

A. Planning Process

Note: Meeting minutes, sign-in sheets, and other supporting documents to described activities are provided for State and federal reviewers in Attachment 1: *Documentation*.

A.1 Plan Development Process

Planning Process Overview

The City of Berkeley's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan was originally adopted by the City Council on June 22, 2004, following a process that built on years of disaster mitigation activities. An update to the Plan was adopted on December 16, 2014 and again on December 20, 2019. To create the 2024 LHMP update, Berkeley followed the same multi-phased, broadly-inclusive process used to update the Plan in 2019.

LHMP Kickoff Meeting and Formation of Core Planning Team

On June 20, 2023 the City of Berkeley kicked off the 2024 LHMP Planning Process by convening a Core Planning Team made up of City Staff representing the many departments and divisions most involved in mitigation efforts. The Core Planning Team met monthly throughout the development process. The Core Planning Team included the following City Staff:

- Jamie Albrecht, Emergency Services Coordinator, Office of Emergency Services
- Galadriel Burr, Community Services Specialist, Building and Safety
- Zoe Covello, Assistant Planner, Land Use Division

- Scott Ferris, Director, Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront
- Dan Green, Assistant Fire Chief, Wildland Urban Interface Division
- Ashley James, Senior Planner, Land Use Division
- Ruth Raisner, Health Services Program Special, Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Meagan Jones, Health Services Program Specialist, Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Sarah Lana, Emergency Services Manager, Office of Emergency Services
- Sarah Moore, Community Services Specialists, Office of Energy and Sustainable Development
- Steve Riggs, Fire Marshal, Fire Department

Development of First Draft Plan

Throughout 2023 and in early 2024, the Project Manager collaborated with numerous City staff, hazard experts, and community partners to update the plan's hazard analysis, progress on 2019 actions, and to develop the 2024 mitigation strategy. During this time City leaders provided guidance to the Project Manager through participation in the Core Planning Team. As the Project Team developed the First Draft 2024 LHMP, they engaged key partners and community members to update hazard and risk assessments and mitigation initiatives in the Plan, including the new section in the hazard analysis on mitigating individual and household risk for each hazard. The Core Planning Team worked with key partners to identify opportunities for collaboration on new Actions in the 2024 mitigation strategy.

The list of City Staff and hazard expert representatives as well documentation of their

participation is in the Appendix.

Public Review of First Draft Plan

In May 2024, the City posted the First Draft Plan on the City website for review and comment by the Berkeley community. All of the City's commissions were invited to provide feedback on the Plan. The Project Manager presented the First Draft Plan to the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission and Planning Commission, offering an opportunity for feedback from Commissioners and community members. The City also offered to meet with Council Members one-on-one to discuss the Plan and hear their feedback.

To support and encourage community members to provide asynchronous feedback, the City posted created short videos introducing Risk Assessment content in an accessible and short format. These videos are accompanied by an email address where community members can share their ideas.

The City also held two First Draft Plan Workshops, offering the public an opportunity to engage in person with staff on the Plan's content. The Workshops included a short presentation introducing the Plan and then an opportunity to comment on poster boards describing each hazard in the First Draft Plan.

This public review process is considered a key step in the City Council's adoption of the 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. See Element F: *Plan Adoption* for details on the public review process.

A.2 Stakeholder Engagement

In August 2023, the Core Planning Team invited Community Partners to help develop the First Draft 2024 LHMP. Community Partners included local and regional agencies, neighboring communities, representatives from business, academia, and other organizations, as well as local non-profit and community groups. Each Community Partner was asked via email to submit their risk assessment information, mitigation strategy approaches, successes, and ideas for collaboration. The City incorporated this feedback into the Plan.

The Project Manager collaborated with these agencies to include detailed information about partners' hazard and risk assessments and mitigation initiatives in the hazard analysis section of the Plan. Additionally, Community Partners were invited to review and provide comment on proposed actions as part of the process to develop the First Draft 2024 LHMP. The list of Community Partner representatives as well documentation of their invitation to participate is in the Appendix.

Community Partners are also invited to provide feedback on the First Draft Plan as part of the public process.

A.3 Public Engagement during Drafting Stage

In order to involve the public early in the mitigation planning process, the City of Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services spoke to people about the Plan at community events, like National Night Out. Questions focused on top hazards of concern and how community members can take mitigation and preparedness actions to reduce risk.

The Office of Emergency Services also hosted three community workshops focused on offering the public mitigation actions that could easily take as well as collecting input into the Plan. These workshops included one on all Berkeley's Hazards in central Berkeley, one on Tsunamis at the waterfront, and a Winter Weather Workshop held in north Berkeley.

This public engagement led to the decision to remove climate change as its own standalone hazard and instead integrate it more thoroughly into each hazard of concern. Many community members expressed that it didn't make sense to have it so separate from the other hazards. Climate change is now more of framing discussion throughout each hazard section.

A.4 Update of Technical Information

The Project Manager worked with City staff, hazard experts, and community partners to update information in the Risk Assessment, accounting for new scientific research on hazards that could affect Berkeley, their areas of exposure and their potential impacts.

The Endnotes Section of the Element B: *Risk Assessment* provides a detailed listing of technical information incorporated into the plan.