



TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

MEETING DATE: MAY 18, 2026

FROM: ERIN VENTURA, PLANNING CONSULTANT

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN SAFETY ELEMENT AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council review the amended Safety Element, hold a public hearing, and do the following:

1. Hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on the Draft Amendment to the Safety Element.
2. Find the Project is exempt from CEQA per Section 15061(b)(3); and
3. Approve, based on the Planning Commission's recommendation, the proposed General Plan Amendment to incorporate the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Safety Element as presented.

BACKGROUND:

In late 2024 and 2025 City staff worked with the County to identify hazards and potential mitigations in preparation of the drafting of a Countywide Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). The updated LHMP is in compliance with AB2140, which enables the City to qualify for additional funding in the event of an emergency.

The Planning Commission reviewed this at their May 11, 2026 meeting and recommended the City Council adopt the revisions to the General Plan Safety Element.

DISCUSSION:

In April 2026, the City Council adopted the LHMP and in order to complete the process of adoption, it must be incorporated into the City's General Plan Safety Element.

The meeting materials from the April 2026 City Council meeting regarding the LHMP can be reviewed [here](#).

Any amendments to the General Plan must first be reviewed by the Planning Commission and then recommended to the City Council. This step was completed during the Planning Commission's regular meeting on May 11, 2026.

See attached Draft Safety Element, which incorporates the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

CEQA:

The Sutter Creek General Plan Environmental Document was adopted in April 2011 (SCH No. 2012062034).

Staff recommends that the City Council determine that the project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15061 where the amendment is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Resolution 25-26-XX
2. Draft Safety Element
3. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan