

TO: City Council
FROM: Erika Smith-Erickson, Land Use and Housing Planner, and Brad Medrud, Planning Manager
DATE: February 27, 2024
SUBJECT: Resolution No. R2024-001, Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region Fourth Edition

1) Recommended Action:

Conduct a work session on Resolution No. R2024-001 and place the resolution on the City Council consideration calendar for approval on March 5, 2024.

2) Background:

The Thurston Region is susceptible to many natural hazards. To receive federal mitigation funding and assistance in the event of a natural disaster, the City must develop and adopt a Hazards Mitigation Plan to reduce impacts to people, property, and the economy.

The City Council adopted the third edition of the *Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region* in 2017. The 2017 Plan was based on a multi-jurisdictional process to develop mitigation strategies to reduce the risks of the most destructive hazards that threaten the region. The City is required to update their plan every five years and have it approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to maintain eligibility for federal mitigation grant programs. The City's Annex to the Plan identifies initiatives that the City will undertake to address hazards present in the City.

Over twenty local agencies in Thurston County worked together with the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) to prepare the fourth edition of the Plan starting in 2022. TRPC project website is here [4th Edition Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region](#).

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on Resolution No. R2024-001 on January 23, 2024, and recommended the City Council approve the resolution and adopt the Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region Fourth Edition.

FEMA indicated by email on February 8, 2024, that they completed their review, and Thurston County, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston PUD have met all federal hazard mitigation planning requirements, including the optional High Hazard Potential Dams requirement. The city is awaiting the final FEMA letter.

3) Policy Support:

Goal C-1: Recognize the significant role played by natural features and systems in determining the overall environmental quality and livability of Tumwater.

Goal LU-1: Ensure the Land Use Element is implementable and coordinated with all applicable City plans and the plans of other jurisdictions in the Thurston region.

City Council 2023 Strategic Priorities – Continue to update and advance the Climate Action Plan, Update the Tree Protection Ordinance, Expand the Community Risk Reduction

Program, Implement City Emergency Management Program

4) Alternatives:

- Modify the resolution and recommend City Council approve Resolution No. R2024-001
 - Recommend City Council reject Resolution No. R2024-001
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5) Fiscal Notes:

This is entirely an internally funded work program task.

6) Attachments:

- A. Resolution No. R2024-001
- B. Presentation
- C. Tumwater Annex to the Fourth Edition of *the Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Thurston Region*