General Plan Safety Element Assessment

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

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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, § 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](https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/Final_6.26.15.pdf)).\*

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 stafffrom 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: City of Brea | Notes: Formal review | CAL FIRE Unit: RRU | Date Received: 09/7/2021 |
| County: Orange | LUPP Reviewer: Raymond Martinez | UNIT CONTACT: Bratcher | Date Reviewed: 09/08/2021 |

## 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 | Figure 9, it includes the Fire Hazard Severity Zones and critical facilities. Page 6-35 |
| 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 | **New figures added:**  Figure 6. Historical Fires 1920 – 1979 PG 6-32  Figure 7. Historical Fires 1980 – 1999 PG 6-33  Figure 8. Historical Fires 2000 – 2020 PG6-34  **New text added:**  Page 6-27/28 Historically, wildfires have occurred in Carbon Canyon and in Chino Hills State Park. In 1926, lightning struck in the Union Oil fields and stared an oil fire that burned for one week and cost an estimated $7 million dollars. In 2008, the Freeway Complex Fire started as two separate fires: The Freeway Fire and the Landfill Fire, also known as the Brea Fire. The Freeway Fire ignited along the Riverside Freeway in the riverbed of the Santa Ana River in Corona and the Landfill Fire started near the 1900 block of Valencia Avenue in Brea, just south of the Olinda Landfill. The fires merged and destroyed residences in Olinda Ranch along Carbon Canyon Road in Brea. The fire burned over 30,000 acres and caused the closure of many schools, including those in the Brea Olinda Unified School District and approximately 40,000 people were evacuated from Anaheim, Carbon Canyon, Chino Hills, Corona, Diamond Bar, and Yorba Linda. Fires that occurred in and immediately surrounding Brea since the 1920’s are mapped in Figure 6, those that burned between 1980 and 1999 are shown in Figure 7 and those that occurred between 2000 and 2020 are displayed in Figure 8 The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) has identified Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) in Brea. VHFHSZs include the northernmost end of the city limits and north of East Lambert Road. Figure 9 shows the fire hazard severity zones and critical facilities in the city. |
| 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 | Figure 1 updated and new figure added:  Figure 1. Critical Facilities and Energy Utilities  Figure 2. Water and Wastewater Utilities Page 6-10-11 |
| Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified? | Yes | Updated text PG 6-37:  New development will create increased fire hazards due to higher levels of interactions between open grassland and residential development. The City will continue to reduce the potential for dangerous fires by coordinating with the Orange County Fire Agency and the Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council to implement fire hazard education, fire protection, and fuel modification programs, and to make sure that the city maintains sufficient emergency capacity, as described in the November 2015 County of Orange & Orange County Fire Authority Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, March 2017 Carbon Canyon Community Wildfire Protection Plan and April 2017 County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan covering Orange County, California. In addition, the city will work closely with the local water districts and the County to ensure that water pressure is adequate for fire-fighting purposes. Development proposals within high fire areas will be required to provide appropriate and adequate safeguards and response capabilities to prevent the loss of structures and to ensure established development does not experience reduced service. New development may be required to fund new fire facilities or equipment toward this end.  **New policy added PG 6-38:**  **Policy PS-6.5** Coordinate with the Orange County Fire Agency and the Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council to include Brea in development and maintenance of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan and investigate the possibility of preparing a plan component specific to the Brea community. |
| 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 | Updated text:6-37  New development will create increased fire hazards due to higher levels of interactions between open grassland and residential development. The City will continue to reduce the potential for dangerous fires by coordinating with the Orange County Fire Agency and the Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council to implement fire hazard education, fire protection, and fuel modification programs, and to make sure that the city maintains sufficient emergency capacity, as described in the November 2015 County of Orange & Orange County Fire Authority Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, March 2017 Carbon Canyon Community Wildfire Protection Plan and April 2017 County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan covering Orange County, California. In addition, the city will work closely with the local water districts and the County to ensure that water pressure is adequate for fire-fighting purposes. Development proposals within high fire areas will be required to provide appropriate and adequate safeguards and response capabilities to prevent the loss of structures and to ensure established development does not experience reduced service. New development may be required to fund new fire facilities or equipment toward this end.  New policy added:  Policy PS-6.5 Coordinate with the Orange County Fire Agency and the Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council to include Brea in development and maintenance of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan and investigate the possibility of preparing a plan component specific to the Brea community. |
| Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified? | Yes | Figure 10. Emergency Evacuation Access  Carbon Canyon Road and the 57 are critical for evacuation from many areas of the city. Wildfires and other hazards, such as flood events, can isolate areas of the city and create severe health and safety risks. Senate Bill 99, adopted August 2020, requires identification of neighborhoods that have fewer than two emergency evacuation routes. All neighborhoods in the city have more than one emergency evacuation route, however there are some neighborhoods located in north and east Brea which are of concern regarding emergency evacuation. These areas include Blackstone, Olinda Ranch, Olinda Village and south of Olinda Village, and Heritage Hills Neighborhood, shown in Figure 10. Page 6-35 Although each of these neighborhoods have at least two emergency evacuation routes, some areas within the neighborhood could be isolated in the event of a wildfire. Figure 10 shows the neighborhoods of concern and indicates their entry and exit points. The Safety Element includes a variety of policies to increase resilience to wildfire in the community, including in these neighborhoods of concern which are in or surrounded by Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. |
| Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified? | Yes | **New text added on page 6-31**  Assembly Bill 747, which will go into effect January 1, 2022, requires cities to evaluate route capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios. This requirement will be addressed in an annex to the City’s Emergency Operations Plan. The Emergency Operations Plan is a cooperative effort between all City of Brea departments and agencies that have an emergency response role. The Plan establishes a comprehensive framework of policy and guidance for emergency and disaster response operations. The Plan also details capabilities, authorities, and responsibilities for specific individuals, divisions, departments, agencies, and organizations within the City of Brea.  **New text added on page 6-37**  As of 2021, the City is beginning the process of developing the Brea Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which will address hazard vulnerabilities and identify mitigation actions that the City will pursue in order to reduce the level of injury, property damage, and community disruption from natural and human-made disasters. |

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

## 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 | Policy PS 6-21 Update the City’s development standards to be in conformance with title 14 CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulation).  Policy PS-6.23 Establish higher standards of defensible space for residential neighborhoods in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Page 6-39 |
| Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs? | Yes | New policy added: 6-38  Policy PS-6.8 Minimize new development in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone; and, when feasible, locate all new essential public facilities outside of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. |
| Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements? | Yes | **New policy updated (page 6-39/6-40)**  Policy PS-6.19 Require new development to meet or exceed hardening requirements in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code, and provide adequate access (ingress, egress), including a minimum of two roadways with widths and lengths in compliance with the City of Brea Ordinance 1211 under the Brea Municipal Code and applicable updates.). |
| Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible? | Yes | Policy PS-6.8 Minimize new development in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone; and, when feasible, locate all new essential public facilities outside of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. |
| 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 | **Updated policy (page 6-38)**  Policy PS-6.6 Minimize risks to existing development in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones by identifying existing non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard, and requiring all development to meet or exceed the City of Brea Ordinance 1211 under the Brea Municipal Code and applicable updates. |
| Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire? | Yes | Updated Policy PS-1.15:  Policy PS-1.14 Maintain and periodically update Emergency Management Plans, including the Emergency Operations Plan, which includes training policies and program for City staff and volunteers and disaster recovery efforts such as debris removal and evaluate post-disaster re-development options. |
| Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs? | Yes | **New policy added: Page 6-40**  Policy PS 6-20 Establish and maintain community fire breaks and fuel modification/reduction zones, including public and private road clearance.  Policy PS 6-21 Update the City’s development standards to be in conformance with title 14 CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulation).  Policy PS-6.23 Establish higher standards of defensible space for residential neighborhoods in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. |
| Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs? | Yes | **Policy PS-6.7 (page 6-38)**  Minimize new development in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone; and, when feasible, locate all new essential public facilities outside of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Require fire protection plans for new development in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. |
| Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance? | Yes | **New policy (page 6-40)**  Policy PS-6.20 Brea Fire and Brea Public Works to establish and maintain community fire breaks and fuel modification/reduction zones, including public and private road clearance in coordination with Brea Public Works and Brea Fire.  **Policy PS-6.21 (page 6-40)**  Policy PS-6.22 Update the City’s development standards to be in conformance with title 14 CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulation). |
| Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs? | Yes | **New policy updated (page 6-39/6-40)**  Policy PS-6.19 Require new development to meet or exceed hardening requirements in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code and provide adequate access (ingress, egress), including a minimum of two roadways with widths and lengths in compliance with the City of Brea Ordinance 1211 under the Brea Municipal Code and applicable updates. |
| Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined? | Yes | Updated Policy PS-6-9: page 6-38  (6-39)Policy PS-6.12 Plan transportation routes and transit systems, using contractors or City transit vehicles, that can support residents and visitors during evacuation situations, placing emphasis on vulnerable populations including the elderly, persons with chronic health conditions, and low-income and disadvantaged communities in the City.  Policy PS-6.13 Maintain and update an Evacuation Plan every 8 years at minimum to account for all types of emergencies.  New policies added:  (PG 6-39) Policy PS-6.14 Develop and employ evacuation alternatives and/or alternative emergency access routes in neighborhoods that have single ingress/egress.  Policy PS-6.15 Designate safety zones or shelter-in-place locations as places of refuge when evacuation routes become blocked. |
| If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified? | Yes | **New map added:**  Figure 10. Emergency Evacuation Access  **New text added:**  Carbon Canyon Road and the 57 are critical for evacuation from many areas of the city. Wildfires and other hazards, such as flood events, can isolate areas of the city and create severe health and safety risks. Senate Bill 99, adopted August 2020, requires identification of neighborhoods that have fewer than two emergency evacuation routes. All neighborhoods in the city have more than one emergency evacuation route, however there are some neighborhoods located in north and east Brea which are of concern regarding emergency evacuation. These areas include Blackstone, Olinda Ranch, Olinda Village and south of Olinda Village, and Heritage Hills Neighborhood, shown in Figure 10. Although each of these neighborhoods have at least two emergency evacuation routes, some areas within the neighborhood could be isolated in the event of a wildfire. Figure 10 shows the neighborhoods of concern and indicates their entry and exit points. The Safety Element includes a variety of policies to increase resilience to wildfire in the community, including in these neighborhoods of concern which are in or surrounded by Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. |
| Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations? | Yes | Updated Policy page 6-30)  Policy PS-6.22 Continue annual public information programs that explain the City’s Emergency Preparedness Program and other emergency preparedness strategies, including defensible space and evacuative routes, focusing on the most vulnerable communities such as those in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Other policies that address this topic (page 6-37 and page 6-38):  (PG6-38) Policy PS-6.19 Explore possible programs that would enable, encourage, or require landlords, property managers, and realtors to provide information to new tenants and new homeowners about emergency preparedness, evacuation routes, and home safety.  (PG-6-39) Policy PS-6.12 Plan transportation routes and transit systems, using contractors or City transit vehicles, that can support residents and visitors during evacuation situations, placing emphasis on vulnerable populations including the elderly, persons with chronic health conditions, and low-income and disadvantaged communities in the City. |
| Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs? | Yes | **New policy added: PG 6-39**  Policy PS-6.18 Prior to approval of new development in remote areas in Carbon Canyon and Olinda Village, the City will study the requirements of any new booster pumps, storage tanks, sprinklers, and additional water facilities to ensure adequate water pressure during peak demand. |
| Does new development have adequate fire protection? | Yes | **(PG 6-13)**  Policy PS-1.4 City Community Development to Work with the Brea Fire Department to determine and meet community needs for fire protection and related emergency services. Ensure that sufficient stations, personnel, and equipment are provided to meet growth needs in the City.  Policy PS-1.5 Maintain a maximum 4- to 6-minute emergency response time for fire safety services. Maintain a 3- to 5-minute response time from emergency police response services. Require that all new development be able to meet established standards for such response.  Policy PS-1.6 Impose special conditions as needed on development projects to ensure that adequate fire protection measures are in place and maintained. |

### 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 | **Page 6-7** of the plan discusses the fire-flow analysis which assesses the ability of the water system to meet fire flows throughout the planning area while also providing maximum day demands. The plan further discusses the city will study increased booster pumps, storage tanks, and water facilities prior to new development approval in the carbon canyon region where a potential pressure issue was identified. |
| Location of anticipated water supply? | Yes | **New policies added: PG 6-39**  Policy PS-6.17 Public Works Water Division to support the provision of adequate water availability throughout the City and provision of adequate water storage to meet future peak fire demand during times of peak domestic demands.  Policy PS-6.18 Prior to approval of new development in remote areas in Carbon Canyon and Olinda Village, the City will study the requirements of any new booster pumps, storage tanks, sprinklers, and additional water facilities to ensure adequate water pressure during peak demand. |
| Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies? | Yes | New policy added:  Policy PS-6.17 Public Works Water Division to support the provision of adequate water availability throughout the City and provision of adequate water storage to meet future peak fire demand during times of peak domestic demands. |
| Evacuation and emergency vehicle access? | Yes | **Updated Policy (page 6-39)**  Policy PS-6.12 Plan transportation routes and transit systems, using contractors or City transit vehicles, that can support residents and visitors during evacuation situations, placing emphasis on vulnerable populations including the elderly, persons with chronic health conditions, and low-income and disadvantaged communities in the City.  **New policy added (page 6-39):**  Policy PS-6.16 Maintain emergency roadways and improve them as necessary and appropriate to ensure ongoing serviceability.  **Updated Policy (page 6-39)**  Policy PS-6.12 Plan transportation routes and transit systems, using contractors or City transit vehicles, that can support residents and visitors during evacuation situations, placing emphasis on vulnerable populations including the elderly, persons with chronic health conditions, and low-income and disadvantaged communities in the City.  Policy PS-6.13 Maintain and update an Evacuation Plan every 8 years at minimum to account for all types of emergencies.  **New policies added (page 6-39):**  Policy PS-6.14 Develop and employ evacuation alternatives and/or alternative emergency access routes in neighborhoods that have single ingress/egress.  Policy PS-6.15 Designate safety zones or shelter-in-place locations as places of refuge when evacuation routes become blocked.  Figure 10. Emergency Evacuation Access (page 6-36) |
| Fuel modification and defensible space? | Yes | Policy PS-6.20 Brea Fire and Brea Public Works to establish and maintain community fire breaks and fuel modification/reduction zones, including public and private road clearance in coordination with Brea Public Works and Brea Fire.).  Policy PS-6.22 Continue annual public information programs that explain the City’s Emergency Preparedness Program and other emergency preparedness strategies, including defensible space and evacuative routes, focusing on the most vulnerable communities such as those in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.  Policy PS-6.23 Establish higher standards of defensible space for residential neighborhoods in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. |
| Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads? | Yes | **New policy added:**  Policy PS-6.20 Brea Fire and Brea Public Works to establish and maintain community fire breaks and fuel modification/reduction zones, including public and private road clearance in coordination with Brea Public Works and Brea Fire.). |
| Visible home and street addressing and signage? | Yes | **New policy added:**  Policy PS-6.24 Require that all homes and businesses have visible street addressing and signage. |
| Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained? | Yes | **New policy added (page 6-40):**  Policy PS 6-20 Brea Fire and Public Works to establish and maintain community fire breaks and fuel modification/reduction zones, including public and private road clearance. |

### Section 3Working 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 | New text added:  Figure 1, 2 Page 6-10,11 shows the location and distribution of critical facilities, including fire and police stations, and energy utility lines. Brea Fire, which has four stations strategically located across the city, is an all-hazard agency with personnel trained to tackle a variety of incidents including fires, police assists, and powerline problems. Figure 2 Page 6-10 shows the location of water and wastewater utilities in the city. No areas in Brea have been identified as lacking emergency service.  Text page 6-7 |
| Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs? | Yes | **Added new policy PG 6-40**  Policy PS-6.26 Complete and periodically update the Standards of Cover assessment to assess current emergency service and project future emergency service needs. Update the Emergency Operations Plan as needed based on the results of the assessment. |
| Are goals or standards for emergency services training described? | Yes | **Updated Policy PS-1.14 (page 6-14):**  Policy PS-1.14 Maintain and periodically update Emergency Management Plans, including the Emergency Operations Plan, which includes training for City staff and volunteers on disaster recovery efforts such as debris removal and evaluating post-disaster re-development options. Each Brea Firefighter must complete 192 hours of annual training based upon ISO and OSHA requirements. |
| Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements? | Yes | **New text added:**  Brea Fire works with the Orange County fire service during emergencies and participates in the California mutual aid system. Mutual aid is emergency assistance that is dispatched upon request across jurisdictional boundaries.  **New policy added: PG 6-40**  Policy PS-6.25 Maintain mutual aid agreement with the State including for disaster response and evacuation assistance. |

# 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.