



Rancho Santa Margarita Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

City Council | November 13, 2024



Presentation Overview

- What is a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)?
- Why is the City updating the LHMP?
- Rancho Santa Margarita LHMP Update Contents
 - Hazards Evaluated
 - Vulnerability/Risk Assessment
 - Mitigation Actions
 - Next Steps
- Planning Commission Discussion and Input



What is a LHMP?

Local: Specific to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Hazard: Identifies hazards, likelihood of occurring, and community's risk/vulnerability to the hazard

Mitigation: Ways to lessen the risks/vulnerabilities and make the hazards less harmful

Plan: Long-term policies and actions to increase resilience and reduce vulnerabilities



Why is the City Updating the LHMP?

01

Confirm and update threats and hazards, including risks and community's vulnerability to risks

02

Make the community more "disaster resistant"

03

Maintain eligibility for federal emergency grant funds



RSM LHMP Update Contents

- Introduction
- Planning Process
- Community Profile
- Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
- Mitigation Strategy
- Plan Maintenance
- References
- Appendices



Hazards Evaluated



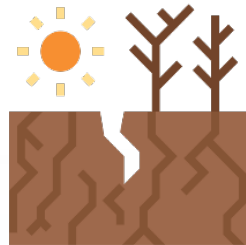
Seismic Hazards



Wildfires



Pest management/Disease outbreak



Drought



Severe Weather



Floods & Dam Failure



Landslides/Mudflow



Human-induced hazards



Vulnerability/Risk Assessment

- Each hazard is examined for:
 - Physical threat to critical facilities, facilities of concern, and residential and non-residential structures;
 - Social threat to vulnerable populations, including residents and visitors to the City; and
 - Threat to any other assets that may be affected.



Mitigation Actions

- Reduce or eliminate long-term risk
- Different from actions to prepare or respond to an event
- Mitigation activities lessen or eliminate the need for preparedness or response resources
- Emphasis on the impact or vulnerabilities – not on the hazard itself
- Mitigation actions required for each hazard



Next Steps

- Submit to Cal OES/FEMA
 - Revisions, if needed
- Receive FEMA Approval Pending Adoption
- Planning Commission Recommendation
- City Council Adoption
 - Estimated Spring 2025



Planning Commission Discussion and Input

- Suggested Mitigation Actions:
 - Air Quality Hazards Post-Wildfire
 - Are there any proactive mitigation actions (e.g., air filters, masks)?
 - Santa Ana Wind Events – Proposed Mitigation Action:
 - Post Red-Flag Warnings
 - Human-Induced Hazards
 - Consider mitigation action to encourage participation with OCSD's RTOC (real time operations center)?



Planning Commission Discussion and Input

- Additional Recommendations:
 - LHMP Webpage – increase public awareness
 - Create summaries to increase understanding of the LHMP
 - Add website address to LHMP document
 - Evacuation Routes
 - Can more be done?
 - SCE Backup Generator Program
 - CERT Program – outreach to youth

