. Prepare a coastal bluff and beach management plan for Capitola that outlines short- and long-term coastal bluff management strategies that will help to establish local protection and adaptation priorities.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, CDBG, General Fund	2030	Medium	New
U. Prioritize coastal protection structures for upgrade and replacement including the sea wall along The Esplanade and coastal revetments.	Public Works	PDM, HMGP, CDBG, General Fund	2040	Low	New
V. Consider resiliency improvements to protect and maintain critical vehicular and non-vehicular coastal access ways.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, CDBG, General Fund	2030	Medium	New
W. Adopt policies to limit municipal capital improvements that would be at risk.	Public Works and Community Development	Staff budget, General Fund	2025	Medium	New

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X. Improve resiliency to flooding along Soquel Creek including the possibility of a temporary or permanent flood wall along the Soquel Creek walking path may help to reduce flooding within high risk areas.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, FMA, CalEMA	2050	Low	New
Y. Identify priority areas for future protection accounting for costs, structural feasibility and secondary implications (flood wall, seawall or revetment).	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, FMA, CalEMA; Staff budget; General Fund	2060	Low	New
Z. Investigate long-term options to manage sea level rise and coastal erosion such as living shorelines, soft armoring techniques, and relocation of development within coastal hazard zones. As part of this investigation, consider the preparation of a comprehensive, long-term proactive management plan to protect Depot Hill in a way that preserves the natural coastline and avoids hard armoring.	Public Works and Community Development	PDM, HMGP, FMA, CalEMA; Staff budget; General Fund	2060	Low	New
3. Drought Hazard Related Actions					
A. Work in coordination with the City of Santa Cruz and the Soquel Creek Water District to implement water conservation strategies that maximize the use of existing water resources.	Community Development	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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B. Work in coordination with the Soquel Creek Water District to construct and implement the Pure Water Soquel, Groundwater Replenishment and Seawater Intrusion Prevention Project	Public Works	Staff budget, Prop 84 – IRWMP	2022	High	Unchanged
C. Coordinate with the Soquel Creek Water District and City of Santa Cruz to inform public of water conservation restrictions and drought conditions.	Community Development	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
4. Windstorm Hazard Related Actions					
A. Coordinate with Pacific Gas & Electric to implement an ongoing tree trimming program for trees located in close proximity to overhead power lines.	Public Works	Staff budget, PG&E	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
B. Establish a working relationship with the NWS Decision Support program to be advised of upcoming weather conditions in a manner that enables smart decisions.	Police Department	Staff budget	2025	Low	Unchanged

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5. Coastal Erosion/ Bluff Failure Hazard Related Actions					
A. Work in close coordination with state and local agencies and organizations to protect and preserve the coastline and its coastal bluffs through restoration efforts to help ensure safe coastal access and the protection of adjacent infrastructure and facilities. These efforts may include beach replenishment, coastal bluff protection, seawall construction, and other appropriate measures.	Public Works, Community Development, County Sanitation District	Staff budget	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
6. Tsunami Hazard Related Actions					
A. Continue implementation of Tsunami Ready Program	Community Development, Public Works, Police	Staff budget	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
B. Maintain a public communication system to warn the public of a potential tsunami threat.	Community Development, Public Works, Police	Staff budget	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
C. Support the timely and accurate update of tsunami inundation maps within the Monterey Bay area. Then integrate the new tsunami inundation maps into the risk assessment of this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan	Community Development, Public Works, Police	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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D. Continue to work collaboratively with relevant agencies and organizations to investigate tsunami threat to the City based on the best available information.	Community Development, Public Works, Police	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
7. Hazardous Materials Related Actions					
A. Continue to coordinate with the Santa Cruz County Department of Environmental Health Services, on enforcement of State and local statutes and regulations pertaining to hazardous materials/ waste storage, use, and disposal.	Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
B. Support staff training and education requirements regarding emergency response procedures associated with transportation-based hazardous materials releases.	Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
C. Continue to coordinate the Urban Area Security Initiative to enhance preparedness efforts.	Police	UASI, Homeland Security Grant	Ongoing	Not Ranked*	Unchanged

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8. Fire Hazard Related Actions					
A. Coordinate with the Fire District and Department of Corrections to create fuel reduction zones near properties at risk, shaded fuel breaks, and clean up areas prone to ground fuel litter common with invasive species habitat (i.e. Eucalyptus)	Fire, Public Works	Staff Budget	Ongoing	Not Ranked*	Unchanged
B. Continue to maintain cooperative fire protection and fire prevention agreements with the Central Fire Protection District and other relevant agencies.	Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
C. Identify inadequate access roadways. Develop a program to address inadequacies.	Community Development, Public Works, Fire, Police	PDM, HMGP, General Fund	Ongoing2025	Low	Unchanged
D. Promote land use planning and implement building codes to reduce incidence of human-caused wildfires especially in very high fire hazard areas.	Community Development, Building, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
E. Implement building codes relevant to fire protection in new development or major renovations. (i.e. built-in fire extinguishing and fire alarm systems)	Community Development, Building, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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F. Work cooperatively with Central Fire Protection District, CalFire, and other relevant agencies to promote the implementation and awareness of fire prevention programs.	Community Development, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
9. Landslide/ Mudflow Hazard Related Actions					
A. Continue to require that geologic/engineering reports be prepared for any proposed construction near landsliding and require mitigation of landslide hazards before issuing any building or grading permits.	Community Development, Building, Public Works	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
10. Multi-Hazard Related Actions					
B. Coordinate hazard mitigation progress/efforts with the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services and other agencies and cities within Santa Cruz County.	Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire, City Manager	Staff budget	Ongoing	Medium	Unchanged
C. Continue to work with Santa Cruz 911 and other relevant agencies to maintain a coordinated and effective emergency communication system.	Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged

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D. Continue to update and enhance mapping data and the City's GIS for all hazards.	Information Technology	General Fund	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
E. Verify the replacement value of City-owned critical facilities and coordinate with other agencies for non city-owned facilities to improve the risk assessment within this plan.	Public Works, Community Development, Finance	General Fund	2019	Low	Completed
F. Work with the appropriate cellular phone service providers to ensure there is always adequate cellular services to critical facilities within the City.	Police, Information Technology	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
G. Reference and integrate the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Safety Element of the General Plan.	Community Development	General Fund, DRI	2015	Low	Completed
H. Integrate the results of the Monterey Bay Sea Level Rise Study into the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan risk assessment and the General Plan Safety Element.	Community Development	DRI	2025	Low	New
I. As part of the General Plan Update process, develop a plan to address climate change/ climate adaptation issues within the City and its surroundings.	Community Development	Staff budget	2014	Low	Completed

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J. Protect and preserve the coastline through permit review and continue to review coastal development for conformance with applicable City regulations (e.g. geologic, flood).	Community Development, Public Works	Staff budget	Ongoing	Low	Unchanged
K. Review and update the city's existing ordinances as they relate to hazards and risks identified in this LHMP.	Community Development	Staff budget	2025	Low	Unchanged

*These mitigation actions were added after mitigation action ranking was conducted.