

APPENDIX A – HMPC MEETING MATERIALS

TABLE 1-2: NEEDLES HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Name	Title	Department
Kathy Raasch	Interim Development Services Director	Development Services
Rainie Torrance	Utility Manager	Needles Public Utility Agency
Irene Romero	City Planner	Planning
Jennifer Valenzuela	Recreation Services Manager	Parks & Recreation
Cheryl Sallis	Community Services Manager	Community Services Department
Will Guzman	Building Inspector	Building & Safety
Adrian Chavez	Senior Code Enforcement	Code Enforcement
Steve Ledbetter	Contract City Engineer	Engineering
Angelica Deermer	Housing Manager	Needles Housing Authority Manager
Aaron Pfannenstiel	LHMP Project Manager	Atlas Planning Solutions
Crystal Stueve	LHMP Planner	Atlas Planning Solutions
Robert Jackson	LHMP Planner	Atlas Planning Solutions

City of Needles

LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

HMPC MEETING #1 AGENDA

JULY 31, 2024

- I. Team Introductions
- II. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Overview
- III. Project Goals and Expectations
- IV. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team Roster
- V. Data Needs (Critical Facilities List, vulnerable populations, recent/past hazards, GIS)
- VI. Community Engagement and Outreach Strategy
- VII. Hazard Identification/Prioritization
- VIII. Next Steps and To-Do List

Hazard Mitigation Planning Update Process	April 2023 – December 2023
Community Outreach	Ongoing
Administrative Draft LHMP	Summer / Fall 2023
Public Review Draft LHMP Document	Fall 2023
Cal OES/FEMA Review Draft Document	Fall 2023/ Winter 2024

Meeting 1 Attendance

Kathy Raasch	Interim Development Services Director	Development Services
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Will Guzman	Building Inspector	Building & Safety
Adrian Chavez	Senior Code Enforcement	Code Enforcement
Angelica Deerner	Housing Manager	Needles Housing Authority Manager

City of Needles
LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE
HMPC MEETING #2 AGENDA
NOVEMBER 25, 2024

I. Introductions

II. Review of Project Goals

- GOAL 1 - Protect against threats from natural hazards to life, injury, and property damage within the Needles community.
- GOAL 2 - Increase public awareness of potential hazard events.
- GOAL 3 - Preserve critical services and functions by protecting key facilities and infrastructure for the community.
- GOAL 4 - Protect natural systems from current and future hazard conditions.
- GOAL 5 - Coordinate mitigation activities among City departments, neighboring jurisdictions, and federal agencies.
- GOAL 6 - Prepare for long-term change in hazard conditions associated with climate change.

**Plans and
Regulations**

- Ordinances, Regulations

Structural Projects

- Utility Undergrounding, Structural Retrofits

**Natural Systems
Protection**

- Stream restoration, erosion control

Education Programs

- Outreach materials, websites, presentations

**Preparedness and
Response Actions**

- Mutual aid agreements, equipment purchases, notification protocols

III. Overview of Mitigation Strategies

IV. Discussion of STAPLE/E Criteria

Issue	Criteria
Social	• Is the action socially acceptable to community members? • Would the action treat some individuals unfairly? • Is there a reasonable chance of the action causing a social disruption?
Technical	• Is the action likely to reduce the risk of the hazard occurring, or will it reduce the effects of the hazard? • Will the action create new hazards or make existing hazards worse? • Is the action the most useful approach for the City to take, given the City's goals and community members?
Administrative	• Does the City have the administrative capabilities to implement the action? • Are there existing City staff who can lead and coordinate the measure's implementation, or can the City reasonably hire new staff for this role? • Does the City have enough staff, funding, technical support, and other resources to carry out implementation? • Are there administrative barriers to implementing the action?
Political	• Is the action politically acceptable to City officials and other relevant jurisdictions and political entities? • Do community members support the action?
Legal	• Does the City have the legal authority to implement and enforce the action? • Are there potential legal barriers or consequences that could hinder or prevent the implementation of the action? • Is there a reasonable chance that implementation of the action would expose the City to legal liabilities? • Could the action reasonably face other legal challenges?
Economic	• What are the monetary costs of the action, and do the costs exceed the economic benefits? • What are the start-up and maintenance costs of the action, including administrative costs? • Has the funding for action implementation been secured, or is a potential funding source available? • How will funding the action affect the City's financial capabilities? • Could the implementation of the action reasonably burden the City's economy or tax base? • Could there reasonably be other budgetary and revenue impacts to the City?
Environmental	• What are the potential environmental impacts of the action? • Will the action require environmental regulatory approvals? • Will the action comply with all applicable federal, state, regional, and local environmental regulations? • Will the action reasonably affect any endangered, threatened, or otherwise sensitive species of concern?

V. Discussion of Relative Cost Estimates

Example Cost Categories:	
City specific values will be determined with the HMPC in the meeting.	
\$	Less than \$100,000
\$\$	\$100,001 to \$999,999
\$\$\$	Greater than \$1,000,000

VI. Review and Discussion of Draft Mitigation Strategies**VII. Next Steps**

Hazard Mitigation Planning Process	June 2024 – January 2025
Community Outreach	Ongoing
Administrative Draft LHMP	January 2025
Public Review Draft LHMP Document	March 2025
Cal OES/FEMA Review Draft Document	April 2025

APPENDIX B – OUTREACH ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS

City of Needles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

**LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

The City of Needles is preparing an update to its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). This plan will help create a safer community for residents, businesses, and visitors. The LHMP allows public safety officials and city staff, elected officials, and members of the public to understand the threats from natural and human-caused hazards in our community. The plan will also recommend specific actions to proactively decrease these threats before disasters occur.

WHY HAVE AN LHMP?

An LHMP will help Needles better plan for future emergencies. Usually, after a disaster occurs, communities take steps to recover from the emergency and rebuild. An LHMP is a way for the City to better prepare in advance for these disasters so less damage occurs, and recovery is easier. Our community can use LHMP strategies to reduce instances of property damage, injury, and loss of life from disasters. Besides protecting public health and safety, this approach can save money. Studies estimate that every dollar spent on mitigation saves an average of four dollars on response and recovery costs. An LHMP can also help strengthen the mission of public safety officers, such as police and fire department staff, providing them with clear roles and responsibilities to build a safer community.

Besides helping protect Needles, our LHMP will make the City eligible for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that can be used to further improve safety and preparedness in the community. Having an adopted LHMP can also provide eligibility to receive more financial assistance from the State when disasters occur.

WHAT IS IN OUR LHMP?

The City of Needles LHMP includes four main sections:

- A summary of the natural and human-caused hazards that pose a risk to our community.
- An assessment of the threat to Needles, which will describe how our community is vulnerable to future disasters.
- A hazard mitigation strategy, which will lay out specific policy recommendations for Needles to carry out over the next five years.
- A section on maintaining the plan, which will help ensure that our LHMP is kept up-to-date.

WHAT HAZARDS WILL OUR LHMP HELP PROTECT AGAINST?

The City plans to include the following natural hazards in our LHMP:

- Dam Failure
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Extreme Heat
- Flash Flooding
- Hazardous Materials Incident

Our LHMP will also examine how climate change may affect these hazards and include other hazards that threaten our community.



City of Needles Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Public Outreach Presentation
December 12, 2024




Outreach and Public Participation

Includes both:

Online Engagement Online Survey Released on 10/30/2024  Needles LHMP Webpage https://cityofneedles.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Project-Website-Content.pdf Other Promotions Social Media Press Release Utility Bill Insert	In Person Engagement Public Outreach Meeting (December 12, 2024) Public Review Draft Plan Spring 2025 City Council Adoption Summer 2025
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City of Needles 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey

80 responses

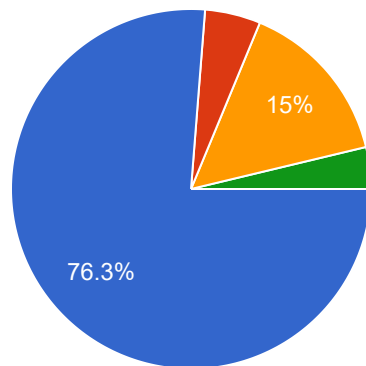
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II. Hazard Awareness

1. Please indicate whether you live or work in the City of Needles.

[Copy](#)

80 responses

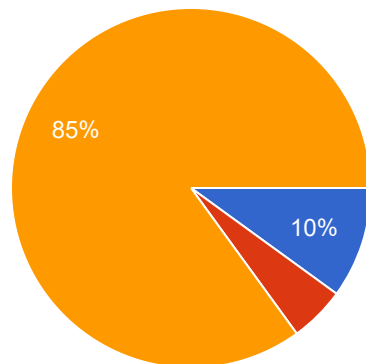


- a. I live in the City of Needles.
- b. I work in the City of Needles.
- c. I live and work in the City of Needles.
- d. I live outside the city but receive City services.
- f. Neither applies to me, but I am interested in the City's resiliency.

2. If you live outside the city, which applies to you:

[Copy](#)

80 responses



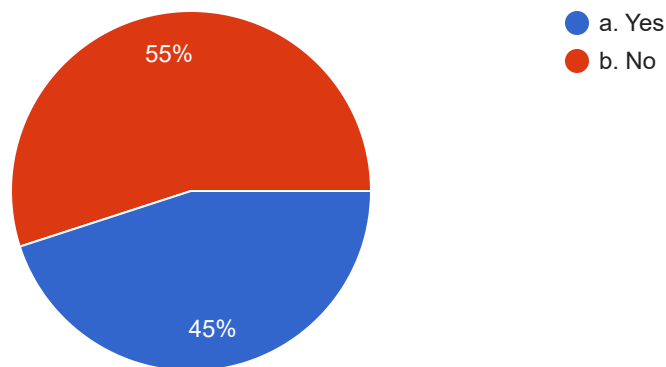
- a. I live north of the city.
- b. I live south of the city.
- c. Neither; I live in the city.



3. Have you been impacted by a hazard event in your current residence?

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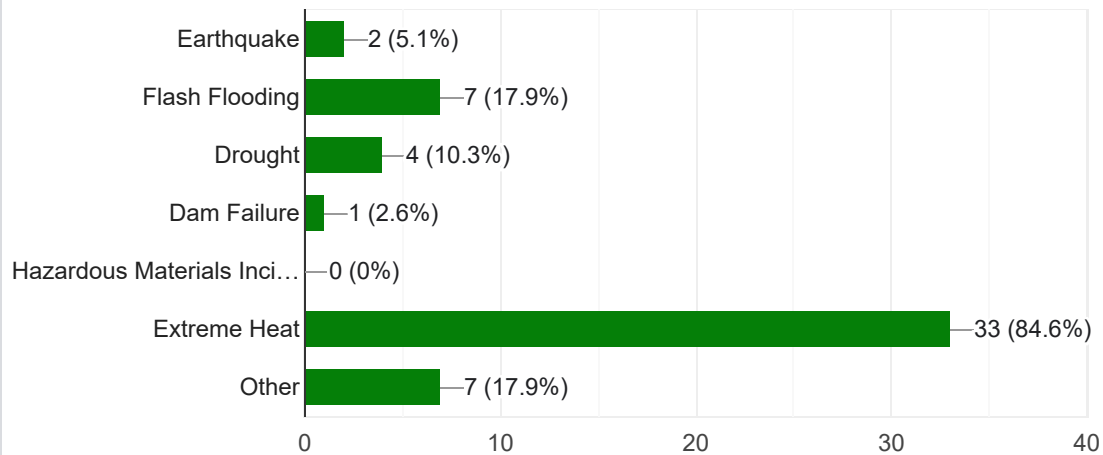
80 responses



4. If you answered yes to the previous question, please select the type of hazard event that you have been impacted by (select all that apply).

 Copy

39 responses



If you selected "Other" above, please list any additional hazards that have previously impacted your neighborhood or home.

8 responses

Water, Power, Internet outages and only one Very bad road to our area..... Golf Course area. The road is carrying more than it was EVER designed for. It was a Dike Road.....not meant to carry the traffic that goes to Jack Smith Park. A bottle neck to Jack Smith Park with no alternatives that are useable.

Rattlesnakes

fire

Wind

A tornado (microburst) tore my (and others) roof off, and did tremendous damage to our city

Winds

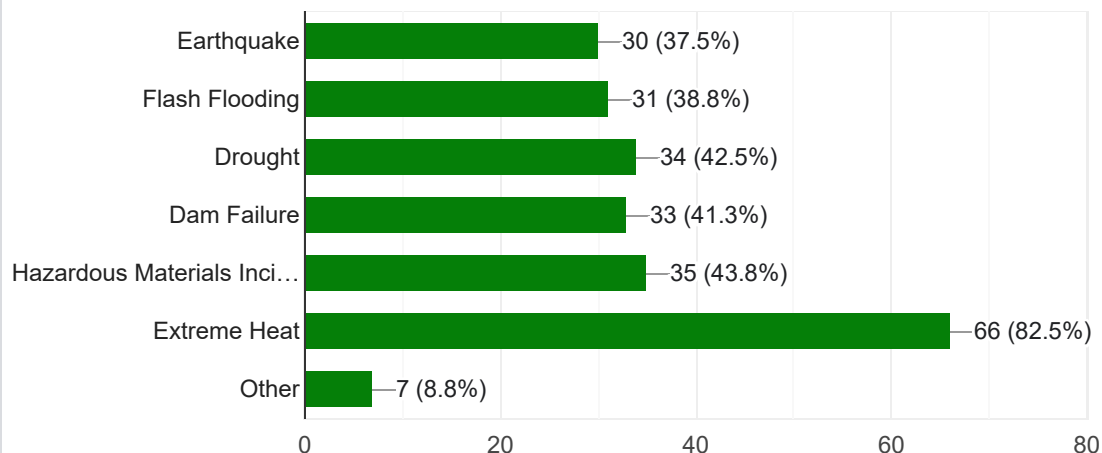
Fire

DOWNWIND SMOKE

5. The following hazards could potentially impact the city. Please mark the THREE (3) hazards that are of most concern to your neighborhood or home.

 Copy

80 responses



If you selected "Other" above, please list any additional hazards that have previously impacted your neighborhood or home.

8 responses

Answered above..... Golf Course area access.

Power outage

fire

Winds

High winds

The materials the trains carry

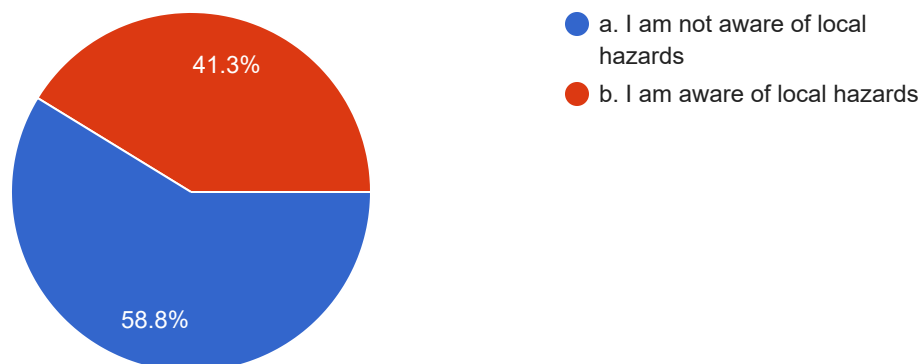
Fire due to the inability of the fire dept to respond with a small crew Need at least 4

City wide power outage

6. The planning team is using various data sources to identify hazards in your community; however, some of these data sources do not provide data at a general citywide level. Are there any small-scale issues, such as ponding at a specific intersection during rain, that you would like the planning team to consider?

 Copy

80 responses



Please provide as much detail as possible, including location and type of hazard.

27 responses

Needles hwy at Park rd

Flooding when there is heavy rain..... Several areas.....Underpass, J. Street and Broadway.....

Needles highway flooding during thunder storms Washes flood road

Underpass floods

Road to Jack Smith Park deteriorating to the point of too narrow for traffic and paint of lines at curve are almost gone.

East Broadway has a section that often floods during rain storms.

K Street Underpass. Flooding cutting off cross-railroad route.

Lillyhill Drive near Bailey. Flooding in wash blocking access to the hospital from Lillyhill.

Westbound I-40 curve near J Street. Seeing a large tractor-trailer truck tumble down the hill is concerning, especially if it were ever a hazardous material truck.

Anywhere along the BNSF rail-line where they carry hazardous material.

road wash outs

The underpass floods every rain

lillyhill dr. and Bailey Dr. At the dip in the road it floods out there all the time. W. Broadway always floods during heavy rains.

Clary Drive had no drain off nor sidewalk and the main road is too rocky and cracked to safely walk on with a stroller or walker.

Ditch/ driveway by senior center (floods)

Hazards product the R R carries thru out town every day .

Underpass flooding

Lack of emergency communication structure other than phones or internet

Flooding under the Railroad bridge and east end of Broadway, near Econo Smog anytime it rains. Traffic congestion and limited capacity and alternative route for river adjacent neighborhoods off of River Road.



Our desert gets flooded and roads are terrible

*Flooding-North K Underpass.

*Flooding- Broadway & Quivera St.

*Flooding/Fire Hazard-Intersection NDLS HWY & North K st.

*Flash flood Hazard- Lilyhill between senior center and apartment complex, needs bridge with walkways handicap access both sides, from Bailey Ave to East End of Lilyhill.

*BNSF Railroad.

*Flooding with no curbing, or sidewalks both sides on San Clemente St, from Casa Linda to East Broadway (40 years overdue).

Dangerous narrowing of road to Jack Smith Park.

Pot sites they smell

Hazardous railway materials, ponding under the underpass on k street

vacant blue house on safari drive;

Needles Underpass Flooding and along Broadway at Front Street & Quivera St.

I live right when you come into town from Hwy 95. 95 has a lot of traffic coming and leaving throughout the day and night. There are many trucks, along with cars. The roads are narrow before they get here and sometimes there are long lines coming in. Right before you get to the Rangers Station there is a curve and it's a little dangerous getting out and in there sometimes. I can see an accident happening with major chemical spills from the trucks that carry chemicals. Not to mention that less than a mile after that is where 95 meets Interstate 40. Can be a very busy intersection. There are no parking signs along that stretch into town, however there are trucks parked there regularly and makes that area even more dangerous. I've seen patrols looking for speeding, however they never approached the trucks that were parked there illegally.

Ponding on N. K Street

The BNSF railroad runs through Needles, they carry thousands of tons of hazards material every day. If the trains have a derailment or train wreck, they could possibly spill thousands of gallons of hazmat material in the local area or river.

I understand the BNSF has Hazmat responders available in case of an accident, but how long would it take them to arrive (5 hours ?- 20 hours ? who knows).

How do the Needles residents get notified of a hazmat spill?, where do they for safety after a hazmat spill?

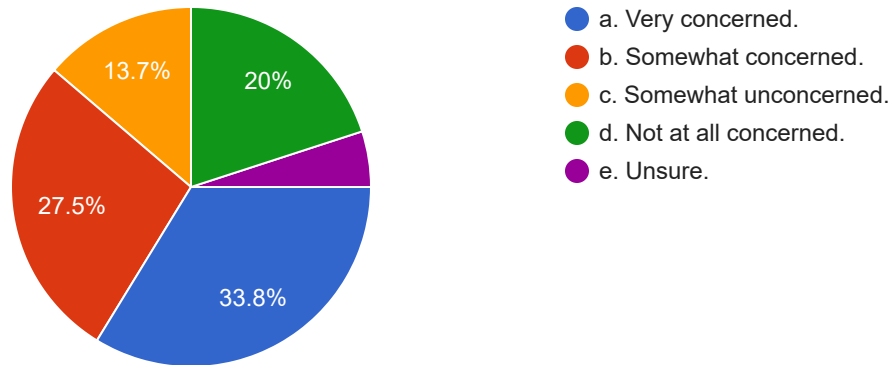
Flooding of the underpass in Needles. Flooding in Needles Hwy.



7. How concerned are you that climate change may create new hazardous situations in Needles or make existing natural hazards worse?

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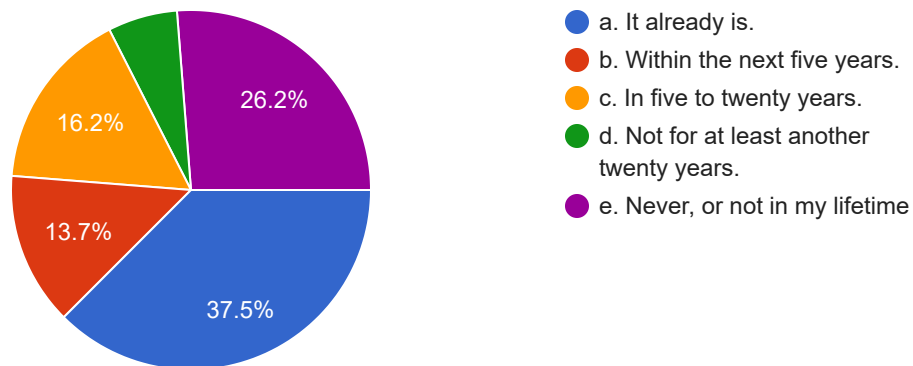
80 responses



8. When do you think climate change will pose a threat to your health, property, livelihood, or overall wellbeing?

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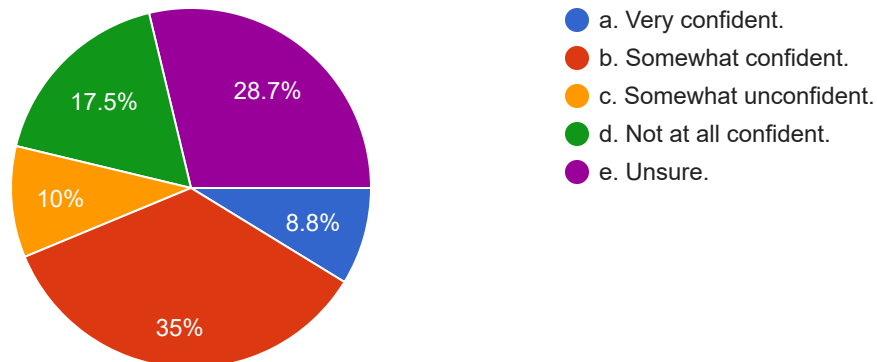
80 responses



9. If you have taken any action to protect yourself against natural hazards, how confident are you that these actions will be sufficient to protect against more severe hazards that are expected because of climate change?

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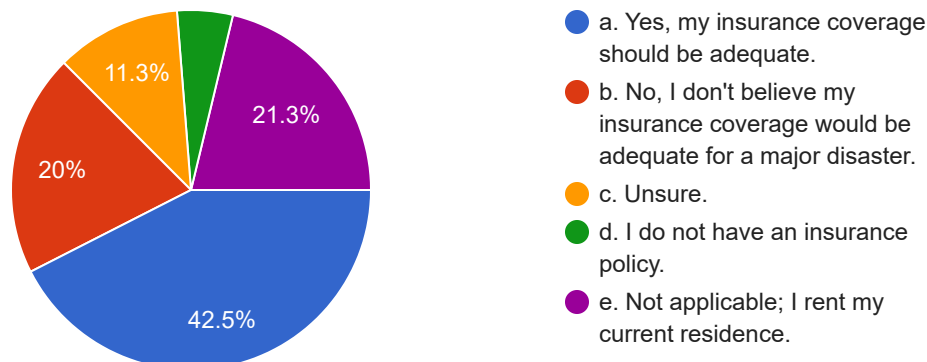
80 responses



10. If you are a homeowner, do you have adequate homeowners' insurance to cover the hazards that could impact your home?

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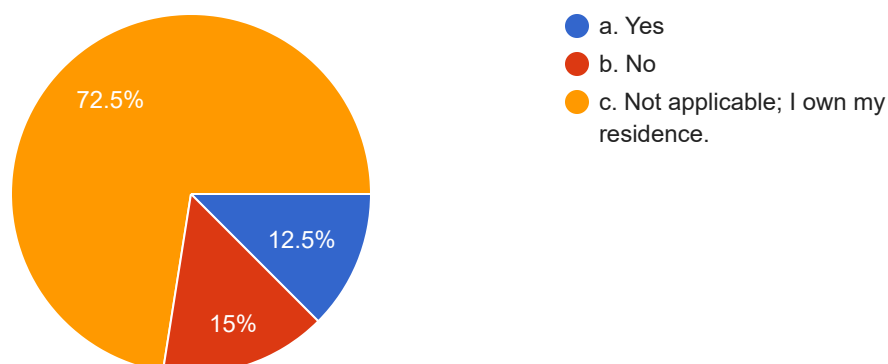
80 responses



11. If you rent your residence, do you have renters' insurance?

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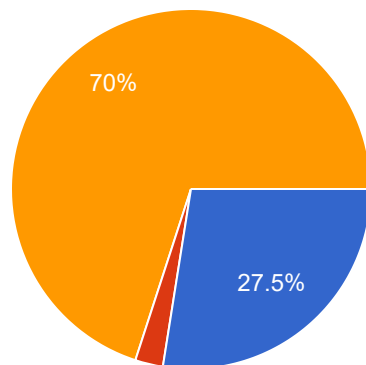
80 responses





12. Do you have flood insurance for your home?

80 responses

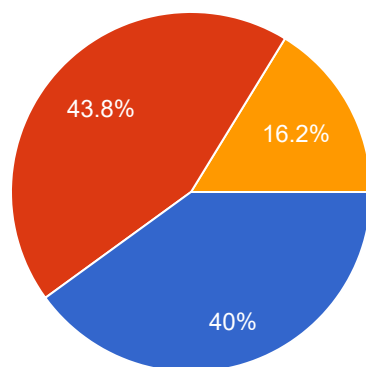


- a. Yes, I own my home and have flood insurance.
- b. Yes, I rent my home and have flood insurance.
- c. No, but I am interested in reviewing flood insurance options (<https://www.floodsmart.gov>).



13. Have you done anything to your home to make it less vulnerable to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, and fires?

80 responses



- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not applicable; I rent my residence.



If not, do you plan to?

17 responses

Yes

No

Yes.

I know I need to

I would love to, but I don't know how or where to start.

I would love to have a plan, but I don't know how.

My understanding is the earthquake risk here is diminished compared to the coastal areas.

I plan to install a power generator in the event of a hazard caused power outage.

Not really

Maybe

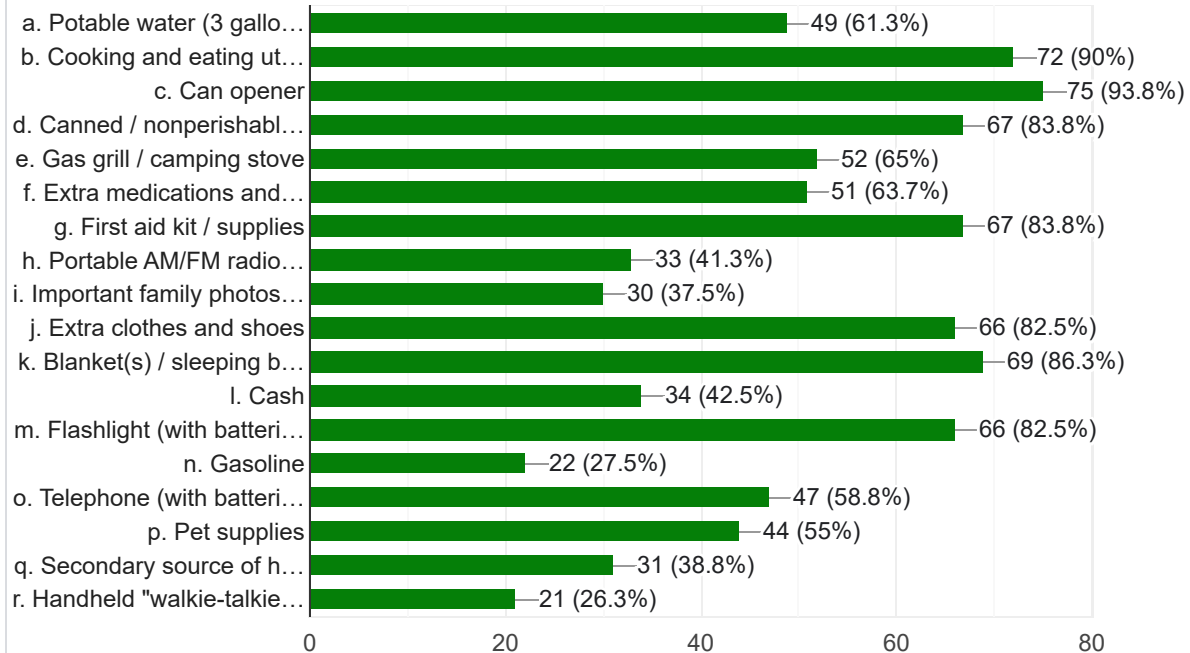
Don't know how.



14. If a severe hazard event occurred today such that all services were cut off from your home (power, gas, water, sewer) and you were unable to leave or access a store for 72 hours, which of these items do you have readily available?

 Copy

80 responses



What else do you have in your emergency kit?

20 responses

Don't have emergency kit

Solar power, ham radio

Water filters

Not sure

Motorhome with generator and solar

Backup USB battery

generator

Generators

nothing else

Ham radio, extended medical aid supplies

First Aid supplies, flashlight, candles, matches, solar phone charger, charging cords,

All are listed above

Self protection

Ham radio with solar power/battery backup

solar phone charger

bandages and misc medical supplies

Candles

An emergency binder, which includes of: important documents, our family emergency plan, insurance policies, family health information, emergency numbers, water purification instructions, faraday cage instructions, and ideas for comfort and fun.

Generator

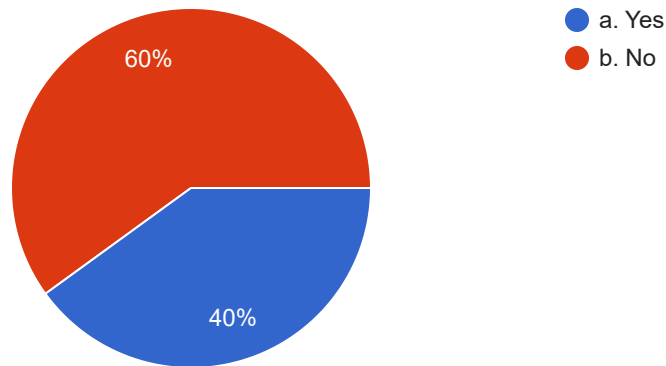


Power generator

15. Are you familiar with the special needs of your neighbors in the event of a disaster situation (special needs may include limited mobility, severe medical conditions, memory impairments)?

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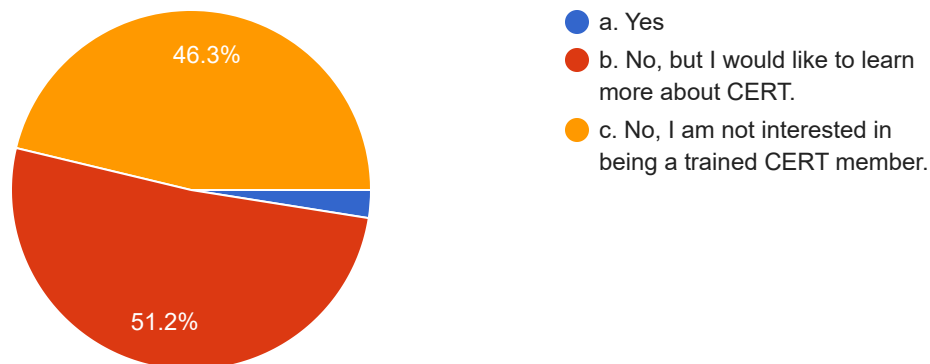
80 responses



16. Are you a trained member of your Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)?

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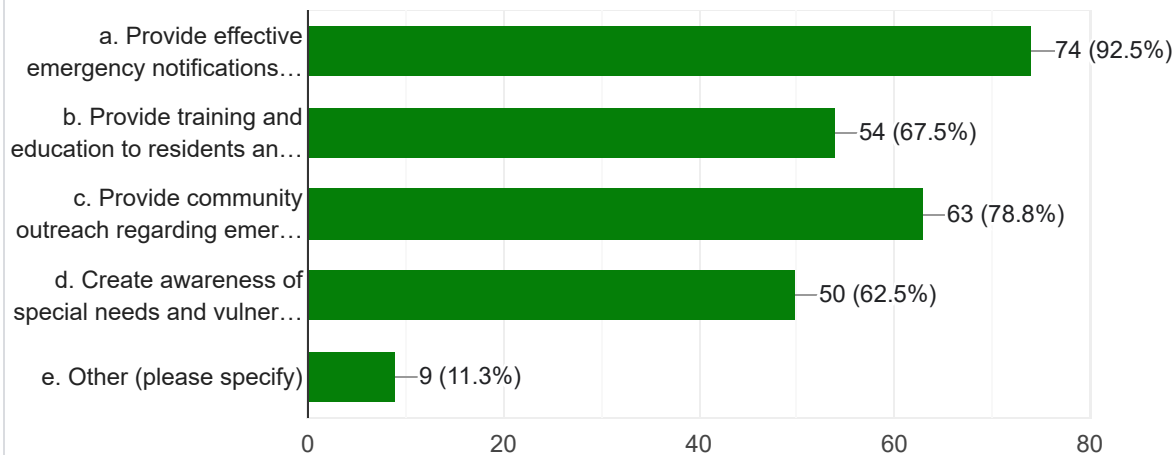
80 responses



17. How can the City help you become better prepared for a disaster? (Choose all that apply)

 Copy

80 responses



If you selected "Other" above, please describe.

10 responses

Keep loss of Services to a minimum. Train people to be self sufficient.....

put bridges over washes on Needles Hwy

We have a lot of retired fire and police in our community that could be called on.

Clearly identify the risks the community faces, the likelihood of the risk and mitigations and preparations available to residents. (This may be included in "community outreach" but if it doesn't include clear communication of the actual risks and disaster scenarios and only suggests preparation, it is incomplete).

emergency Escape route map and Possible Alternative Transportation Phone Numbers for those without Transportation.

Provide CERT training and promote amateur radio licensing. I maintain an amateur repeater in Needles and, if there would be interest on behalf of the city to support it on a city tower site with greater coverage and back up power, would be willing to relocate it.

If power is out how will I receive updates on emergency. No power no internet or cell phone

Interact resources with Ft Mohave Indian tribe and BNSF rr

Training for disaster preparedness

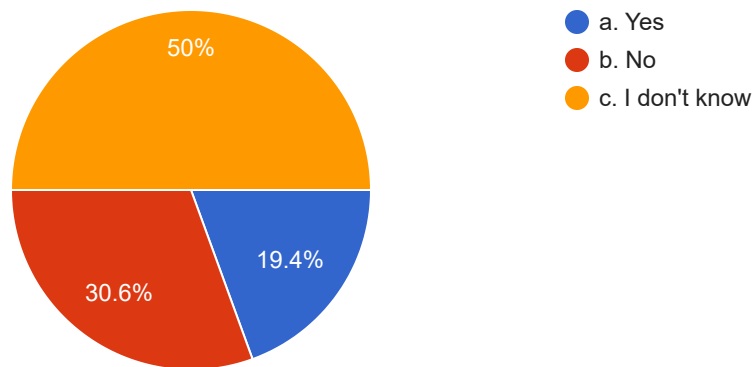
Organize a Community preparedness event with vendors and donors for less privileged and elderly.

If you do NOT work in the City of Needles, please skip to question 22.

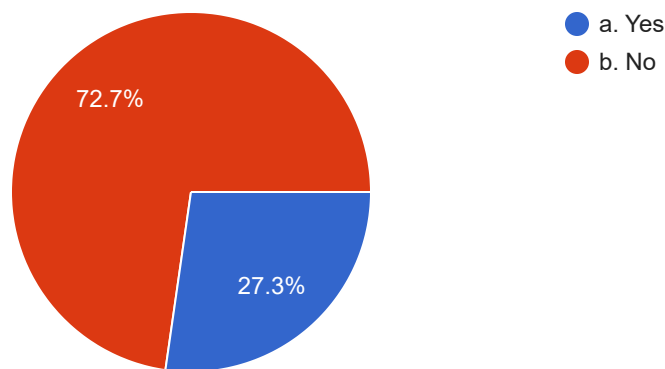


18. Does your employer have a plan for disaster recovery in place? Copy

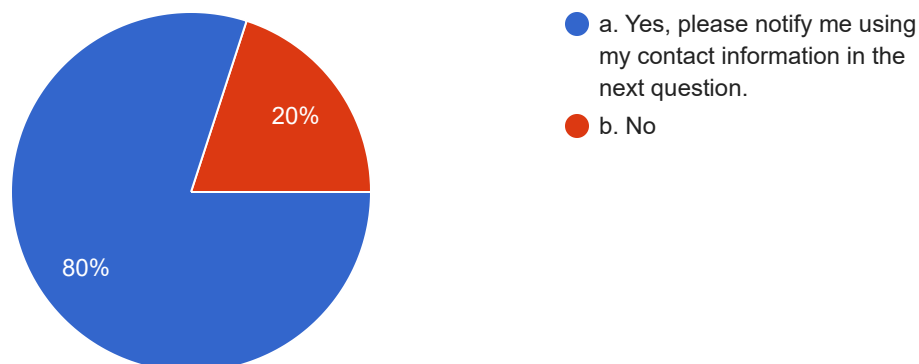
36 responses

**19. Does your employer have a workforce communications plan to implement following a disaster, so they can contact you?** Copy

33 responses

**III. Recommendations and Future Participation****20. Would you like to be contacted when the Draft 2024 Needles Hazard Mitigation Plan is available for review?** Copy

80 responses



21. If you would like to be notified of future opportunities to participate in hazard mitigation and resiliency planning, please provide your name and e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail address, please provide your mailing address. This information will be kept confidential.

50 responses



22. Please provide us with any additional comments/suggestions/questions regarding your risk of future hazard events.

9 responses

Pave Schulz rd. I pay taxes!

I would like to have an easy online access to any useful and necessary information.

Let's avoid them, please.

Students should be included in do you "work" in Needles, no, but I'm a student and like to stay informed

CERT classes would be beneficial, power outage planning is essential because power will go out during almost any likely hazard event.

Road by golf course becoming narrower to accommodate large automobiles and boats. Entering highway 95 by needles Rv park and bridge shrubs in vacant lot need to be cut down for better visibility for approaching vehicles. Many vehicles travel at excessive speed.

I am a former FEMA CATF-2 member rescue specialist and medical specialist. 29 year firefighter paramedic for Los Angeles County Fire Department. You might want to compile a list of others with same skills in case of an emergency. Needles has a lot of current and retired fire and police full and part time residents. That might be a question to ask.

I would suggest a city hall meeting when the plan has been complete so the community knows what is in the plan, that way if they have questions they can ask them

Concerned about the possibility of Haz Mat incident from the railroad.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. If you have any questions, or if you know of other people/organizations that should be involved, please contact Kathy Raasch at kraasch@cityofneedles.com.

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**APPENDIX C - RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
(TO BE INSERTED AFTER CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL)**

APPENDIX D- KEY FACILITIES

Asset Type Category	Critical Facility	Facility of Concern
Government/City Operations	2	0
Emergency Operations Fire/Police	2	0
Community Centers/Facilities	0	3
Parks Facilities	0	13
Infrastructure	29	0
Public Works Facilities	1	8
Medical Facilities (not City-owned)	1	0
Total	35	24

APPENDIX E – HAZARD MITIGATION IMPLEMENTATION HANDBOOK

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Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Implementation Handbook

December 2024

What Is This Handbook?

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) for the City of Needles features an evaluation of the City's hazards as well as a variety of corresponding mitigation actions. These actions are intended to preserve public safety, maintain critical municipal government operations and services when hazard events emerge, and empower community members to take on hazard mitigation at an individual level. This Implementation Handbook (Handbook) is intended for use by City staff and decision-makers after the LHMP is adopted. It will:

- Give clear instructions on what to do following the adoption of the LHMP.
- Simplify future updates to the LHMP.
- Assist the City in preparing grant funding applications related to hazard mitigation.
- Guide annual plan review actions.

How do I Use This Handbook?

This Handbook can help City staff and decision-makers in several different situations. If and when the events listed below occur, consult the respective sections of this Handbook for advice on how best to proceed:

- A disaster proclamation has been issued by the Needles City Council
- A disaster proclamation has been issued by the State of California
- A disaster declaration has been signed by the Federal Government
- I want to apply for mitigation grant funding
- Needles is undergoing its budgeting process
- Needles is holding its annual meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
- Needles is updating the following policy and regulatory documents:
 - The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - The Safety Element of the General Plan
 - The Housing Element of the General Plan
 - The Zoning Code

Who Maintains This Handbook?

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) leader is responsible for maintaining this Handbook. At the time of writing, the current HMPC leader is Kathy Raasch from the Needles Development Services. The HMPC may delegate this responsibility to someone else should they choose.

What to do when a disaster has been proclaimed or declared

Disasters may be proclaimed or declared by the Needles City Council, the State of California, or the federal government. Responsibilities may differ depending on who proclaims or declares the disaster. If multiple organizations proclaim or declare a disaster, consult all applicable lists.

The Needles City Council

If the Needles City Council (or the Director of Emergency Services, if the City Council is not in session) proclaims a Local Emergency, take the following steps:

- ☐ Update **Attachment 1** with information about the disaster. Include information about cumulative damage, including any damage outside of Needles.
- ☐ Discuss opportunities for local assistance with the representatives from the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).
- ☐ If the disaster damages local infrastructure or City-owned facilities, repair or rebuild the structure to be more resilient, following applicable hazard mitigation actions. A list of actions, organized by hazards, is included in **Attachment 4**.
- ☐ **Chapter 6** of the Needles LHMP states that the City should consider updating the LHMP if a disaster causes a loss of life in the community, even if there is no state disaster proclamation or federal disaster declaration that includes part or all of the city. If there is a loss of life in Needles, consider updating the LHMP. Consult the section on updating the LHMP in this Handbook for details.

The State of California

If the State of California proclaims a disaster for Needles or an area that includes part or all of Needles, take the following steps:

- ☐ Update **Attachment 1** with information about the disaster. Include information about cumulative damage, including any damage outside of Needles.
- ☐ Collaborate with representatives from Cal OES to assess the damage from the event.
- ☐ Discuss opportunities for local assistance with representatives from Cal OES.
- ☐ If the disaster damages local infrastructure or City-owned facilities, repair or rebuild the structure to be more resilient, following applicable hazard mitigation actions. A list of actions, organized by hazards, is included in **Attachment 4**.
- ☐ If the disaster may escalate into a federal disaster declaration, begin any necessary coordination with representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- ☐ **Chapter 6** of the Needles LHMP states that the City should consider updating the LHMP if a disaster leads to a state disaster proclamation or federal disaster declaration that includes part or all of Needles, even if there is no loss of life. Consider updating the LHMP. Consult the section on updating the LHMP in this Handbook for details.

The Federal Government

If the federal government declares a disaster for Needles or any area that includes part or all of Needles, take the following steps:

- ☐ Update **Attachment 1** with information about the disaster. Include information about

- cumulative damage, including any damage outside of Needles.
- ☐ Collaborate with Cal OES and FEMA representatives to assess the damage.
 - ☐ Determine if Needles will be eligible for public assistance funds related to the federal disaster declaration. These funds can be used to reimburse the City for response and recovery activities. If the City is eligible, work with FEMA and Cal OES representatives to enact the necessary requirements and receive funding.
 - ☐ If the disaster damages local infrastructure or City-owned facilities, repair or rebuild the structure to be more resilient, following applicable hazard mitigation actions. A list of actions, organized by hazards, is included in **Attachment 4**.
 - ☐ The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is a FEMA program that helps fund hazard mitigation activities after a disaster event. Needles may be eligible for funding because of the federal disaster declaration, although not all activities may meet the program's requirements. If Needles is eligible, work with FEMA to apply for this funding.
 - ☐ **Chapter 6** of the Needles LHMP states that the City should consider updating the LHMP if a disaster leads to a state disaster proclamation or federal disaster declaration that includes part or all of Needles, even if there is no loss of life. Consider updating the LHMP. Consult the section on updating the LHMP in this Handbook for details.

I Want to Apply for Mitigation Grant Funding

There are three potential grant funding programs that FEMA administers for hazard mitigation activities. Two of these programs, the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) funding sources, are available to communities with an LHMP that complies with FEMA guidelines and has been adopted within the past five years.

The third funding program is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), which is available for communities that are part of a federal disaster declaration. This section discusses the BRIC and FMA programs and how to apply for them. The HMGP is discussed under the "Federal Government" subsection of the above "What to Do When a Disaster Has Been Proclaimed or Declared" section.

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) will support states, local communities, tribes, and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. BRIC is a new FEMA pre-disaster hazard mitigation program that replaces the existing Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program.

The BRIC program's guiding principles are supporting communities through capability- and capacity-building, encouraging and enabling innovation, promoting partnerships, enabling large projects, maintaining flexibility, and providing consistency.

Development projects must be identified in a hazard mitigation plan that meets FEMA guidelines and has been adopted within the past five years. When applying to this program, review the list of hazard mitigation actions in **Attachment 4** to see which projects may be eligible. Planning efforts for communities that lack a valid hazard mitigation plan may be eligible for funding if the effort would create a valid hazard mitigation plan. All BRIC grant applications are processed through the State. To learn more, consult with Cal OES representatives or visit the FEMA webpage for the program. At the time of writing, this webpage is available at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>.

TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO APPLY FOR BRIC FUNDING:

- ☐ Confirm that the program is currently accepting funding applications. Check with representatives from Cal OES or consult the Cal OES webpage on the BRIC program. At the time of writing, this webpage is available at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>.
- ☐ Identify the actions from the hazard mitigation strategy (see Attachment 4) that call on the City to pursue funding or list grants as a potential funding source. Confirm that the actions are consistent with the requirements of the BRIC grant.
- ☐ Coordinate with Cal OES representatives to compile and submit materials for the grant application.

Flood Mitigation Assistance

The FMA grant program is a competitive, national program that awards funding for physical development projects and planning efforts that mitigate long-term damage from flooding. The funding is only available to communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which Needles currently does. Communities must also have a valid hazard mitigation plan that meets FEMA guidelines to be eligible, and all projects must be consistent with the list of actions in the hazard mitigation strategy. When applying to this program, review the list of hazard mitigation actions in **Attachment 4** to see which projects may be eligible. As with the BRIC program, applications for the FMA program must be processed through the State. To view more information, consult with Cal OES representatives or visit the FEMA webpage on the program. At the time of writing, this webpage is available at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>.

TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO APPLY FOR FMA FUNDING:

- ☐ Confirm that the program is currently accepting funding applications. Check with representatives from Cal OES or consult the Cal OES webpage on the FMA program. At the time of writing, this webpage is available at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>.
- ☐ Identify the actions from the hazard mitigation strategy (**see Attachment 4**) that call on the City to pursue funding or list grants as a potential funding source. Confirm that the actions are consistent with the requirements of the FMA grant.
- ☐ Coordinate with Cal OES representatives to compile and submit materials for the grant application.

Needles is going through the budgeting process

Needles's budget process is an ideal opportunity to secure funding for hazard mitigation actions and to ensure that hazard mitigation efforts are incorporated into the City's fiscal priorities. Needles currently operates on an annual budget cycle that runs from July 1 to June 30. During this process, City staff should take the following steps to incorporate hazard mitigation into Needles's annual budget:

- ☐ Include hazard mitigation activities in Needles's list of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). Review the list of hazard mitigation actions in **Attachment 4** and identify the projects that can be included in the CIP or can support efforts within the CIP.
- ☐ Review the risk and threat assessments in the LHMP (Chapter 3) to ensure that all

items in the list of CIP are planned, designed, and constructed to minimize the threat from hazard events.

- ☐ Identify opportunities to identify state-alone hazard mitigation actions through the annual budget process. Include appropriate items from Attachment 4 in the budget as stand-alone line items, particularly items that the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (Planning Committee) considered a high priority.
- ☐ Set aside staff to conduct hazard mitigation activities, including time to participate in Planning Committee meetings and research, prepare, and submit BRIC and FMA grant opportunities (consult the "I Want to Apply for Mitigation Grant Funding" section above).
- ☐ Ensure hazard mitigation activities are reflected in each department's priorities and earmarked time for specific goals.

Needles is Conducting its Annual meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

The hazard mitigation planning process brings together representatives from multiple City departments as well as other relevant stakeholders. It provides a forum to discuss the hazards in Needles and how to mitigate them effectively. As mentioned in **Chapter 5** of the LHMP, the Planning Committee should meet at least once each year, beginning a year after the LHMP is adopted. During these meetings, the Planning Committee should discuss implementation progress and integration of hazard mitigation actions in other City documents. At these meetings, the Planning Committee can review the status of the hazard mitigation actions and discuss whether completed or in-progress actions are working as expected. These meetings also allow the Planning Committee to strategically plan for the upcoming year.

It may help for the Planning Committee to meet early in the year, in advance of annual budget activities. **Attachment 3** contains an example of a Planning Committee Meeting Agenda.

The annual meeting should include representatives from City departments and other organizations that originally prepared the LHMP. Representatives from other relevant organizations should also be invited. During the preparation of the current LHMP, the following individuals were part of the Planning Committee:

Needles Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

Name	Title	Department
Kathy Raasch	Interim Development Services Director	Development Services
Rainie Torrance	Utility Manager	Needles Public Utility Agency
Irene Romero	City Planner	Planning
Jennifer Valenzuela	Recreation Services Manager	Parks & Recreation
Cheryl Sallis	Community Services Manager	Community Services Department
Will Guzman	Building Inspector	Building & Safety
Adrian Chavez	Senior Code Enforcement	Code Enforcement
Steve Ledbetter	Contract City Engineer	Engineering
Angelica Deermer	Housing Manager	Needles Housing Authority Manager
Aaron Pfannenstiel	LHMP Project Manager	Atlas Planning Solutions
Crystal Stueve	LHMP Planner	Atlas Planning Solutions
Robert Jackson	LHMP Planner	Atlas Planning Solutions

In advance of Planning Committee meetings, consider using **Attachment 1** to maintain an accurate list of recent disaster events that have occurred in and around Needles since the LHMP was adopted. At the Planning Committee meeting, review the Plan Maintenance Table (**Attachment 2**) to identify any gaps in the LHMP or any other component of the plan that needs updating. This also allows Planning Committee members the opportunity to review the actions in the hazard mitigation strategy (**Attachment 4**) and ensure that they are implemented as intended.

Needles is updating its policy and regulatory documents

If Needles is updating the LHMP, the Safety Element or Housing Element of the General Plan, or the Zoning Code, consult the following applicable section.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

All LHMPs should be updated every five years. This helps keep the plan up to date and ensures that it reflects the most recent guidance, requirements, science, and best practices. An updated LHMP also helps keep Needles eligible for hazard mitigation grants that require a valid, recent LHMP (see "I Want to Apply for Mitigation Grant Funding"), along with an increased amount of post-disaster recovery funds.

The update process for the LHMP takes approximately one year. To ensure that a new LHMP comes into effect before the previous one expires, the update process should begin no later than four years after the plan is adopted. Updates may occur sooner at the City's discretion. Potential reasons for updating the LHMP sooner may include a state disaster proclamation or federal disaster declaration that covers part or all of Needles or if a disaster leads to a loss of life in Needles (see the "What to Do When a Disaster Has Been Proclaimed or Declared" section), as discussed in **Chapter 5** of the LHMP.

Take the following steps to update the LHMP:

ASSEMBLE THE HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

- ☐ Convene a Planning Committee meeting no later than four years after the LHMP is adopted. Invite the regular Planning Committee members, along with representatives from other organizations that may have a role to play in the update process.
- ☐ Review the current status of mitigation actions, including if there are any that are not being implemented as planned or are not working as expected. Determine if there have been any changes in hazard events, regulations, best practices, or other items that should be incorporated into an updated LHMP.
- ☐ Decide if there is a need for a technical consultant to assist with the LHMP update and conduct consultant selection activities if needed. If a consultant is desired, the selection process should begin a few months before the update begins.
- ☐ Create and implement a community engagement strategy based on the strategy prepared for the existing LHMP. Describe in-person and online engagement strategies and materials, including ideas for meetings and workshops, draft community surveys, content for websites and press releases, and other materials that may be useful.

UPDATE THE RISK AND THREAT ASSESSMENTS

- ☐ Review and update the risk assessment to reflect the most recent conditions in Needles. Consider recent hazard events, new science associated with hazards and climate change, new development and land use patterns, and other recent changes in local conditions.

- ☐ Evaluate the status of all key facilities. Update this list if new facilities have been constructed or if existing facilities have been decommissioned. Reassess the threat to key facilities.
- ☐ Review the demographics of community residents and update the threat assessment for vulnerable populations and other community members.
- ☐ Assess any changes to the threat to all other community assets, including key services, other facilities, and economic drivers.

UPDATE THE MITIGATION ACTIONS

- ☐ Update the existing hazard mitigation actions to reflect actions in progress. Remove actions that have been completed or revise them to increase their effectiveness. Revise actions that have been abandoned or delayed to make them more feasible or remove them from the list of mitigation actions if they are no longer appropriate for Needles.
- ☐ Develop mitigation actions to improve the status of hazard mitigation activities in Needles by addressing any issues not covered by the existing LHMP.
- ☐ The ability to expand current mitigation capabilities will generally be reliant upon the budgeting allocated for each department/program for that fiscal year. The level at which these programs may or may not be expanded upon will be dependent upon the amount of funding received. FEMA has released a series of guides over the past few years that highlight some of the ways in which jurisdictions can expand mitigation. Some strategies for increasing current mitigation capabilities may include:
 - City should actively identify, adopt, and enforce the most current set of development codes and standards available. Strongly encouraging new development to be constructed to higher standards than currently required, increasing resilience within the community.
 - Engaging parts of the community that may not be actively involved in mitigation efforts.
 - Expanding the number and types of organizations involved in mitigation planning and implementation, increasing both efficiency and bandwidth.
 - Fostering new relationships to bring underrepresented populations and partners to the hazard mitigation planning process.
 - During the annual LHMP review, the HMPC should look for opportunities to fund and expand/enhance the effectiveness of current mitigation actions.
 - During annual budgeting processes, the City should identify new funding sources (bonds, grants, assessment districts, etc.) that can be used to support existing capabilities enhancements.
- ☐ Ensure that the feedback from the community engagement activities is reflected in the new and updated mitigation actions.

REVIEW AND ADOPT THE UPDATED PLAN

- ☐ Review the other chapters and appendices of the LHMP to reflect any changes made through the update process.
- ☐ Release the updated plan to the Planning Committee members and revise the plan to reflect any comments by Planning Committee members.
- ☐ Distribute the updated Plan to any appropriate external agencies not included in the

Planning Committee and revise the plan as appropriate in response to any comments.

- ☐ Release the updated plan publicly for review and make revisions to the plan to reflect public comments.
- ☐ Submit the plan to Cal OES and FEMA for approval and make any necessary revisions.
- ☐ Submit the plan to the Needles City Council for adoption.

The Safety Element of the General Plan

The Safety Element is a required component of Needles's General Plan. It can be updated as a stand-alone activity or as part of a more comprehensive process to update multiple sections or all of the General Plan. The Safety Element does not need to be updated on any set schedule, but updates should be frequent enough for the element to remain current and applicable to the community.

Local communities can incorporate their LHMP into their Safety Element as allowed under Section 65302.6 of the California Government Code, as long as the LHMP meets minimum federal guidelines. This allows communities to be eligible for an increased share of post-disaster relief funding from the State if a hazard situation occurs, as per Section 8685.9 of the California Government Code.

Take the following steps to incorporate the LHMP into the Safety Element:

- ☐ Incorporate new requirements into the safety element and ensure that the LHMP is consistent with the safety element.
- ☐ Review the requirements for Safety Elements in Section 65302(g) of the California Government Code and for LHMPs in Section 65302.6. Ensure that both documents meet all state requirements.
- ☐ Ensure that the information in both plans does not contradict each other and that any inconsistencies are corrected to use the most accurate and appropriate information. This information should include a community description, a risk assessment, and a threat assessment.
- ☐ Ensure that the policies in the Safety Element support the LHMP and provide a planning framework for specific hazard mitigation actions.

The Housing Element of the General Plan

The Housing Element is a required component of Needles's General Plan. Section 65583 of the California Government Code requires a Housing Element to analyze and plan for new residential growth in a community, including residential growth for households with an annual income below the area median. Like an LHMP, state regulations require the Housing Elements to be updated regularly to remain current and valid.

The Housing Element is not required to contain any information or policies related to hazards, although it may include policies that address retrofitting homes to improve resiliency. However, state law links the regular schedule of Housing Element updates to mandatory revisions to other General Plan elements. For example, Section 65302(g)(2) of the California Government Code

requires that communities that update their Housing Element on or after January 1, 2009, also update their Safety Element to include specific information and policies related to flood protection. As the LHMP is incorporated into the Safety Element, updates to the Housing Element may indirectly trigger updates to the LHMP.

To update the LHMP concurrent with updates to the Housing Element, take the following steps:

- ☐ Ensure that the LHMP meets any new requirements for the safety element that may be triggered by a housing element update.
- ☐ Section 65302(g) of the California Government Code lists several requirements for the Safety Element of the General Plan. Some of these requirements are triggered by updates to the Housing Element. Check to see if there are any new requirements of this nature. Note that the requirement is linked to the new Housing Element's adoption date, not the date the update process begins.
- ☐ Because the LHMP is incorporated into the Safety Element, any amendments or revisions to the Safety Element triggered by the Housing Element update may be made directly in the LHMP. Requirements triggered by the Housing Element are unlikely to require a full rewrite of the LHMP, but the process should fully involve the Planning Committee and include appropriate community engagement.
- ☐ Adopt the updated LHMP and incorporate it into the Safety Element. If necessary, amend the Safety Element to ensure the two documents are consistent (review the "Incorporate New Requirements Into the Safety Element, and Ensure that the LHMP is Consistent with the Safety Element" subsection above).

The Needles Municipal Code

Needles's Municipal Code contains a set of standards that guide land uses and development in the community. These standards include where different types of buildings and land use activities may be located, how these structures must be built, and how they must be operated or maintained. The Municipal Code may include requirements that structures (particularly new structures or those undergoing substantial renovations) incorporate hazard-resistant features, be located outside the most hazard-prone areas, or take other steps to reduce hazard vulnerability.

All communities in California are required to adopt the minimum state Building Standard Code (BSC), which includes some hazard mitigation requirements for new or significantly renovated structures. The BSC is generally updated every three years, with supplemental code updates halfway into each update cycle. Chapter 6, "Building Regulations," of Needles's Municipal Code contains building regulations and incorporates the BSC. Other sections of the Code adopt additional standards as desired by the City that adapts the BSC to Needles's local context.

As a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), Needles is required to incorporate Floodplain Management Requirements in its Zoning Code, which is located in Chapter 9A – Floodplain Management. These regulations establish standards for developing and operating facilities within mapped flood-prone areas. Other sections of the Needles Municipal Code may include additional standards related to hazard mitigation activities.

With the exception of the Floodplain Management Regulations and the minimum standards in the BSC, Needles is not required to incorporate hazard-related requirements in the Municipal Code.

However, the Municipal Code is an effective tool for implementing hazard mitigation measures related to the siting, construction, and operation of new buildings and other structures. Substantial updates to the Municipal Code, including the Buildings and Construction and Zoning Code sections, should be done in a way that is consistent with the LHMP.

- ☐ Include hazard-related requirements in applicable sections of the Needles code of ordinances.
- ☐ If the BSC is being updated, evaluate the hazard-related requirements of all sections in the new BSC. Identify any areas where it may be feasible to add or revise standards to help reduce the threat from hazard events. Ensure that these standards are consistent with the LHMP. Consider whether standards should be applied to all structures, to specific types of structures, or to structures in a limited area (such as a flood plain).
- ☐ If the Zoning Code is being updated, ensure that all requirements do not expose community members or community assets to an excessive risk of harm. Where feasible, use the requirements to strengthen community resiliency to hazard events. Ensure that these standards are consistent with the LHMP. Consider possible standards such as overlay zones that strengthen zoning requirements in hazard-prone areas, landscaping and grading requirements that buffer development from hazards, siting, and design standards that make structures more resilient, and other strategies as appropriate.

Use this table to fill out the information about any disaster events that have occurred in Needles or nearby and have affected the community. Include the date and location of the disaster event, the damages associated with the event, and any information about disaster proclamations or declarations resulting from the event.

[illegible]

† If the disaster was proclaimed or declared by the local, state, and/or federal government

Attachment 2: Plan Maintenance Table

Use this table when reviewing the LHMP as part of the Planning Committee's annual activities. For each section of the LHMP, note if any changes should be made to make the plan more effective for the community. This includes noting if anything in the LHMP is incorrect or if any important information is missing. Make revisions consistent with these notes as part of the next update to the LHMP.

Section	Is Anything Incorrect?	Is Anything Missing?	Should Any Other Changes Be Made?
Multiple sections or throughout			
Chapter 1: Introduction			
Chapter 2: Community Profile			
Chapter 3: Hazard Assessment			
Chapter 4: Threat and Vulnerability			
Chapter 5: Hazard Mitigation Strategy			
Chapter 6: Plan Maintenance			
Appendices			

Attachment 3: Sample Agenda and Topics for the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

This attachment includes a sample agenda and discussion topics for the annual meeting of the Planning Committee. Meetings do not have to follow this order or structure, but the items included in this attachment should be addressed as part of the annual meeting. During the update process for the LHMP, it is likely that the Planning Committee will meet more frequently. The meetings of the Planning Committee during the update process will involve different discussion topics.

ITEM 1: RECENT HAZARD EVENTS

- 1.1. What hazard events have occurred this past year in Needles or nearby in a way that affected the community?
 - Identify events that caused loss of life or significant injury to Needles community members, significant property damage in Needles, or widespread disruption to Needles.
 - More minor events should also be identified if there is a need for a community response to mitigate against future such events.
- 1.2. What are the basic facts and details behind any such hazard events?
 - Consider the size and location of the affected area, any measurements of severity, any injuries and deaths, the cost of any damage, the number of people displaced or otherwise impacted, and other relevant summary information.
 - Ensure that these facts and details are clearly recorded for future plan updates, including using the Disaster Information Table (**Attachment 1**).

ITEMS 2: MITIGATION ACTION ACTIVITIES

- 2.1. What mitigation actions have been fully implemented? Are they working as expected, or do they need to be revised?
- 2.2. What mitigation actions have started to be implemented since the Planning Committee last met? Is the implementation of these actions proceeding as expected, or are there any barriers or delays? If there are barriers or delays, how can they be removed?
- 2.3. What mitigation actions are scheduled to begin implementation in the next year? Are there any factors that could delay implementation or weaken the effectiveness of the actions? How can these factors be addressed?
- 2.4. What resources are needed to support planned, in-process, or ongoing mitigation actions? Does the City have access to these resources? If not, how can the City obtain access to these resources?

ITEM 3: INFORMATION SHARING

- 3.1. Is the City communicating with all appropriate local jurisdictions, including neighboring communities, San Bernardino County, and special districts? This should include information on district-specific hazard situations, mitigation actions, and other relevant information.
- 3.2. Is the City communicating with the appropriate state and federal agencies? Is the City receiving information about new regulations, best practices, and data related to hazard mitigation activities?
- 3.3. Are there opportunities for the City to improve coordination with local, state, and federal jurisdictions and agencies?

ITEM 4: BUDGETARY PLANNING

- 4.1. What are the financial needs for Needles to support the implementation of planned and in-process mitigation actions, including ongoing items? Is there sufficient funding for all measures in the LHMP that are planned for the next year, including in-process and ongoing items? If sufficient funding is unavailable, how can the City obtain these funds?
- 4.2. If it is not feasible for the City to support all planned, in-process, or ongoing mitigation actions, which ones should be prioritized?
- 4.3. Are there hazard-related activities not included in the LHMP that should be budgeted for? Can the City obtain the necessary funding for these activities?

ITEM 5: STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 5.1. Which grants are available for hazard mitigation activities, and which activities are best positioned to secure funding?
- 5.2. How should the agencies and other organizations represented on the Planning Committee coordinate to maximize the chances of receiving funding?
- 5.3. Are there any scheduled or anticipated updates to other City documents that could relate to hazard mitigation activities? How can the Planning Committee share information with staff and any technical consultants responsible for these updates and ensure that the updates will enhance community resiliency?
- 5.4. What capital projects are scheduled or anticipated? Are these capital projects being designed and built to be resistant to hazard events? Are there opportunities for these projects to support hazard mitigation activities?
- 5.5. How can Planning Committee members coordinate efforts with those responsible for capital projects to take advantage of economies of scale that will make implementing hazard mitigation activities easier?
- 5.6. Has it been four years since the adoption of the LHMP? If so, lay out a timeline for plan update activities, including additional meetings of the Planning Committee. Identify if a technical consultant is needed and begin the contracting process.
- 5.7. Are there any other opportunities for Planning Committee members and the organizations they represent to coordinate efforts?

ITEMS 6: NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1. Are there any other items related to the Planning Committee's mission?

Attachment 4: Hazard Mitigation Strategy

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan						
Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
Emergency Preparedness Activities						
P1	Conduct regular emergency preparedness drills and training exercises for City staff.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
P2	Create a Needles Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
P3	Ensure that community evacuation plans include provisions for community members who do not have access to private vehicles or are otherwise unable to drive.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
P4	Continue to ensure effective emergency notifications through multiple media formats, in languages appropriate for the community, about pending, imminent, or ongoing emergency events. Ensure that information is accessible to persons with access and functional needs.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	High
P5	Maintain at least one emergency power-generating station in all critical facilities that the City could use as an emergency public assembly area, such as the Civic Center, Community Centers, and any other locations designated in the future.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	High
P6	Update the Needles Emergency Operations Plan to identify backup power and communications locations for critical facilities.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Medium
P7	Increase the number of City staff with CalOES Safety Assessment Program (SAP) credentials.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
P8	Establish or update agreements with local schools to ensure facilities can act as evacuation sites during major emergencies.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
P9	Ensure City staff complete all required SEMS/NIMS courses to ensure agency compliance.	General Fund, EMPG	Emergency Office Services		Ongoing	Low
Multiple Hazards						

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
1.01	Install energy-efficient equipment upgrades in City facilities to increase the longevity of the fuel supply for backup generators. (Hazards Addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$\$	2028	Medium
1.02	Install digital signage in key locations to aid in public outreach and information dissemination during emergency events. (Hazards Addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$	2027	Low
1.03	Conduct routine updates to Facility Conditions Assessments for City-owned infrastructure and other utilities and coordinate with other agencies to ensure inspections of other important infrastructure. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Public Works/ Utilities	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
1.04	Installation of solar and battery backup systems at key critical facilities within the City. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$\$\$\$	2026	High
1.05	Work closely with community groups to increase awareness of hazard events and resiliency opportunities among socially vulnerable community members. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Housing/ Community Services/ Public Safety	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
1.06	Closely monitor changes in the boundaries of mapped hazard areas resulting from land use changes or climate change and adopt new mitigation actions or revise existing ones to ensure continued resiliency. (Hazards Addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
1.07	Integrate policy direction and other information from this Plan into other City documents, including the General Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, and Capital Improvements Program. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services/ Public Works/ Utilities	\$	Following All Plan Updates	Low
1.08	Monitor funding sources for hazard mitigation activities. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	All Departments	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
1.09	Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation information and analysis into future LHMP updates and other City Plans, where practicable. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	All Departments	\$	Following Any Plan Update	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
1.10	Install and harden encased emergency backup power generators at critical facilities and key infrastructure as deemed necessary. Prioritize installations for facilities that serve as key cooling/warming centers (including the Senior Center), and evacuation centers. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$\$\$	2027	Low
1.11	Install battery backup power supplies for traffic signals to ensure functionality in the event of power failure. (Hazards addressed: All)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$	2025	Low
Earthquake Hazards (Seismic Shaking)						
2.01	Update the City's Emergency Operations Plan annually to include recent additions/changes to the City's Earthquake preparedness/response plans and protocols.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
2.02	Develop a small project-based retrofit program to assist homeowners with simple earthquake mitigation activities (i.e., water heater straps, furniture anchoring, gas shut-off tools, and other emergency supplies) to reduce strain on City resources during an event.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2027	Medium
2.03	Conduct an educational campaign to incentivize and promote medium-scale seismic retrofits, such as window films to minimize shattering, rooftop-mounted equipment anchors, masonry chimney bracing, and other preventative measures to reduce damage to private buildings.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
2.04	Conduct a seismic analysis of all City-owned key facilities and retrofit vulnerable facilities.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$\$	2027	Low
2.05	To the extent feasible, construct all new City-owned facilities to remain operational in the event of a major earthquake.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	All Departments	\$\$\$\$	2028	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
2.06	Retrofit key critical facilities with seismically rated window film treatments that ensure glass windows do not shatter during a strong seismic event.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$\$	2028	Low
2.07	Analyze the City's building and housing stock to create an inventory of seismically vulnerable buildings (unreinforced masonry, soft-story construction, non-ductile concrete buildings) within the city and conduct an educational program providing information on how to begin the process of seismically retrofitting these buildings.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Earthquake Authority Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2027	Low
Wildland Fires						
3.01	Promote the proper maintenance and separation of power lines and efficient response to fallen power lines, particularly in areas that experience strong winds.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
3.02	Identify funding for existing non-conforming retrofits in fire-prone areas to use non-combustible building materials such as masonry, brick, stucco, concrete, steel, or others as appropriate. Establish defensible space zones around homes in these areas to reduce fire vulnerability.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire Grants, Other Grants	Development Services / Public Safety	\$\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Medium
3.03	Explore new funding opportunities to increase the budget for public outreach and fire hazard prevention awareness and education.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire Grants, Other Grants	Public Safety	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
3.04	Create a rapid response plan from among first responder agencies to secure hospital, nursing, and assisted living facilities during high fire conditions and incidents.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire	Public Safety	\$\$	2027	Medium

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
		Grants, Other Grants				
3.05	Coordinate with SBCF and surrounding jurisdictions on home hardening and vegetation management assessments to assist residents in understanding and addressing wildfire risk.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire Grants, Other Grants	Code Enforcement (Development Services)	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
3.06	Conduct regular fuel modification projects and clear vegetation to reduce fire hazard risks, such as removal of dead vegetation and invasive plants in parks, open spaces, and right-of-way embankments and creating larger buffers within the wildland-urban interface.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Cal Fire Grants, Other Grants	Public Works/ Development Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	High
Severe Weather (Drought, Extreme Heat, Severe Wind, Thunderstorms)						
4.01	Expand current outreach to residents and businesses prior to the severe winds on proper tree maintenance and identification of potentially hazardous trees. (Hazards addressed: Severe Wind)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Public Works/ Code Enforcement	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
4.02	Remove or trim trees determined to be susceptible to blowing over during a severe wind event. Encourage the undergrounding of existing utilities, where practicable. (Hazards Addressed: Severe Wind)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Public Works/ Code Enforcement/ Utilities	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
4.03	Update the Needles Municipal Code to reflect the latest advances in best practices in landscape design that reduce water use within the City and support fire risk reduction. (Hazards addressed: Drought)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	2025	Medium
4.04	Update the City's Emergency Operations Plan annually to include recent additions/changes to the City's drought preparedness/response plans and protocols. (Hazards addressed: Drought)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
4.05	Develop a campaign to encourage water/energy efficiency, reduce consumption for existing development, and promote the expansion of electric vehicle-ready construction in new development. (Hazards addressed: Drought, Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Utilities/ Development Services	\$\$\$	2025	High
4.06	Create a Cooling Center Plan for the use of designated public facilities (libraries, community centers, etc.) as cooling centers for vulnerable populations during extreme weather events. (Hazards addressed: Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	2025	High
4.07	During the design review process, promote passive cooling design (brise-soleil, long roof overhangs, locating windows away from southern facades, etc.) in new developments. (Hazards addressed: Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	Ongoing (As needed)	Low
4.08	Evaluate the long-term capacity of designated cooling centers and shelters in the City to provide sufficient relief from extreme heat. Assess the need to expand services as the frequency, length, and severity of future heat waves potentially change due to climate change. (Hazards addressed: Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services/ Community Services	\$\$	2025	Low
4.09	Upgrade HVAC within City facilities to more efficient systems, including split or decentralized systems that allow for heating and cooling rooms/spaces. (Hazards addressed: Extreme heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	All Departments	\$\$\$	2026	High
4.10	Increase the use and construction of shade structures within new developments, City facilities, parks, and trails to reduce extreme heat conditions. (Hazards addressed: Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Development Services/ Public Works	\$\$\$	Ongoing (As Needed)	Medium
4.11	Promote early notifications to residents before a severe weather event, focusing on effective communication methods with vulnerable populations to better ensure they have adequate time to prepare. (Hazards addressed: Severe Weather)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$	Ongoing	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
4.12	Update the City's Emergency Operations Plan annually to include recent additions/changes to the City's Extreme Heat preparedness/response plans and protocols. (Hazards addressed: Extreme Heat)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
4.13	Ensure effective emergency notifications through multiple media formats, in languages appropriate for the community, about pending, imminent, or ongoing thunderstorm events (to include flash flood watches/warnings and severe wind warnings). Ensure that information is accessible to persons with access and functional needs. (Hazards Addressed: Thunderstorms)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, California Climate Resilience Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$	Ongoing (As Needed)	Low
Infrastructure Failure (Energy Shortage, Power Outage)						
5.01	Establish and routinely update a confidential inventory of critical infrastructure and ensure utility providers coordinate development activities with future resilience enhancements.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$	2025	Medium
5.02	Expand access to alternative energy technologies, energy efficiency improvements and appliances, and programs for vulnerable populations to reduce energy consumption and the need for City services during extreme heat events.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$	2026	Medium
5.03	Develop a Power Failure Strategic Plan that prioritizes the following: - Identification of critical facilities requiring backup power supplies. - Identification of critical systems requiring backup battery supplies to ensure effective operations during power failure events. - Development of criteria for backup power supplies and equipment for City-owned buildings and infrastructure - Development of code updates/modifications for new developments/redevelopments that are energy resilient or include backup power supplies or plug-in-ready retrofits. - Compilation of funding sources and strategies for	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities/ Development Services	\$	2025	High

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
	City facility improvements and resources for residents and businesses.					
5.04	Install resilient emergency power supplies and microgrids at key critical facility locations throughout the City.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Utilities	\$\$	2027	Medium
Geologic Hazards (Expansive Soils)						
6.01	Monitor changes to areas where expansive soils are located.	General Fund	Development Services	\$\$	Ongoing (As Needed)	Low
6.02	Conduct an analysis and develop maps of expansive soil locations throughout the city.	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2026	Low
Flood (Flooding and Dam Failure)						
7.01	Update the City's Master Plan of Drainage regularly to incorporate new data and/or address emerging issues.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
7.02	Investigate the use of permeable paving and landscaped swales for new construction and replacement of City-owned hardscaped areas.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2028	Low
7.03	Identify potential flood improvements that reduce inundation from both storm flows and potential dam inundation effects.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2028	High

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
7.04	Conduct frequent cleanings of storm drain intakes, especially before and during the rainy season.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
7.05	Track areas where ponding frequently occurs during heavy rainfall and install new drains or upgrade existing ones to reduce ponding.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2028	Low
7.06	Identify all structures located in FEMA flood zones and determine the need to map, analyze, and modify FEMA flood maps. If flood map revisions are possible, work with property owners to determine the desire to perform this activity on their behalf.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$\$	2027	Medium
7.07	Update the City's Emergency Operations Plan annually to include recent additions/changes to the City's Flash Flooding preparedness/response plans.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
7.08	Identify specific public works projects/improvements to address flash flooding impacts throughout the flood prone portions of the city.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$	2025	Low
7.09	Identify specific improvements that may be implemented to reduce flood hazards to the Historic Harvey House railway station.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$	2025	Low
7.10	Continue to enforce development regulations based on the most current FEMA flood insurance rate maps and continue to comply with the NFIP.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	Ongoing (As Needed)	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
7.11	Coordinate with dam owners/operators and state and federal agencies to collectively identify threats to the City and the region and identify ways to retrofit/strengthen the dams under their control.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$	2028	Low
7.12	Conduct a public outreach and awareness campaign about the hazards associated with dam failure, the areas within the city susceptible to impact, and evacuation procedures and facilities available in the event an impact occurs.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
7.13	Update the City's Emergency Operations Plan annually to include recent additions/changes to the City's Dam Failure preparedness/response plans.	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
Human-Caused Hazards (Cyber Threat, Hazardous Materials Incident, Natural Gas Pipeline Hazards, Transportation Accident)						
8.1	Disseminate information on cyber threats to City staff and continually follow up with information on further developments of the situation. (Hazards addressed: Cyber Threats)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	IT Department	\$	Ongoing (As Needed)	Low
8.2	Regularly update cyber security software and educate business owners and residents on current internet-based threats. (Hazards addressed: Cyber Threats)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	IT Department	\$\$	On going (As-Needed)	Medium
8.3	Ongoing training in coordination with County Fire, the Railroad, County Sheriff, Mutual Aid, Police, Fire, BLM, and Pipeline Companies (petroleum gas, electric, fiber optic) to be prepared for and respond to potential hazardous material spills/incidents along the railroad, I-40, or I-95. (Hazard Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident, Natural Gas Pipeline Hazards)	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
8.4	Discourage new sensitive land uses, including schools, parks, childcare centers, adult and senior assisted living facilities, and community centers, from locating near identified hazardous material facilities. Discourage or prohibit new hazardous material	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low

Mitigation Actions Implementation Plan

Action #	Mitigation Action Item	Potential Funding Source	Responsible Department	Relative Cost	Time Frame	Priority
	facilities from locating near sensitive land uses. (Hazard Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident)					
8.5	Continuously inspect businesses and other properties storing hazardous materials and create an inventory of storage locations that require updates, maintenance, or renovation. (Hazard Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	SB County Fire	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
8.6	Develop a parcel-level database, in coordination with San Bernardino County, which tracks the status of hazardous materials storage and use, prioritized by potential threat to surrounding properties. (Hazard Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident)	General Fund, BRIC/ HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$\$	2027	Low
8.7	Continue to work with solid waste service businesses to educate residents and businesses on safely disposing of small quantities of hazardous materials. (Hazards Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident)	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Public Works	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
8.8	Coordinate with hazardous materials generators/operators (Southwest Gas, etc.) regularly to understand changes to operations within the city. (Hazards Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident)	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Emergency Office Services	\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
8.9	Analyze the locations of railroad rights of way, and adjacent land uses to determine key locations of concern if a train derailment occurs. (Hazards Addressed: Hazardous Materials Incident, Transportation Accident)	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services	\$	2025	Low
8.10	Maintain relationships with BNSF to improve rail safety. (Hazards Addressed: Transportation Accident)	General Fund, BRIC/HMGP Grants, Other Grants	Development Services/ Emergency Office Services	\$\$	Ongoing (Annually)	Low
* Relative Cost Categories						
\$	Less than \$15,000					
\$\$	\$15,001 to \$500,000					
\$\$\$	\$500,001 to \$2,999,999					
\$\$\$\$	Greater than \$3,000,000					