

AGENDA

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2013
2 P.M.

Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

AGENDA DESCRIPTION: The agenda descriptions are intended to give notice, to members of the public, of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Any person wishing to address the Public Safety Committee on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, may do so under the appropriate section of the agenda. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing (12 copies) and only pertinent points presented orally. Requests to speak to items on the agenda shall be heard at the appropriate point on the agenda; requests to speak about subjects not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment section of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. General Plan Safety Element Update (attachments)

Staff and consultants will discuss and solicit input on an update of the City's General Plan Safety Element.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss and provide input.

IV. STAFF AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Safety Project Updates and General Information

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURN

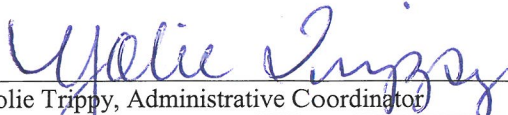
The next regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be at 2 p.m. on November 12, 2013, at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Meetings may be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (949) 639-0500 (Voice) or, TDD (949) 639-0535 or the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 if you have a TDD or (800) 735-2922 if you do not have a TDD. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting should enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

AGENDA: The Public Safety Committee agenda and agenda back-up materials are available from the Office of the City Clerk, after 4:30 p.m., on the Friday prior to the Public Safety Committee meeting. The office of the City Clerk is located at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Copies of the agenda are provided at no cost. Agenda back-up materials are available at City Hall for inspection and copies are available at no charge prior to the meeting. A per page copy cost does apply after the meeting. If you wish to be added to the e-mail or regular mail list to receive a copy of the agenda, a request must be made to the City Clerk in writing. Copies of the agenda are mailed only if stamped, self-addressed envelopes are provided. The City of Laguna Woods mailing address is 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Phone: (949) 639-0500, FAX (949) 639-0591.

I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda at the locations designated by Resolution 02-33.

10-4-13
Date


Yolie Trippy, Administrative Coordinator

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Recap

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 13, 2013
2 PM

Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Monin called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Monin, Brauer, Chodash, Horne, Mathews, Rook, Verrall,
Watkins, Whitehead

Absent: Ohrn

III. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. "No Right Turn on Red Light" Restrictions (attachments)

Assistant City Manager Reilly provided information on issues related to existing and potential No Right Turn on Red Light (NRTRL) restrictions affecting El Toro Road, Moulton Parkway, and Santa Maria Avenue. He introduced the City's Engineer and Traffic Engineer, Akram Hindiye, who gave a presentation about traffic safety laws, rules and practices regarding establishment of NRTRL restrictions and the restriction for vehicles heading south on Avenida Sevilla to make right turns onto westbound El Toro Road. He showed that by moving the crosswalk on Avenida Sevilla south by approximately five feet, line of sight would be improved sufficiently so that he is recommending elimination of the NRTRL restriction at this location. Mr. Reilly and Mr. Hindiye responded to questions.

The Committee heard comments from residents in the audience, all of whom supported removal of the NRTRL restriction at this location, and who offered suggestions that ranged from removing all NRTRL restrictions to adding a restriction for northbound Home Depot Center Drive to eastbound El Toro Road.

Upon further discussion by Committee members, the Committee voted eight to one to recommend that the City Council authorize the adjustment of the north side Avenida Sevilla crosswalk on El Toro Road and the removal of the “no right turn on red light” restriction for southbound Avenida Sevilla traffic turning right onto westbound El Toro Road.

IV. STAFF AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Safety Project Updates and General Information

Assistant City Manager Douglas Reilly updated Committee members on various capital improvement projects, including the widening of El Toro Road at Aliso Creek Road, which was recently completed, the Moulton Smart Street Phase 2 Project, which is underway, the El Toro Road Reconstruction Project, which will widen the south sidewalk to allow for golf carts, with City Council approval, from Calle Sonora to the Village Equestrian Center entrance, and installation of a stormdrain at City Hall to prevent future flooding of the first floor of City Hall.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURN

The next regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be at 2 p.m. on September 10, 2013, at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Meetings may be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Recap

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 10, 2013
2 P.M.

Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ohrn called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Brauer, Chodash, Horne, Mathews, Ohrn, Rook, Verrall,
Whitehead

Absent: Monin, Watkins

III. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. General Plan Safety Element Update

City Manager Macon introduced Jeff Henderson, Aaron Pfannenstiel, and Corinne Bartshire, planning consultants assisting with the General Plan Safety Element Update project. Staff and consultants provided information on the project and solicited input on related issues.

Committee members provided the following input:

- The Golden Rain Foundation has approved a Recreation Master Plan that should be considered as necessary.
- The challenges of evacuating individuals with disabilities from multi-story buildings should be considered.
- The possibility of actions to reduce liquefaction hazards should be considered (e.g., water pumping).

- The ability for fire response vehicles to access residential areas is a concern due to road widths and on-street parking.
- Nuclear hazards should be considered.
- Prolonged smog days and degraded air quality impacts should be considered particularly in light of local demographics.
- Vehicular traffic hazards (notably accidents at intersections and the visibility of signage) should be considered.
- Lime green signage may be advisable for both caution signs and fire response vehicles due to its enhanced visibility.
- Water supply interruptions, particularly due to Laguna Woods' reliance on imported water, should be considered.
- The City's participation in the federal National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) should be recognized.

IV. STAFF AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Safety Project Updates and General Information

City Manager Macon provided information on Southern California Edison's recent attempt to conduct a planned power outage during high heat conditions and the City's upcoming free flu shot clinic/emergency preparedness exercise and regional test of AlertOC.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VII. ADJOURN

The next regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be at 2 p.m. on October 8, 2013, at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Meetings may be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

City of Laguna Woods Agenda Report

DATE: October 8, 2013 Public Safety Committee Meeting
TO: Chair and Members of the Public Safety Committee
FROM: Christopher Macon, City Manager
AGENDA ITEM: General Plan Safety Element Update

Recommendation

Discuss and provide input.

Background

In 2011, the City was awarded a grant of \$250,000 from the State of California's Disaster Recovery Initiative (DRI) for a variety of disaster planning projects. One of those projects is an update of the City's General Plan Safety Element.

State law requires the City to adopt and maintain a General Plan "for the physical development of the... city." General Plans are required to address a minimum of seven elements – land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. The City's existing Safety Element was adopted in 2002.

The City is contracting with PMC, a San Diego-based consulting firm, for a variety of Safety Element-related services. PMC was selected after a competitive proposal process and has substantial experience preparing General Plans and environmental compliance documents for cities such as Chico, Eastvale, and San Mateo.

Discussion

On September 10, 2013, the Public Safety Committee received an introduction to the City's General Plan Safety Element Update project. Today's meeting will focus on potential goals, policy objectives, and implementation actions for inclusion in the updated Safety Element. A workbook is attached to this agenda report to help guide the discussion. Instructions are included on page two of the workbook.

The City is providing numerous opportunities for public participation throughout the course of this project, including at the following public meetings:

MEETING	DESCRIPTION
Public Safety Committee Tuesday, September 10 at 2 p.m. ✓	Kickoff and project overview
Public Safety Committee Tuesday, October 8 at 2 p.m.	Review/discuss goals and policies
Public Safety Committee Tuesday, November 12 at 2 p.m.	Progress update/review draft
Public Safety Committee Tuesday, December 10 at 2 p.m.	Recommendation to City Council
City Council (Public Hearing) Wednesday, December 18 at 2 p.m.	Consideration of adoption

In addition, this project will require California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, including preparation of an Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The Negative Declaration will be circulated for public review and comment over a 30-day period tentatively scheduled for November 2013.

Fiscal Impact

Costs associated with the General Plan Safety Element Update (\$55,000 estimate) will be reimbursed by the State of California's Disaster Recovery Initiative.

Conclusion

The General Plan Safety Element is a critical and State-mandated long-term plan to reduce the potentially detrimental impacts of local hazards. This project leverages grant funding to complete a comprehensive update of the City's Safety Element.

Attachment: Safety Element Workbook

Safety Element Workbook

City of Laguna Woods Safety Element Workbook

The purpose of this workbook is to assist the Public Safety Committee through the development of goals and policy objectives for the Safety Element Update.

General Plan Context

The following table has been provided to provide readers context of the terminology that will be used and discussed within this workbook:

Goals, Policy Objectives, and Implementation Actions
Goal: A general statement of desired community outcome.
Goals identified in this document are based on the goals outlined in the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Where appropriate/necessary they have been modified to better align with the statutory requirements of the Safety Element update.
Policy Objective: A specific commitment by the City to support decisions and actions consistent with the stated goal.
Policy objectives serve as guides to the City Council and City staff when reviewing development proposals and making other decisions that affect future growth, conservation, and development. Policy objectives in this document are generally based on the objectives outlined in the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Where appropriate or necessary, they have been modified to better align with statutory requirements for the Safety Element.
Implementation Actions: A list of recommended actions necessary to achieve stated goals and policy objectives.
Implementation actions in this document are based on the mitigation projects outlined in the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Where appropriate/necessary they have been modified to better align with the statutory requirements of the Safety Element update.

Safety Element Workbook

Instructions

To facilitate an effective review and discussion of the Goals, Policy Objectives, and Implementation Actions, the following guidance has been provided:

- 1) Read the draft Issue Statements and recommended Goals, Policy Objectives, and Implementation Actions.
- 2) In the comment areas provided:
 - a. Add additional thoughts or comments you have regarding the recommended text.
 - b. Identify new goals, policy objectives, and/or implementation actions that apply to the issues identified.
 - c. Indicate if any goals, policy objectives, and/or implementation actions should be deleted from the Safety Element Update.

Notes

Goals, policy objectives, and recommended actions within this workbook are a work in progress and subject to change.

Maps corresponding to the issue statements within this workbook will be available for discussion at the October 8 Public Safety Committee meeting.

Safety Element Workbook

FLOOD HAZARDS

Issue Statement: Flooding due to severe storms or failure of water system infrastructure could cause loss of life, personal injury, and property damage. If roads become impassable, economic or civic processes may be disrupted. Floods and storms are considered to pose a moderate risk to the city with high probability and medium impacts.

Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) delineate the areas in the city with a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in a given year. These areas, defined as Zone A and Zone AE, are shown in the accompanying figure.

Other areas that are subject to flooding in the city are identified by historic occurrences of flooding and/or storm inundation, such as City Hall. In addition, the failure of any of the following El Toro Water District (ETWD) facilities could cause localized flooding within the city:

- Four reservoirs (water tanks) with a total maximum capacity of 10 million gallons of potable water; two are located northwest of the intersection of El Toro Road and Moulton Parkway and two are located in the gated community of Laguna Woods Village.
- Rossmoor #2 (Effluent Holding Pond), a dam/reservoir located southeast of the intersection of Moulton Parkway and Ridge Route Drive. Rossmoor #2 is in a Zone A SFHA and not subject to State dam inundation mapping regulations.
- Veeh Reservoir, located in the City of Laguna Hills just north of the city, is located in a Zone A SFHA.

The Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD) owns and operates a reservoir (water tank) in the City of Aliso Viejo just south of the intersection of El Toro Road and Aliso Creek Road. Failure of this reservoir could cause flooding on El Toro Road and in the lower portions of Woods End Wilderness Park.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Goal 1: *Protect residents, businesses, and government functions from flood related hazards.*

Safety Element Workbook

Comments/Suggested Revisions:	
Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
1.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of flood hazards.	A. Provide public information regarding flood prevention and safety.
1.2. Adopt and enforce regulations to reduce flood risk pertaining to new and existing structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Review and update flood-related building ordinances and policies, as necessary. B. Review and update flood-related zoning ordinances and policies, as necessary. C. Adopt an ordinance prohibiting invasive plant species within the city.
1.3. Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	A. Maintain and enforce a floodplain management ordinance.
1.4. Promote flood mitigation and infrastructure improvements within new development and redevelopment throughout the city.	A. Identify flood mitigation projects for inclusion in the City's Capital Improvements Program that reduce flood hazards and risks to residents and businesses throughout the city.
Others?	Others?

Safety Element Workbook

FIRE HAZARDS

Issue Statement: Wildfires in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) area that borders the westernmost edge of the city could cause loss of life, personal injury, economic disruption, and extensive property damage. Laguna Woods' WUI is composed of residential and open space land uses including 2,564 residential dwelling units (an estimated 3,641 residents) within Laguna Woods Village. Critical infrastructure is also located within this area. Wildfires are considered to pose a very significant risk to the city with high probability and impacts.

The accompanying figure identifies the location of three fire hazard severity zones within the WUI as designated by the City Council in 2012. The Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone was identified by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal FIRE), while the High and Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones were identified by the Orange County Fire Authority based on an assessment of vegetation, slope, fire history, weather patterns, and the impact of flames, heat, and flying fire embers. Collectively, these areas face the highest risk of wildfires within the city.

Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone: an area designated by the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal FIRE) pursuant to California Government Code Section 51178 that is not a state responsibility area. The designation is based on fuel loading, slope, fire weather, and other relevant factors¹.

- Location: Generally between Santa Maria Avenue and El Toro Road, west of Algarrobo, Calle Azul, Monte Hermosa, and Avenida Sosiega, and south of Calle Corta, including the Woods End Wilderness Preserve.
- Dwelling units: 856 (19 single family homes, 837 multi-family units)
- Facilities: Nine (9) Laguna Woods Village gatehouses, and Laguna Woods Village Clubhouse #6
- Critical infrastructure: El Toro Water District Pump Station P-3/Reservoir R-3, Southern California Edison Electrical Transmission Lines

High Fire Hazard Severity Zone: an area designated by the City to be at significant risk from wildfire and within the responsible area of the local jurisdiction for fire protections and services².

- Location: Laguna Laurel; portions generally north of Santa Maria Avenue in the vicinity of Cantante, Avenida Del Sol, Pina, Moya, Brazo, Tero, Ovalo, Jardin, Elvira, Duenas, and Avenida Despacio; portions generally north of El Toro Road, Calle Corta, and Monte Hermosa, west of San Amadeo and Avenida Sosiega, and east of Calle Azul, and Algarrobo.
- Dwelling units: 861 (215 single family homes, 646 multi-family units)
- Facilities: Laguna Woods Village Clubhouse #5

¹ http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/downloads/GovernmentCode51175.pdf

² Definition per City Ordinance No. 12-02 passed on February 15, 2012 applies to both High and Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

Safety Element Workbook

- Critical infrastructure: El Toro Water District Westline Sewer Lift Station

Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone: an area designated by the City to be at significant risk from wildfire and within the responsible area of the local jurisdiction for fire protections and services.

- Location: Portions generally north of El Toro Road and south of San Amadeo; portions generally south of Calle Sonora Este; portions generally west of Avenida Sosiega in the vicinity of Bahia Blanca and Punta Alta; and portions generally north of Santa Maria Avenue west of Santa Vittoria in the vicinity of Avenida Despacio, Duverney, Belmez, Duenas, Calzado, Miembro, and Elvira.
- Dwelling units: 847 (102 single family homes, 745 multi-family units)
- Laguna Woods Village Gate Houses: 10, 11 + one emergency entrance/exit
- Facilities: None
- Critical Infrastructure: El Toro Water District Pump Station P-4/Reservoir R-4

Table 1: Fire Hazard Severity Zone Summary

Zone	Residents	Vehicles	Residents Without Vehicles	Pets
Very High	1,215	986	213	1,266
High	1,223	992	215	1,272
Moderate	1,203	976	210	1,252
Total	3,641	2,954	638	3,790

Source: City of Laguna Woods Emergency Operations Plan Section 4.2: Wildland-Urban Interface Evacuation Plan

Urban fire hazards can also result from wildfires, earthquakes, hazardous materials accidents, arson, or other hazard events. Future multi-family residential and infill development within the city can increase the probability of urban fires.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Safety Element Workbook

Goal 2: *Protect residents, businesses, and government functions from fire related hazards.*

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
<p>2.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of fire hazards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Provide public information regarding fire safety. B. Review and update fire safety-related building ordinances and policies as necessary. C. Review and update fire safety-related zoning ordinances and policies, as necessary. D. Maintain the minimum required setbacks per Cal FIRE within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. E. Maintain defensible space for wildfires throughout the WUI area.
<p>2.2. Establish and maintain optimal emergency response times for fire safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue to adopt and honor agreements with adjacent communities for mutual aid assistance. B. Provide fire equipment access and fire suppression resources to all developed and open space areas in conformance with Orange County Fire Authority requirements.

Safety Element Workbook

<p>2.3. Establish brush clearance standards for public and private properties within the Moderate to Very High Fire Hazard Severity zones.</p>	<p>A. Maintain the following information for residents, businesses and prospective applicants within the city:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adequate brush clearance criteria for each fire hazard severity zone within the city.• An inventory of properties within each fire hazard severity zone and ownership information (public vs. private).• Public education information for property owners/residents within each fire hazard severity zone.• Ancillary public safety benefits of regular brush clearance activities.
<p>Others?</p>	<p>Others?</p>

Safety Element Workbook

GEOLOGIC AND SEISMIC HAZARDS

Issue Statement: Seismic activity along active and potentially active faults could result in substantial casualties and injury, disrupt economic processes, and cause extensive property damage. Primary hazards include fault rupture and seismic shaking. There are no mapped fault zones pursuant to the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning (AP) Act that pass through the city. Known fault locations nearest to the city are shown in the accompanying figure.

Secondary hazards include liquefaction, seismic settlement, and seismically induced landslides. The accompanying figures show the locations of earthquake-induced landslide hazard zones and liquefaction hazard zones.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Goal 3: *Protect residents, businesses, and government functions from geologic and seismic related hazards.*

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Safety Element Workbook

Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
<p>3.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of geologic and seismic hazards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Provide public information regarding earthquake safety including information and training for community members describing how to respond in the event of an earthquake or other seismic hazard. B. Review and update seismic safety portions of building ordinances and policies, as necessary. C. Review and update seismic safety portions of zoning ordinances and policies, as necessary.
<p>3.2. Ensure the security, reliability, and functionality of critical City facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Evaluate critical City facilities for seismic safety.
<p>3.3. Limit development in areas of the city potentially susceptible to seismic hazards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Identify areas within the city where special studies may be required for seismic hazards B. Require approval of all seismic studies prepared within the city by a California Certified Engineering Geologist.
<p>Others?</p>	<p>Others?</p>

Safety Element Workbook

CRITICAL UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Issue Statement: Laguna Woods residents, businesses, and government functions rely upon utilities and infrastructure such as water supply, electrical power, and natural gas. If these systems fail or the resources become unavailable, the city would suffer significant consequences.

Water Supply: The El Toro Water District relies extensively on imported water from the State Water Project and Colorado River Project. Accordingly, local droughts can be caused or made worse by drought conditions in areas where imported water originates. Deteriorating and seismically inadequate infrastructure in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is of particular concern, as any disruption in the conveyance of water from the Delta is likely to jeopardize the viability of local water supplies.

Power Outages: Energy shortages could cause loss of life, property damage, personal injury, and economic loss. For Laguna Woods residents, loss of power for personal medical devices (e.g., oxygen machines, ventilators, ventricular assist devices, dialysis machines, nebulizers, intravenous pumps) is an issue of particular concern. Unplanned power outages may occur as a result of traffic accidents, storms, construction, natural disasters, and periods of high power demand. Pre-planned local power outages to repair and upgrade infrastructure occur routinely. Collaboration with Southern California Edison (SCE) is necessary to alert residents of the timing and duration of these outages.

Natural Gas Pipelines: High-pressure natural gas pipelines and transmission lines operated by the Southern California Gas Company are located outside of the city, but are still within proximity that would expose Laguna Woods residents and businesses to disruption of service in the event of extended maintenance or failure. The accompanying figure shows the approximate location of these pipelines.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Goal 4: *Increase and maintain the resiliency of critical facilities/infrastructure pertinent to residents, businesses, and government functions.*

Safety Element Workbook

Comments/Suggested Revisions:	
Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
4.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of reliance on critical utilities and infrastructure.	A. Provide public information regarding safety pertaining to critical utilities and infrastructure.
4.2. Ensure the security, reliability, continuity, and functionality of critical facilities, infrastructure, and utilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Adopt an ordinance requiring emergency backup generators for new and redeveloped fuel stations and cellular telephone towers. B. Develop and implement plans, projects, and programs that reduce energy use and meet critical energy supply needs during emergencies. C. Develop and implement plans, projects, and programs that reduce water use and augment local water supplies (capture/reuse) D. Install an emergency backup generator for City Hall and the Emergency Operations Center. E. Designate emergency cooling facilities for use during extreme heat events. F. Designate cooling facilities for use during planned power outages to reduce the effects of electricity shortages and service interruptions. G. Collaborate with utility providers to ensure necessary communication of utility failure or outages due to routine maintenance.

Safety Element Workbook

DISASTER/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Issue Statement: Earthquakes, wildland fires, floods, acts of terrorism, and other potential hazards are largely unpredictable. Therefore it is imperative that the City government establish emergency operations protocols and procedures. Additionally, community residents and businesses are encouraged to be as prepared as possible. Increased preparedness by individuals, families, and private businesses to care for themselves and their neighbors in the event of an emergency greatly reduces the potential effects of hazards resulting from both natural and human-caused events, and allows government resources to focus on the most severe impacts. Preparedness encompasses multiple aspects:

Resource Storage: members of the community are encouraged to store food, water and medical resources to be self-sufficient for a reasonable amount of time should circumstances prevent being able to access or acquire these resources normally

Property Protection: property owners are encouraged to ensure structures are built according to the building codes and resilient to hazards such as earthquake, fire, and flood.

Response: members of the community are encouraged to be educated on how to respond to hazard events such as earthquakes, fires, and floods (i.e. drop, cover, and hold on for an earthquake; drop to the ground and evacuate in event of a fire).

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Goal 5: *Ensure the City and its residents and businesses are prepared for emergencies and disasters.*

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
5.1. Increase local understanding and importance of disaster / emergency preparedness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Provide public information regarding disaster / emergency preparedness. B. Offer programs which include emergency preparedness training for residents of the city. C. Facilitate seminars for private businesses on preparedness and continuity of operations planning.

Safety Element Workbook

<p>5.2.Ensure the security, reliability, continuity, and functionality of critical facilities.</p>	<p>A. Design and construct a permanent Emergency Operations Center for the City.</p>
<p>5.3.Implement rapid, reliable, and redundant communications systems.</p>	<p>A. Continue to operate a mass notification system for rapid communication during emergencies.</p> <p>B. Increase emergency communications capabilities between internal and external coordination points (i.e. shelters, key service providers)</p>
<p>5.4.Provide for continuity of the City’s “day-to-day” operations.</p>	<p>A. Develop and implement a Continuity of Operations Plan for City services.</p>
<p>5.5.Build emergency services capabilities.</p>	<p>A. Train City staff in emergency services functions.</p> <p>B. Develop and implement systems to access and manage critical information during emergencies.</p>
<p>5.6.Develop relationships with private and nonprofit entities to continually improve community preparedness.</p>	<p>A. Develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for emergency reception centers, shelters, and points of dispensing (PODs)</p> <p>B. Develop MOUs for provisions (water, food, generator fuel)</p> <p>C. Coordinate with health care providers and facilities during extreme heat events to ensure these facilities are able to provide health care to those in need.</p> <p>D. Coordinate with health care providers to develop public outreach materials on preparing for known potential events such as extreme heat.</p>
<p>Others?</p>	<p>Others?</p>

Safety Element Workbook

HUMAN CAUSED AND OTHER HAZARDS

Issue Statement: There are numerous human-caused and technological hazards or threats of concern within Laguna Woods. These include radiological accidents, terrorism and civil disturbances, hazardous materials accidents, and airplane accidents. All pose danger to lives and property within the city.

Radiological Accidents: Laguna Woods is located approximately 20 miles north of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). For purposes of emergency planning and response, three zones have been established surrounding SONGS. The city is located within the Public Education Zone (PEZ) and Ingestion Pathway Zone (IPZ). The PEZ represents 10 – 20 miles from the plant. Residents and businesses within this area are provided educational information from Southern California Edison. The IPZ is an area up to 50 miles from the plant in which a radioactive release could have the potential to contaminate food and/or liquid produced or collected from the area. This zone is established to protect consumers from the ingestion of contaminated crops, agricultural products, water, and livestock.

Terrorism and Civil Disturbances: Numerous potential terrorist and civil disturbance targets/locations are present throughout California and Orange County, such as government facilities, schools, religious institutions, gathering places (e.g., shopping centers, entertainment venues), medical clinics, power plants, utility infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, water storage facilities, locations of high profile individuals, and financial institutions. Laguna Woods contains many such targets/locations and is located near others. The city may also be affected by regional acts of terrorism and civil disturbances.

Hazardous Materials Accidents: Most hazardous materials in Laguna Woods are associated with low risk, small scale operations. There are 27 identified facilities that generate, use, and/or store hazardous materials within the city³. Hazardous materials are transported on Interstate 5 and State Route 73, both located a short distance from the city. Exposure to hazardous materials in liquid, gas, or solid form present a danger to human health and safety.

Airplane Accidents: While only one airplane accident has occurred within the city, future occurrences may be possible. Airplane accidents can result in loss of life, personal injury, economic loss, and property damage.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

³ Per LHMP, per OCFA HMSS Business Chemicals Inventory 8/27/2012

Safety Element Workbook

Goal 6: *Protect residents, businesses, and government functions from human-caused or technological hazards.*

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
6.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of pertinent hazard risks such as hazardous materials spills.	A. Provide information to city residents and businesses regarding proper use, storage, and disposal of household hazardous materials.
6.2. Coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies regarding human caused and other hazards to increase resiliency throughout the city.	
Others?	Others?

Safety Element Workbook

CRIME PREVENTION

Issue Statement: Overall, Laguna Woods experiences a low crime rate for occurrences such as murders, rapes, robberies, assaults, burglaries, thefts, auto thefts, and arson. However, crime does occur in the community and is a threat to quality of life for residents and businesses within the city.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a crime prevention method that uses design techniques, building orientation, and features of the built environment to deter criminal activity and positively influence human behavior. CPTED techniques incorporate three key considerations into site planning and architectural design: territoriality, natural surveillance, and access control.

Comments/Suggested Revisions:

Goal 7: Improve community safety and reduce opportunities for criminal activity through environmental design.

Comments/Suggested Revisions

Policy Objectives	Recommended Actions
7.1. Increase local understanding and awareness of risk to crime.	A. Provide public information regarding general safety and crime prevention.
7.2. Integrate CPTED elements into new development and redevelopment within the city.	<p>A. Ensure that new development/redevelopment considers CPTED concepts (territoriality⁴, natural surveillance⁵, and access control⁶) during the planning and design phase.</p> <p>B. Where applicable, City projects/improvements should incorporate CPTED techniques during the planning and design phase.</p>

⁴ Use of physical attributes that express ownership, such as fences, pavement treatments, art, signage, and landscaping

⁵ Organization of physical features, activities, and people to maximize visibility.

⁶ Physical guidance of people coming and going from a space using judicious placement of entrances, exits, signs, fencing, landscaping, and lighting.