

REPORT TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

DATE ISSUED: May 7, 2026

MEETING DATE: May 20, 2026 AGENDA
ITEM: 11

PROJECT NUMBER: PRJ2025-004464

PROJECT NAME: General Plan Safety Element Amendment: Incorporation of
2025 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

PLAN NUMBER(S): General Plan Amendment No. RPPL2025003809
Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2025003811

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 1-5

PROJECT LOCATION: Countywide

PROJECT PLANNER: Christina Tran, Senior Planner
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RECOMMENDATION

LA County Planning staff (“staff”) recommends that the Regional Planning Commission (“Commission”) adopt the attached resolution (Exhibit A) recommending approval to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (“Board”) of the General Plan Safety Element Amendment: Incorporation of the 2025 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, General Plan Amendment No. RPPL2025003809.

Staff recommends the following motion:

I MOVE THAT THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FIND THAT THE GENERAL PLAN SAFETY ELEMENT AMENDMENT IS NOT A PROJECT UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (“CEQA”), WITH ALTERNATIVE FINDINGS THAT, IF THE ACTION WERE CONSIDERED A PROJECT UNDER CEQA, IT IS STATUTORILY EXEMPT AND ALSO QUALIFIES FOR THE COMMON SENSE EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO STATE AND LOCAL CEQA GUIDELINES; AND APPROVE THE GENERAL PLAN SAFETY ELEMENT AMENDMENT, GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. RPPL2025003809.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Summary

Project No. PRJ2025-004464 is a General Plan Amendment to incorporate by reference, via resolution, the 2025 County of Los Angeles All-Hazards Mitigation Plan (“2025 AHMP”) (Exhibit C) into the Safety Element of the General Plan pursuant to Assembly Bill 2140 (“AB 2140”).

The amendment is limited to incorporation by reference and does not modify the existing Safety Element (Exhibit B), including goals, policies, maps, figures, or technical data. The amendment does not approve or authorize any specific projects.

B. Project Background

The Safety Element is a mandatory element of the General Plan that serves as the policy guide to reduce the potential risks to life, property, economic activity, and social dislocation resulting from natural, human-caused, and climate-induced hazards in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County (“County”).

The Safety Element works in coordination with the County’s Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (“OAEOP”) and the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan (“AHMP”), which are prepared and maintained by the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office – Office of Emergency Management (“CEO-OEM”). The 2025 AHMP provides a comprehensive framework to identify, assess, and reduce risks from natural and human-caused hazards within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. It includes updated community profiles, risk and vulnerability assessments, mitigation goals and actions, and addresses the impacts of climate change. The Safety Element currently references these plans and provides a link for public access to the latest versions of these plans. Therefore, no revisions to the Safety Element are required in order to incorporate the 2025 AHMP by reference into the Safety Element.

The federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“DMA”) requires local jurisdictions to adopt and maintain a current local hazard mitigation plan that is approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) in order to remain eligible for federal hazard mitigation assistance programs. On September 9, 2025, the Board adopted the 2025 AHMP and directed the Department of Regional Planning (“Department”), in coordination with CEO-OEM, to process a Safety Element amendment to incorporate the 2025 AHMP following FEMA’s final approval, and return to the Board for adoption. FEMA issued its final approval on September 16, 2025, maintaining the County’s eligibility for federal hazard mitigation assistance programs.

At the State level, AB 2140 encourages local jurisdictions to incorporate a FEMA-approved local hazard mitigation plan into the Safety Element of their General Plan in order to be eligible for State cost-share funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act (“CDAA”). The proposed amendment

implements prior Board direction to formally incorporate by reference the FEMA-approved 2025 AHMP into the Safety Element in accordance with AB 2140 and enable the County to be eligible for State funding.

ANALYSIS

A. General Plan Consistency

The proposed amendment is consistent with the General Plan, including the Safety Element, because it does not modify or conflict with the goals and policies of any General Plan element.

The 2025 AHMP supports risk reduction, emergency preparedness, and resilience planning. The 2025 AHMP aligns with the Safety Element's overarching purpose to reduce risks associated with natural, human-caused, and climate-induced hazards. Incorporating the 2025 AHMP into the Safety Element promotes consistency with the County's overall hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness planning.

The proposed amendment also implements Safety Element Policy S-7.8 (Adopt by reference the County of Los Angeles All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, as amended), which explicitly calls for the incorporation of the County's AHMP, as amended. In addition, it is consistent with Safety Element Goal S-7 (Effective County emergency response management capabilities) because incorporation of the AHMP promotes consistency and supports the County's framework for emergency management and preparedness functions.

B. Consistency With Airport Land Use Plan

Pursuant to Section 1.5.1 of the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) Review Procedures, all General Plan amendments must be reviewed by ALUC for consistency with the County Airport Land Use Plan (ALUP) if the amendment includes areas within an airport influence area. The proposed amendment is an administrative action to formally incorporate by reference the 2025 AHMP into the Safety Element of the General Plan. It does not modify land use designations, development standards, or other land use regulations. Additionally, the amendment does not approve or authorize any specific projects and does not affect airport influence areas. The ALUC Administrative Officer reviewed the proposed amendment and determined that the action is consistent and compatible with the ALUP.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

The proposed amendment is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21065 and State CEQA Guidelines § 15378(b)(5) because it does not constitute a project under CEQA, as it is an administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. The amendment is limited to incorporation by reference of the already adopted and FEMA-approved 2025 AHMP and does not modify the Safety Element or approve or authorize any

specific projects. Any future projects implemented pursuant to the 2025 AHMP will be reviewed separately for CEQA compliance prior to approval.

In the alternative, if the action were considered a project under CEQA, it is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080(b)(4) and State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(c), as a specific action necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency, because it supports the County's long-range emergency preparedness and hazard mitigation planning framework. The action also qualifies for the common sense exemption pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

A. County Department and Agency Coordination

Staff coordinated with CEO-OEM regarding the proposed amendment and the approach for incorporating the 2025 AHMP into the Safety Element by reference. As part of this coordination, CEO-OEM communicated with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), which confirmed that the current Safety Element language referencing the AHMP is sufficient to satisfy AB 2140 requirements. Based on this confirmation, no revisions to the Safety Element are necessary to incorporate the 2025 AHMP by reference.

Prior to adoption of the 2025 AHMP by the Board, extensive outreach had been conducted by the CEO-OEM. Key efforts included:

- **Public Survey Distribution**
 - Countywide hazard mitigation survey to gather community input on risks, priorities, and mitigation strategies
 - Supported both general public and targeted populations
 - Hosted on County websites
- **Targeted AFN Outreach**
 - Flyers and materials distributed to AFN communities and partner organizations
 - Coordination with disability service providers, regional centers, and community-based organizations
- **Stakeholder and Partner Engagement**
 - Coordination with County departments, cities, special districts, NGOs, and private sector partners
 - Engagement through planning meetings, workshops, and interagency coordination within the planning process
- **Public Meetings / Workshops**
 - Opportunities for community members to provide input and review plan components on a virtual format to reach a wide audience

- **Digital and Online Outreach**
 - Use of County websites and online platforms to share information and collect feedback
 - Public-facing materials explaining hazards and mitigation concepts
- **Social Media and Communications**
 - Posts and announcements to increase awareness and drive participation in surveys and meetings
- **Planning Committee / Steering Committee Process**
 - Inclusion of multi-disciplinary stakeholders in the planning process to represent diverse community interests

B. State Agency Consultation

For the purpose of updating the Safety Element with the reference to this updated 2025 AHMP, and consistent with State requirements, staff also consulted with relevant State agencies. Project notification materials were sent to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Department of Conservation, and Cal OES on November 10, 2025. A separate notification was sent to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection — Land Use Planning Program on November 26, 2025.

CAL FIRE issued an informal General Plan Safety Element Assessment on November 24, 2025, with no suggested revisions. The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection subsequently provided its final Safety Element Assessment on January 13, 2026, also with no recommendations.

C. Tribal Notification (Senate Bill 18)

Pursuant to Senate Bill 18 (Government Code Section 65352.3), the County notified California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission of the proposed General Plan Safety Element Amendment on September 18, 2025. Tribes were provided a 90-day period to request consultation regarding potential impacts to tribal cultural resources. The County received responses from two tribes indicating no concerns with the proposed amendment and did not request consultation.

D. Public Review and Hearing

A 30-day public review period was provided prior to the noticed Regional Planning Commission hearing on May 20, 2026. The RPC public hearing notice (Exhibit D) was published in 15 local newspapers, mailed and emailed to interested parties on the Department's courtesy lists, and sent to the Department's field offices and 89 libraries. The hearing notice was also posted on the Department's website along with other project materials.

E. Public Comments

At the time of this report preparation, staff received two email inquiries requesting clarification regarding outreach and community input opportunities associated with the development of the 2025 AHMP. A copy of the correspondence is provided as Exhibit E.

Report

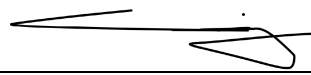
Reviewed By:



Patricia L. Hachiya, AICP, Supervising Regional Planner

Report

Approved By:



Connie Chung, AICP, Deputy Director

LIST OF ATTACHED EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT A	Draft Resolution of the Regional Planning Commission
EXHIBIT B	Safety Element (No Modification)
EXHIBIT C	2025 AHMP
EXHIBIT D	Notice of Public Hearing
EXHIBIT E	Public Correspondence