

GOALS, POLICIES, OBJECTIVES, AND FEASIBLE IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

The safety element must contain a set of goals, policies, and objectives based on the above information to protect the community from unreasonable risk of wildfire and implementation measures to accomplish those stated goals, policies, and objectives.

Instructions for this table: Critically examine the submitted safety element and determine if it is adequate to address the jurisdiction's unique fire hazard. Answer YES or NO appropriately for each question below. If the recommendation is irrelevant or unrelated to the jurisdiction's fire hazard, answer N/A. For NO, provide information in the Comments/Recommendations section to help the jurisdiction incorporate that change into their safety element revision. This information may utilize example recommendations from Sample Safety Element Recommendations and Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan below, may indicate how high of a priority this recommendation is for a jurisdiction, or may include other jurisdiction-specific information or recommendations.

Section 1 Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land		
Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Does local ordinance require development standards that meet or exceed title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1270) (SRA Fire Safe Regulations) and title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 3, article 3 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations) for SRAs and/or VHFHSZs?	Yes	S-3.3, (Imp CS-26, CS-30) (Page 5-17)
Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	S-3.21, (Imp S-26) (Page 5-17)
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	Yes	S-3.3, (Imp CS-26, CS-30) (Page 5-17)
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	Yes	S-3.14 (Page 5-18)
Are there plans or actions identified to mitigate existing non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard?	Yes	S-3.22 (Page 5-19)
Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire?	Yes	S-3.21, (Imp S-26) S-3.3, (Imp CS-26, CS-30) (Page 5-17) S-3.1, (Imp CS-26) (Page 5-17)
Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	Yes	S-3.a.1 (Page 5-19)

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	S-3.21 (Page 5-19)
Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance?	Yes	Fuel Modification, (Imp S-8, CS-30)
Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	S-3.8 (Page 5-17) S-11 (Page 5-18)
Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?	Yes	S-3.10, (Imp S-20)
If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?	Yes	S-3.10 (Page 5-18) Figure S-5
Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?	Yes	S-3.13, (Imp S-23)
Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?	Yes	S-3.20 (Page 5-19)
Does new development have adequate fire protection?	Yes	S-3.1 (Page 5-17), S-3.7 (Page 5-17)

Section 2 Develop adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in SRAs or VHFHSZs.

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Water supply and fire flow?	Yes	S-3.20 (Page 5-19)
Location of anticipated water supply?	Yes	S-3.8 (Page 5-17)
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	Yes	S-3.8 (Page 5-17)
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	Yes	S-3.8 (Page 5-17), S-3.10 (Page 5-18)
Fuel modification and defensible space?	Yes	S-3.1 (Page 5-17) S-3.8 (page 5-17) S-3.a.1 (Page 5-19) S-3.a.2 (Page 5-19)
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	Yes	Fuel Modification, (Imp S-8, CS-30)
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	Yes	S-3.8, (Imp CS-30)

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	Yes	S-3.a.2 (Page 5-19)

Section 3 Working cooperatively with public agencies responsible for fire protection.

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Is there a map or description of existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	N/A	There are currently no areas within the city of Agoura Hills, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs, that are lacking service.
Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?	Yes	S-3.1, (Imp CS-26)
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?	Yes	S-3.1 (Page 5-17) S-3.7 (Page 5-17)
Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements?	Yes	S-6.1, S-6.3 S-6.4 (Page 5-23 – Page 5-24), LHMP

Sample Safety Element Recommendations

These are examples of specific policies, objectives, or implementation measures that may be used to meet the intent of Government Code sections 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and 65302.5, subdivision (b). Safety element reviewers may make recommendations that are not included here.

A. MAPS, PLANS AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Include or reference CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps or locally adopted wildfire hazard zones.
2. Include or reference the location of historical information on wildfires in the planning area.
3. Include a map or description of the location of existing and planned land uses in SRAs and VHFHSZs, particularly habitable structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
4. Identify or reference a fire plan that is relevant to the geographic scope of the general plan, including the Unit/Contract County Fire Plan, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and any applicable Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
5. Align the goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures for fire hazard mitigation in the safety element with those in existing fire plans, or make plans to update fire plans to match the safety element.
6. Create a fire plan for the planning area.

B. LAND USE

1. Develop fire safe development codes to use as standards for fire protection for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs that meet or exceed the statewide minimums in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
2. Adopt and have certified by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection local ordinances which meet or exceed the minimum statewide standards in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
3. Identify existing development that do not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances.
4. Develop mitigation measures for existing development that does not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances or identify a policy to do so.

C. FUEL MODIFICATION

1. Develop a policy to communicate vegetation clearance requirements to seasonal, absent, or vacation rental owners.
2. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of vegetation clearance on public and private roads.
3. Include fuel breaks in the layout/siting of subdivisions.
4. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of existing or proposed fuel breaks.
5. Identify and/or map existing development that does not conform to current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
6. Identify plans and actions for existing non-conforming development to be improved or mitigated to meet current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance.

D. ACCESS

1. Develop a policy that approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in SRAs or VHFHSZs is conditional based on meeting the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations, particularly those regarding road standards for ingress, egress, and fire equipment access. (See Gov. Code, § 66474.02.)
2. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with an adequate road network and associated infrastructure.
3. Identify multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing in SRAs or VHFHSZs and develop a policy to create evacuation or shelter in place plans.
4. Include a policy to develop pre-plans for fire risk areas that address civilian evacuation and to effectively communicate those plans.
5. Identify road networks in SRAs or VHFHSZs that do not meet title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 2 and 3 (commencing with section 1273.00) or certified local ordinance and develop a policy to examine possible mitigations.

E. FIRE PROTECTION

1. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure.
2. Plan for the ongoing maintenance and long-term integrity of planned and existing water supply infrastructure.
3. Map existing emergency service facilities and note any areas lacking service, especially in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
4. Project future emergency service needs for the planned land uses.
5. Include information about emergency service trainings or standards and plans to meet or maintain them.
6. Include information about inter-agency preparedness coordination or mutual aid agreements.

Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan

When updating the General Plan, here are some ways to incorporate fire hazard planning into other elements. Wildfire safety is best accomplished by holistic, strategic fire planning that takes advantage of opportunities to align priorities and implementation measures within and across plans.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Goals and policies include mitigation of fire hazard for future development or limit development in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Disclose wildland urban-interface hazards, including fire hazard severity zones, and/or other vulnerable areas as determined by CAL FIRE or local fire agency.

Design and locate new development to provide adequate infrastructure for the safe ingress of emergency response vehicles and simultaneously allow citizen egress during emergencies.

Describe or map any Firewise Communities or other fire safe communities as determined by the National Fire Protection Association, Fire Safe Council, or other organization.

HOUSING ELEMENT

Incorporation of current fire safe building codes.

Identify and mitigate substandard fire safe housing and neighborhoods relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Consider diverse occupancies and their effects on wildfire protection (group housing, seasonal populations, transit-dependent, etc).

OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENTS

Identify critical natural resource values relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Include resource management activities to enhance protection of open space and natural resource values.

Integrate open space into fire safety planning and effectiveness.

Mitigation for unique pest, disease and other forest health issues leading to hazardous situations.

CIRCULATION ELEMENT

Provide adequate access to very high fire hazard severity zones.

Develop standards for evacuation of residential areas in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Incorporate a policy that provides for a fuel reduction maintenance program along roadways.