



City of Sumas Request for Council Action

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Subject:

Draft Updates to the Sumas Profile of the Whatcom County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Department: Planning

Prepared By: Carson Cortez

Agenda Location:

☐ Public Hearing ☐ Old Business ☒ New Business ☐ Staff Reports

Brief Summary:

2026 updates to the Sumas Profile of the 2021 Whatcom County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. For this update, Sumas is required to provide a rationale for how the expanded list of hazards for your jurisdiction was determined and to identify at least one mitigation action for each identified hazard. Additional changes include updates to the planning, population, and critical facilities sections.

The current draft version of the Plan is brought before the Council for initial review before being submitted to Whatcom County. Following submission of all jurisdiction drafts to Whatcom County, they will make additional amendments and submit the final County-wide draft to Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD) and FEMA for review. Following their review, the final draft plan will be brought back to the County and City Councils for final adoption around December 2026

Legal Review: ☐ Reviewed ☒ Not Reviewed ☐ Review Not Required

Staff Recommendation:

City Staff recommends that City Council move to authorize the City Planner to submit the draft Sumas updates to the Whatcom County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Whatcom County Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

Senior Staff Review:

- ☐ Mayor
- ☒ Finance Director
- ☒ City Clerk
- ☒ Public Works Director

Budget Implications:

- ☐ Current Budget
- ☐ New Budget Request
- ☒ Non-Budgetary