# General Plan Safety Element Assessment

# Board of Forestry and Fire Protection



June 2020

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#### **Purpose and Background**

Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, the safety element is required to be reviewed and updated as necessary to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3).)

The safety element is required to include:

- Fire hazard severity zone maps available from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- Any historical data on wildfires available from local agencies or a reference to where the data can be found.
- Information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey.
- The general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities. The location and distribution of planned uses of land shall not require defensible space compliance measures required by state law or local ordinance to occur on publicly owned lands or open space designations of homeowner associations.
- The local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(A).)

Based on that information, the safety element shall include goals, policies, and objectives that protect the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B).) To carry out those goals, policies, and objectives, feasible implementation measures shall be included in the safety element, which include but are not limited to:

- Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
- Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of high fire risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in the SRA or VHFHSZ.
- Designing adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in the SRA or VHFHSZ, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression.
- Working cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for fire protection. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(C).)

The safety element shall also attach or reference any fire safety plans or other documents adopted by the city or county that fulfill the goals and objectives or contains the information required above. (Gov. Code,  $\S$  65302, subd. (g)(3)(D).) This might include Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Unit Fire Plans, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, or other plans.

There are several reference documents developed by state agencies to assist local jurisdictions in updating their safety elements to include wildfire safety. The Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), referenced in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and available at

1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 322-2318

The Technical Advice Series is also available from the OPR website (**Technical Advice Series link**).\* The Technical Advice Series provides policy guidance, information resources, and fire hazard planning examples from around California that shall be considered by local jurisdictions when reviewing the safety element of its general plan.

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) utilizes this Safety Element Assessment in the Board's review of safety elements under Government Code section 65302.5. At least 90 days prior to the adoption or amendment of their safety element, counties that contain SRAs and cities or counties that contain VHFHSZs shall submit their safety element to the Board. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b).) The Board shall review the safety element and respond to the city or county with its findings regarding the uses of land and policies in SRAs or VHFHSZs that will protect life, property, and natural resources from

unreasonable risks associated with wildfires, and the methods and strategies for wildfire risk reduction and prevention within SRAs or VHFHSZs. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3).)

The CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team provides expert fire protection assistance to local jurisdictions statewide. Fire captains are available to work with cities and counties to revise their safety elements and enhance their strategic fire protection planning.

## **Methodology for Review and Recommendations**

Utilizing staff from the CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team, the Board has established a standardized method to review the safety element of general plans. The methodology includes

- 1) reviewing the safety element for the requirements in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3)(A),
- 2) examining the safety element for goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that mitigate the wildfire risk in the planning area (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B) & (C)), and
- 3) making recommendations for methods and strategies that would reduce the risk of wildfires (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3)(B)).

The safety element will be evaluated against the attached Assessment, which contains questions to determine if a safety element meets the fire safety planning requirements outlined in Government Code, section 65302. The reviewer will answer whether or not a submitted safety element addresses the required information, and will recommend changes to the safety element that will reduce the wildfire risk in the planning area. These recommended changes may come from the list of sample goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that is included in this document after the Assessment, or may be based on the reviewer's knowledge of the jurisdiction in question and their specific wildfire risk. By answering the questions in the Assessment, the reviewer will determine if the jurisdiction's safety element has adequately addressed and mitigated their wildfire risk. If it hasn't, any specific recommendations from the reviewer will assist the jurisdiction in revising the safety element so that it does.

Once completed, the Assessment should provide clear guidance to a city or county regarding any areas of deficiency in the safety element as well as specific goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures the Board recommends adopting in order to mitigate or reduce the wildfire threat in the planning area.

# **General Plan Safety Element Assessment**

Jurisdiction: Lake Elsinore	Notes: 2021 Formal	CAL FIRE Unit: RRU	Date Received: 08/16/2021
County: Riverside	LUPP Reviewer: Shelley Redden	UNIT CONTACT: Tyrell Davis	Date Reviewed:08/18/2021

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUMMARY**

/The safety element must contain specific background information about fire hazards in each jurisdiction.

Instructions for this table: Indicate whether the safety element includes the specified information. If YES, indicate in the comments where that information can be found; if NO, provide recommendations to the jurisdiction regarding how best to include that information in their revised safety element.

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are Fire Hazard Severity Zones Identified?  CAL FIRE or Locally Adopted Maps	Yes	Chapter 3, Figure 3.3-City of Lake Elsinore Wildfire Susceptibility
Is historical data on wildfires or a reference to where the data can be found, and information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey, included?	Yes	Chapter 3-Wildfire Hazards, Pages 3-9 to 3-12 discuss in length the historical fires that have occurred in the City of Lake Elsinore as well as a detailed map - Figure 3.2-City of Lake Elsinore Historical Fire Perimeters.
Has the general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities, been identified?	Yes	Chapter 3, Figure 3.4-City of Lake Elsinore Very High Fire Severity Zones and Existing Land Use (2019) as well as Figure 3.5- Very High Fire Severity Zones and Land Use Plan
Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified?	Yes	Chapter 3, Page 3-54, In section 3.8.1-Fire Protection speaks to the Cooperative Agreements and that the City of Lake Elsinore contracts with the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) through its Cooperative Fire Programs Fire Protection Reimbursement Agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), to provide the City with fire protection, hazardous materials mitigation, technical rescue response, fire marshal, medical emergency services, and public service assists.
Are other fire protection plans, such as Community Wildfire Protection Plans, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, CAL FIRE Unit or Contract County Fire Plans, referenced or incorporated into the Safety Element?	Yes	On September 11, 2018, the Lake Elsinore City Council adopted the Lake Elsinore Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to the Riverside County Operational Area Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. (Chapter 3.6.3, Page 3-34)  Chapter 3 (Page 3-60) Implementation Program: "The Emergency Services Division will review and update the Lake Elsinore Local

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Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) a minimum of every 5 years to update emergency response, evaluation plans and evacuation routes to reflect current conditions and community needs."
Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified?	Yes	Figure 3.9 City of Lake Elsinore Evacuation Routes Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Implementation Program: "The City shall work with developers to establish a Road and Bridge Benefit District (RBBD) or other funding mechanism to construct extensions of Summerhill Drive, La Strada and any other streets identified as needed to provide secondary/emergency access to existing development."
Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified?	Yes	Figure 3.9 City of Lake Elsinore Evacuation Routes Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Implementation Program: "The City shall work with developers to establish a Road and Bridge Benefit District (RBBD) or other funding mechanism to construct extensions of Summerhill Drive, La Strada and any other streets identified as needed to provide secondary/emergency access to existing development."

Is there any other information in the Safety Element regarding fire hazards in SRAs or VHFHSZs?

Yes

# 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 <u>Sample Safety Element Recommendations</u> and <u>Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan</u> 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	Yes	As stated in Policy 5.2 (Page 3-23) The City will require that all new
development standards that meet or		development located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) or
exceed title 14, CCR, division 1.5,		a State Responsibility Area (SRA), as most recently mapped by CAL FIRE,
chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5		comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and
(commencing with section 1270) (SRA		California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Lake Elsinore.
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?		
Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policies 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, and 5.6 Discuss the goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs. Additionally, the LHMP is incorporated by reference on Pages 3-35 and 3-58.
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) in Policy 5.2, the City sates it will require that all new development located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) or a State Responsibility Area (SRA), as most recently mapped by CAL FIRE, comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Lake Elsinore. Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.3 Also states that the city will establish fire resistant building techniques for new development such as non-combustible wall surfacing materials, fire-retardant treated wood, heavy timber

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Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		construction, glazing, enclosed materials and features, insulation without paper-facing, and automatic fire sprinklers. Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.5 Is a multi-point policy discussing how the new development in VHFSZs are required to prepare a Fire Protection Plan that will minimize risks.
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.9 States the City will locate new essential public facilities (e.g., health care facilities, emergency shelters, fire stations, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities) outside of very high fire hazard severity zones. If new essential public facilities are located in a state responsibility area or very high fire hazard zone, the facilities shall be constructed to meet or exceed the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code requirements, as adopted by the City, to allow them to continue to serve community needs during and after disaster events.
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	Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.2 Speaks to creating fuel modification zones around development within very high hazards within 100 feet of buildings and structures. The fuel modification zone size may be altered with the addition of fuel resistant building techniques. The fuel modification zone may be replanted with fire-resistive material for aesthetics and erosion control. Chapter 3 (Page 3-32) Policy 5.4 States that if new development is located in a state responsibility area or in a very high fire hazard severity zone, the City will require adequate infrastructure, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for fire suppression.
Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-24) Policy 5.7 Requires that all redevelopment of properties damaged or destroyed by a major wildfire comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Lake Elsinore.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-24) Policy 5.8 States that the City will perform an evaluation of fire-related development standards should a major wildfire require portions of the City be rebuilt to ensure that redevelopment standards are as fire-safe as reasonably possible.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-24) Implementation Program:  "The City shall condition projects to comply with Fire Department requirements."

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.2 States the City will require fuel modification zones are created around development within high hazard areas by thinning or clearing combustible vegetation within 100 feet of buildings and structures. The fuel modification zone size may be altered with the addition of fuel resistant building techniques. The fuel modification zone may be aesthetics and erosion control.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.6 Requires new development within VHFHSZs to enter into a long-term maintenance agreement for vegetation management in defensible space, fuel breaks, and roadside fuel reduction. As a project condition of approval, a copy of the executed agreement shall be provided to the City Fire Marshal and the Building and Safety Department.
Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.5 is a multi-point policy discussing how the new development in VHFSZs are required to prepare a Fire Protection Plan that will minimize risks.
Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.6 Requires new development within VHFHSZs to enter into a long-term maintenance agreement for vegetation management in defensible space, fuel breaks, and roadside fuel reduction. As a project condition of approval, a copy of the executed agreement shall be provided to the City Fire Marshal and the Building and Safety Department.
Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 53 Requires all new development to have at least two access roads in order to provide for concurrent safe access of emergency equipment and civilian evacuation.
Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 53 Requires all new development to have at least two access roads in order to provide for concurrent safe access of emergency equipment and civilian evacuation.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.2 Requires that all new development located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) or a State Responsibility Area (SRA), as most recently mapped by CAL FIRE, comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Lake Elsinore.
If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they	Yes	Figure 6.3 City of Lake Elsinore Evacuation Routes

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?		Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.7 Speaks of identify existing developed areas within the City that have reduced or limited circulation access and develop an evacuation plan, and recommended improvements to ensure adequate evacuation capabilities.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Implementation Program: "The City shall work with developers to establish a Road and Bridge Benefit District (RBBD) or other funding mechanism to construct extensions of Summerhill Drive, La Strada and any other streets identified as needed to provide secondary/emergency access to existing development".
Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.4 Speaks of encouraging programs that educate citizens about the threat of human wildfire origination from residential practices such as outdoor barbeques and from highway use such as cigarette littering.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-60) Policy 10.7 Speaks of conducting public outreach to provide education programs and literature to Lake Elsinore's residents, businesspeople and property owners on earthquake preparedness, fire safety, flooding hazards, other emergencies and identified emergency access routes.
Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.5 Speaks of creating emergency water supply procedures that identifies and maps existing and future reservoirs, tanks, and water wells for fire suppression and that allows for immediate access to those facilities when needed for fire suppression purposes.
Does new development have adequate fire protection?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Pages 3-54 to 3-55) In the section 3.8.1-Fire Protection, it is discussed in length the Cooperative agreements the City of Lake Elsinore have with the Riverside County Fire Department and CAL FIRE as well as providing a list of fire station inside and outside the City limits.  As stated in Policy 5.2 (Page 3-23) The City will require that all new development located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) or a State Responsibility Area (SRA), as most recently mapped by CAL FIRE, comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code, as adopted by the City of Lake Elsinore.

# 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	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Implementation Program: The City shall work with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District to maintain adequate water supply and fire flow, and identify areas lacking adequate water service for firefighting, including capacity for peak load under a reasonable worst-case wildland fire scenario, to be determined by CAL FIRE.
Location of anticipated water supply?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.5 Speaks of creating emergency water supply procedures that identifies and maps existing and future reservoirs, tanks, and water wells for fire suppression and that allows for immediate access to those facilities when needed for fire suppression purposes.
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Implementation Program: The City shall work with the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District to maintain adequate water supply and fire flow, and identify areas lacking adequate water service for firefighting, including capacity for peak load under a reasonable worst-case wildland fire scenario, to be determined by CAL FIRE.
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.3 Requires all new development to have at least two access roads in order to provide for concurrent safe access of emergency equipment and civilian evacuation.
Fuel modification and defensible space?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.1 Requires on-going brush clearance and establish low fuel landscaping policies to reduce combustible vegetation along the urban/wildland interface boundary.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.2 Speaks of creating fuel modification zones around development within high hazard areas by thinning or clearing combustible vegetation within 100 feet of buildings and structures. The fuel modification zone size may be altered with the addition of fuel resistant building techniques. The fuel modification zone may be aesthetics and erosion control.
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.1 Requires on-going brush clearance and establish low fuel landscaping policies to reduce combustible vegetation along the urban/wildland interface boundary.  Chapter 3 (Page 3-21) Policy 4.2 Speaks of creating fuel modification zones around development within high hazard areas by thinning or clearing combustible vegetation within 100 feet of buildings and structures. The fuel modification zone size may be altered with the addition of fuel resistant

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		building techniques. The fuel modification zone may be aesthetics and erosion control.
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-23) Policy 5.4 States that if new development is located in a state responsibility area or in a very high fire hazard severity zone, require adequate infrastructure, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for fire suppression.
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-24) Policy 5.6 Requires new development within VHFHSZs to enter into a long-term maintenance agreement for vegetation management in defensible space, fuel breaks, and roadside fuel reduction. The agreement shall specify who is responsible for maintenance of these areas and the fire safe standards that will be implemented. As a project condition of approval, a copy of the executed agreement shall be provided to the City Fire Marshal and the Building and Safety Department.

# 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?	Yes	Figure 3.2 City of Lake Elsinore Historical Perimeters also shows the existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-22) Policy 4.7 Speaks to coordinate with fire protection and emergency service providers and the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District to reassess fire hazards and future availability of water supplies, after wildfire events to adjust fire prevention and suppression needs, as necessary, for both short- and long-term fire prevention needs.
	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-60) Policy 10.5 Speaks of continuing to train Emergency Operations Center and general city staff in our Emergency Operations Plan and the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Incident Command System (ICS).  Chapter 3 (Page 3-60) Policy 10.6 Speaks to continue coordinated training for
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?		City Emergency Response Team members, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers, and related response agency personnel.

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
	Yes	Chapter 3 (Page 3-57) Policy 10.1 Speaks of maintaining participation in local,
Does the plan outline inter-agency		regional, state, and national mutual aid systems to ensure that appropriate
preparedness coordination and mutual		resources are available for response and recovery during and following a
aid multi-agency agreements?		disaster.
		LHMP and EOP are included by reference. (Page 3-35)

### **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.