



7.0 MITIGATION STRATEGY

The City of Paso Robles’s Hazard Mitigation Strategy describes the City’s blueprint for reducing potential losses due to natural and human-caused hazards. This Strategy is based on the ability of Town authorities, policies, programs, and resources to expand on and improve existing tools that will mitigate the effects of natural and human-caused hazards in the City’s physical and human environment. Table 7-1 defines the DMA requirements for planning a hazard mitigation strategy. The City’s hazard mitigation goals, along with their corresponding objectives, have guided the development and implementation of the specified mitigation actions.

**TABLE 7-1
DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS – MITIGATION STRATEGY**

MITIGATION STRATEGY: §201.6(c)(3): *The plan shall include a mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction’s blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools.*

Source: FEMA, March 2004.

7.1 CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

While not required by the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, an important component of the Mitigation Strategy is a review of the City’s resources in order to identify, evaluate, and enhance the capacity of local resources to mitigate the effects of hazards. The first part of the Capability Assessment is a review of Paso Robles’s legal and regulatory capability, including ordinances, codes, and plans to address hazard mitigation activities. This Assessment also describes the administrative and technical ability of Paso Robles’s staff and personnel resources. The third part of the Assessment, which crosses all technical and regulatory boundaries, is the fiscal capability of Paso Robles to provide the financial resources to implement the mitigation strategy. The final part of the Capability Assessment is a summary review of the activities of each administrative division within the City of Paso Robles that supports hazard mitigation activities, and details any previous mitigation activities undertaken by these entities.

The legal and regulatory hazard mitigation capability of the City of Paso Robles, as shown in Table 7-2, including a review of existing ordinances and codes that affect the physical or built environment in Paso Robles. In particular, the City’s applicable Building Codes, Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, Capital Improvement Plan, and other regulatory development guides provide specified support to hazard mitigation activities. Other less prescriptive documents that describe Paso Robles’s hazard mitigation capability include the City’s various General Plan elements, Economic Development Strategy, Emergency Response Plan, and Post-Disaster Recovery Plans, among others. This section lists these various tools, recognizes the local authority of the specific activity, and identifies the interaction of the specific tools with State and higher-level authorities. These regulatory tools listed in Table 7-2 below aid the City’s mitigation efforts by identifying the capabilities and resources that allow the implementation and support of the mitigation efforts highlighted in this Plan.

The administrative and regulatory capability of Paso Robles, as shown in Table 7-3, provides an identification of the staff, personnel, and department resources available to expedite the actions identified in the Mitigation Strategy. Specific resources reviewed include those involving technical personnel that apply planning and engineering, floodplain management, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), environmental scientists, management authority, and various other services needed to facilitate hazard mitigation in Paso Robles.

The fiscal capability of the City of Paso Robles to achieve the goals and objectives of the Mitigation Strategy is shown in Table 7-4. Specific financial and budgetary tools available to Paso Robles include federal entitlements, City



**TABLE 7-2
LEGAL AND REGULATORY CAPABILITY**

Regulatory Tools (ordinances, codes, plans)	Local Authority (Y/N)	Does State Prohibit? (Y/N)	Higher Level Jurisdiction Authority (Y/N)	Comments
A. Building code	Y	N	N	
B. Zoning ordinance	Y	N	N	
C. Subdivision ordinance or regulations	Y	N	N	
D. Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, stormwater management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildland fire ordinances, hazard setback requirements)	Y	N	Y	Floodplain Management Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapter 21.14); Stormwater Management Plan (URS, Jan 2003); Hillside zoning regulations are focused on density reduction (as slope increases) and aesthetics; City has no wildfire or hazard setback ordinances.
E. Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	N	N	N	
F. Site plan review requirements	Y	N	N	
G. General or comprehensive plan	Y	N	N	
H. A capital improvements plan	Y	N	N	
I. An economic development plan	Y	N	N	
J. An emergency response plan	Y	N	N	
K. Real estate disclosure requirements	Y	N	N	As the situation warrants, the City adds conditions to development applications to require recorded notices



**TABLE 7-3
ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY**

Staff/Personnel Resources	Y/N	Department/Agency and Position
A. Planner(s) or engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Planners: Community Development Department: Director, City Planner, Housing Programs Manager, Associate Planner; Engineers: Community Development Department: City Engineer
B. Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Community Development Department: Building Official and 3 building inspectors Public Works Department: Capital Projects Engineer and Utilities Engineer (position presently vacant)
C. Planners or Engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	Y	See responses to A and B, above.
D. Floodplain manager	Y	Community Development Department: City Planner
E. Surveyors	N	
F. Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	Y	Police Chief and Chief of Emergency Services
G. Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	N	
H. Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	N	
I. Emergency manager	Y	City Manager
J. Grant writers	Y	Community Development Department: Housing Programs Manager; Public Works Department: Capital Projects Engineer



**TABLE 7-4
FISCAL CAPABILITY**

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use (Yes/No/Don't Know)
A. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	Yes
B. Capital improvements project funding	Yes
C. Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	No
D. Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes – water & sewer
E. Impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new developments/homes	Yes
F. Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
G. Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Yes

general fund money, secondary sales and property taxes, user fees for infrastructure, impact fees applied to new development, and various unique debt service techniques including bonding indebtedness.

The local mitigation capability assessment describes the potential hazard mitigation activities that occur in the City of Paso Robles’s many departments and divisions. Most importantly, the tables below detail the City’s plans, policies, regulations, funding, and practices within these divisions that promote or facilitate hazard mitigation in Paso Robles, and provides contact information for each division in the City.

A specific example of a hazard mitigation activity that the City implements is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In 1968, Congress created the NFIP in response to the rising cost of taxpayer funded disaster relief for flood victims and the increasing amount of damage caused by floods. The program is based on an agreement between the community and the Federal government that if the community takes steps to reduce future flood losses through floodplain management, the Federal government will make affordable flood insurance available within the community cover flood losses that do occur.

The City of El Paso de Robles entered the NFIP on April 9, 1974. FEMA published a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the city on September 16, 1981. The city has implemented a floodplain management ordinance that complies with the minimum requirements of the NFIP. Among other requirements, this ordinance requires new or substantially improved structures located in the 100-year floodplain to be elevated so that the lowest floor is above the base flood elevation shown on the FIRM. FEMA conducted an evaluation of the city’s compliance with the NFIP on June 15, 2001, and did not find any violations of the city’s floodplain management ordinance.

Another example of the City’s existing efforts to mitigate hazards is the existing county and city plans that address waste and emergency response procedures. Counties are required by state law to prepare hazardous waste management plans. San Luis Obispo County’s Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) addresses the treatment, storage, and disposal of such materials. The primary goal of the plan is to protect public health by promoting the safe use and disposal of hazardous waste. To accomplish this, the plan provides for the reduction of hazardous waste through source reduction, recycling, and on-site handling and treatment methods. The HWMP is



based on the analysis of the current and projected hazardous generation rates within the County and the facilities available for hazardous waste storage, treatment, or disposal (General Plan, 2003).

The City has developed a Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan, which also addresses Hazardous Materials Response. The plan identifies potential HAZMAT risks and identifies methods to rapidly mobilize and take the necessary actions with resources available to save lives, reduce injuries, and minimize property/environmental damage from hazardous materials releases. The Plan addresses both transportation and fixed installation emergencies. The Plan identifies transport of hazardous materials on the rail line as posing a significant threat to the community.

7.2 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIONS

The following vision and mission statement were developed by the City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan Team during the hazard mitigation plan preparation process and provided guidance to those involved in the preparation of *City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan*:

Vision: Paso Robles will be disaster resistant, enabling our residents to enjoy an environment where the effects of disasters are greatly reduced or eliminated.

Mission: The mission of the Paso Robles Local Mitigation Plan is to encourage emergency managers to set goals according to public risk and identified need for protection of life, property, including the environment and to outline a strategy for implementation of mitigation projects.

In order to accomplish the above vision and mission, specific goals and objectives have been established. Below is a review of mitigation strategy terms, followed by the City’s mitigation strategy.

7.2.1 Definitions

For the purpose of this Plan, the following definitions of Goals, Objectives, Actions and Implementation Strategy have been adopted from *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* guiding documents, and have been accepted as functional by all levels of government involved in hazard mitigation.

Goals: General guidelines that explain what you want to achieve. Goals are usually broad statements with long-term perspective.

Example: Goal 1: Protect subdivisions from flooding.

Objectives: Defined strategies or implementation steps intended to attain the identified goals. Unlike goals, objectives are specific, measurable, and have a defined time horizon.

Examples: Objective 1.A: Reduce the number of structures in the 100-year floodplain.
Objective 1.B: Minimize future damage due to flooding of current structures in the 100-year floodplain.

Actions: Specific actions that help achieve goals and objectives. Multiple mitigation actions may be defined to feed into an evaluation of the alternative actions.

Examples: Action 1.A.1: Adopt zoning ordinances prohibiting new residential development in the 100-year floodplain.
Action 1.A.2: Relocate 5 residential structures on XYZ Street.
Action 1.B.1: Elevate 2 commercial structures on ABC Street.



Action 1.B.2: Retrofit 10 residential structures on XYZ Street with storm shutters, elevated utilities, and water back flow valves.

Implementation Strategy: A comprehensive strategy that describes how the mitigation actions will be implemented.

- Questions: How will the mitigation actions be prioritized?
- Who will implement them?
- When will they be implemented?
- How will they be implemented?

7.2.2 Goals, Objectives, and Potential Actions

In accordance with the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, the City of Paso Robles developed goals to reduce the City’s vulnerability to natural and human-caused hazards, as shown in Table 7-5 and Table 7-6.

**TABLE 7-5
DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS – MITIGATION STRATEGY – LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION GOALS**

Local Hazard Mitigation Goals
Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i): <i>[The hazard mitigation strategy shall include a] description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.</i>
Element
A. Does the plan include a description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (GOALS are long-term; represent what the community wants to achieve, such as “eliminate flood damage”; and are based on the risk assessment findings.)
Source: FEMA, March 2004.

**TABLE 7-6
DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS – MITIGATION STRATEGY –
IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF MITIGATION ACTIONS**

Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions
Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii): <i>[The mitigation strategy shall include a] section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure.</i>
Element
A. Does the plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each hazard?
B. Do the identified actions and projects address reducing the effects of hazards on new buildings and infrastructure?
C. Do the identified actions and projects address reducing the effects of hazards on existing buildings and infrastructure?
Source: FEMA, March 2004.



Listed below are the City of Paso Robles' specific hazard mitigation goals and objectives as well as related potential actions. For each goal, one or more objectives have been identified that provide strategies to attain the goal. Where appropriate, the City has identified a range of specific actions to achieve the objective and goal.

The goals and objectives were originally derived from the preliminary draft *State of California Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan* that was developed parallel to the *City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan* as well as those of other San Luis Obispo County jurisdictions. The City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan Team modified the goals and objectives in order to account for historic or potential hazards that could threaten the health, safety and welfare of Paso Robles's residents, as well as the social, economic and physical fabric of the community. The Paso Robles Team met several times to consider potential goals, objectives, and actions. At these meetings, specific consideration was given to the City's hazard identification/profiles and the vulnerability assessment results.

Members of the Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan Team included representatives of numerous City departments involved in hazard mitigation planning, including the City Manager, the City Police Department, the City Fire Department (Emergency Services), the City Public Works Department, the City Community Development Department and representatives of the City's schools. In addition, the draft *City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan*, including draft goals, objectives and actions, was available for review and comment by the public at a public meeting. The Paso Robles City Council has reviewed and adopted the plan.

Goal 1. Promote disaster-resistant future development.

Objective 1.A Encourage and facilitate the development and updating of the General Plan and zoning ordinance to minimize or mitigate exposure to hazards and, if necessary, limit or condition development in the hazard areas defined by the maps in this Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Action 1.A.1 Establish periodic monitoring and review of the City's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance to determine effectiveness of the Goals and Objectives. Based on the results, amend as necessary.

Objective 1.B Encourage and facilitate the adoption of building codes that protect existing assets and minimize new development in hazard areas.

Action 1.B.1 Continue to implement and improve the City's Uniform Building Codes relative to fire safety (fire-retardant roof covering and sprinkler systems) and flood safety, and investigate, and implement if feasible, new measures to avoid impacts in landslide-prone areas (hillsides) and in potential subsidence areas.

Objective 1.C. Improve the City's hazard identification and mitigation capabilities.

Action 1.C.1 Support the acquisition and development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities within the City.

Action 1.C.2 Investigate, and implement if feasible, preparation of a comprehensive and probability-based hazard risk assessment for City, including annualized loss estimates.

Goal 2. Promote public understanding, support and demand for hazard mitigation.

Objective 2.A Promote partnerships to identify, prioritize, and implement mitigation actions between the City and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the State of California, San Luis Obispo County, other local governments, as well as private industry, civic and non-profit groups.



- Action 2.A.1 Continue to seek availability of Pre Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds (HMGP).
- Action 2.A.2 Explore a variety of federal, state, and local funding sources for the implementation of hazard mitigation actions.
- Action 2.A.3 Continue to maintain a relationship with the California Office of Emergency Services and the San Luis Obispo county Office of Emergency Services.
- Objective 2.B Educate the public to increase awareness of hazards and opportunities for mitigation actions.
 - Action 2.B.1 Make available appropriate public information sheets produced by FEMA that include suggested hazard mitigation actions to the City's residents, businesses, and community organizations.
 - Action 2.B.2 Post the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan on the City website.
 - Action 2.B.3 Announce approval of Hazard Mitigation Plan with suggested mitigation actions through a variety of media outlets.
 - Action 2.B.4 Make available appropriate hazard mitigation brochure(s) produced by FEMA to the City's residents, businesses, and community organizations.
 - Action 2.B.5 Place links on the City's website to other relevant websites, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), and San Luis Obispo County Office of Emergency Services.
- Goal 3. Build and support local capacity to warn the public about emergency situations and assist in their response.**
 - Objective 3.A Improve upon existing capabilities to warn the public of emergency situations.
 - Action 3.A.1 Develop and implement a local Emergency Alert System (EAS) in order to eliminate the need to use the County's EAS.
 - Action 3.A.2 Support San Luis Obispo County Department of Emergency Management in the development of a reverse 9-1-1 system (enabling the City to inform residents of impending hazards).
 - Objective 3.B Ensure that City officials and emergency response personnel are informed of and familiar with the City's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and their associated specific responsibilities and roles.
 - Action 3.B.1 Conduct an annual review of the City's recently updated (2004) Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and a minimum of one disaster drill each year as a refresher, to instruct new key staff, and to identify needed plan updates.
- Goal 4. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to floods.**
 - Objective 4.A Develop a comprehensive approach to reducing the possibility of damage and losses due to floods.
 - Action 4.A.1 The City will continue efforts toward water infrastructure improvement of channels, storm drains, diversions, and retention basins in the City for flood protection.



Action 4.A.2 Encourage bridge or culvert construction where roads are in locations susceptible to flooding.

Objective 4.B Coordinate with and support existing efforts to mitigate floods.

Action 4.B.1 The City will continue to participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) program and get credit for the various activities that assist property owners in receiving reduced insurance premiums.

Action 4.B.2 The City will continue to utilize the County’s EAS (Emergency Alerting System) as a means of providing real-time weather information to City departments.

Action 4.B.3 Continue the production of an updated storm drain atlas for the City’s Storm Drain Master Plan that identifies potential drainage hazards, solutions, budgets, and priorities.

Goal 5. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to wildland fires.

Objective 5.A Investigate and implement if feasible, developing methods to minimize damage to homes and other structures from wildland fires.

Action 5.A.1 Ensure that subdivision regulations for new subdivisions allow adequate access for fire apparatus.

Action 5.A.2. Ensure that building codes for all new homes prohibit the use of untreated wood shake roofs and encourage the installation of a spark arresting system on the chimneys of new homes with wood burning fireplaces.

Action 5.A.3 Investigate, and implement if feasible and appropriate, mandating the installation of fire-extinguishing sprinklers in new homes and substantial renovations.

Objective 5.B Educate the public about wildland fire dangers and the steps that can be taken to prevent or minimize their effects.

Action 5.B.1 Ensure that the City’s web page provides sufficient guidance on wildland fire mitigation to the public and post the City’s Major Fire Plan on the web page (Annex E to the Multi-Hazard Emergency Response Plan).

Action 5.B.2 Make available wildland fire mitigation information to persons applying for building permits in the City of Paso Robles.

Goal 6. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to extreme heat and drought.

Objective 6.A Support the State’s comprehensive approach to reducing the possibility of damage and losses due to drought.

Action 6.A.1 Encourage, where appropriate, the use of heat and drought tolerant landscaping at City facilities and projects.

Objective 6.B Protect existing assets with the highest relative vulnerability to the effects of drought.

Action 6.B.1 Encourage the use of reclaimed (gray) water for appropriate applications.

Action 6.B.2 Encourage actions that will recharge aquifers in addition to the recharge of the Salinas River from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.



- Objective 6.C Support State and local water conservation messages and programs through a variety of media.
 - Action 6.C.1 Post water conservation messages and newspaper articles relative to the City's water resources on the City's website.

Goal 7. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to geological hazards.

- Objective 7.A Complete the retrofitting of Unreinforced Masonry (URM) buildings.
 - Action 7.A.1 Continue to enforce the provisions of Ordinance 878 N.S., which requires that all commercial unreinforced masonry buildings be retrofitted by January 2007.
- Objective 7.B Take steps to ensure City preparedness for emergency response actions for an earthquake.
 - Action 7.B.1 Conduct inspections of City radio-equipped field vehicles every six months to ensure radios are functioning correctly and each vehicle has a copy of the Earthquake Emergency Response Plan, Standard Operating Procedures.

Goal 8. Prevent or minimize damage and losses due to hazardous materials (hazmat) incidents.

- Objective 8.A Protect existing assets with the highest relative vulnerability to the effects of hazardous materials.
 - Action 8.A.1 Share current information on City-owned wells with the local Fire Department.
 - Action 8.A.2 Prepare and maintain emergency response plans for City-owned wells.
- Objective 8.B Reduce the number of, and volume of, hazardous materials at City-owned facilities.
 - Action 8.B.1 Maintain on-hand minimum amount of chemicals required.
 - Action 8.B.2 Incorporate worker "right-to-know" training at facilities identified by the City as harboring a substantial amount of hazardous materials.
- Objective 8.C Reduce the risk of injury or loss of life to first responders to hazardous materials incidents.
 - Action 8.C.1 Provide Department of Transportation (DOT) emergency response guidebooks to all fire and law enforcement vehicles.
- Objective 8.D Increase government and public knowledge of safe handling and disposal of hazardous materials.
 - Action 8.D.1 Provide information regarding safe handling and disposal of household chemicals on the City's website.

Goal 9. Prevent or minimize damage and losses due to landslide incidents.

- Objective 9.A Identify and attempt to reduce landslide hazards in the City.
 - Action 9.A.1 Evaluate and consider requiring the construction and maintenance of retaining structures that will help to control landslide risk in key residential and/or commercial areas. Mitigation measures should be consistent with the City's hillside development General Plan policies and zoning regulations.
 - Action 9.A.2 Evaluate and consider requiring retrofitting or implementing stabilizing measures for Paso Robles hillside developments that pre-date current best practices and codes and therefore remain vulnerable to the threat of landslides.



7.2.2.1 Potential Actions and Evaluation Process

As listed above, the City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan Team identified 39 potential hazard mitigation actions that will assist the City in mitigating the impact of natural and human-caused hazards. The *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* requires the evaluation of the potential mitigation actions, as noted previously in Table 7-6.

In order to evaluate these potential actions, the City of Paso Robles Hazard Mitigation Plan Team used the STAPLEE criteria, which provides a systematic approach weighing the pros and cons of potential mitigation actions. STAPLEE stands for Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental. For each of these characteristics, a series of questions was posed that assisted in evaluating the appropriateness of each potential action to the community.

The City is mainly concerned that the set of actions be concise and effective and that the following types of actions that are identified as potential mitigating actions above, be disregarded from the “top priority actions” that compose the City’s Action Plan (Section 7.2.2.2):

- Actions that would cost too much to implement or which have poor cost/benefit ratio;
- Actions that address hazards that the City does not have a history of experiencing to any significant degree (e.g., land subsidence, drought);
- Actions that would not have significant effects on reducing hazards (i.e. actions that may dilute the plan, which in turn draws attention away from the truly effective actions);
- Actions that do not serve to mitigate hazards, but do mitigate environmental impacts – there are CEQA and NEPA processes to address those.

A main concern of the City is the financial ability to implement the priority actions to mitigate hazards. Another concern is that the STAPLEE method is constructed in such a manner that all criteria have equal weighting. For example, a given action may have a significant cost/benefit deficit, but appear positive in all other respects and thus earn a high score. This underscores the need to conduct cost/benefit analysis in addition to a STAPLEE analysis.

Therefore, the City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan Team assigned financial/cost impacts to the STAPLEE assessment, as follows:

- If the financial impact of an action would be borne by an individual, group of individuals (e.g. those living next to open land where there is a greater hazard of wildland fire), or a neighborhood, that was noted under the “Social” criterion.
- If the financial impact would be borne by the City (i.e., its budget), that was noted under the “Administrative” criterion.
- If the financial impact would affect the economy of the community as a whole, it was noted under the “Economic” criterion.

Members of the City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan Team used the logic stated above, as well as the STAPLEE characteristics and respective questions to evaluate the potential mitigation actions, including the probable costs and benefits of the actions. This formed the basis of the hazard mitigation Action Plan described below.



7.2.2.2 Action Plan

The *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* requires the development of an action plan that includes prioritized actions and information on how the prioritized actions will be implemented, as shown in Table 7-7, below. Members of the City of Paso Robles’s Hazard Mitigation Plan Team worked together and with appropriate City departments and organizations to prepare an implementation strategy for the top 12 prioritized mitigation actions.

**TABLE 7-7
DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS – MITIGATION STRATEGY – IMPLEMENTATION OF MITIGATION ACTIONS**

Implementation of Mitigation Actions

Requirement: §201.6(c)(3)(iii): *[The mitigation strategy section shall include] an action plan describing how the actions identified in section (c)(3)(ii) will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization shall include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs.*

Element

- A. Does the mitigation strategy include how the actions are **prioritized**? (For example, is there a discussion of the process and criteria used?)
- B. Does the mitigation strategy address how the actions will be **implemented and administered**? (For example, does it identify the responsible department, existing and potential resources, and timeframe?)
- C. Does the prioritization process include an emphasis on the use of a **cost-benefit review** (see page 3-36 of *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance*) to maximize benefits?

Source: FEMA, March 2004.

In order to focus on the City’s hazard mitigation priorities and to comply with the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, the team members identified the City’s top 12 priorities for hazard mitigation for the next five years (2005 through 2009; after which local jurisdiction hazard mitigation plans must be updated), as shown in Table 7-8. Note that additional actions may be considered if the prioritized actions are accomplished or events warrant consideration of additional actions. Information is provided for each of the actions listed in the Mitigation Action Plan on associated goals/objectives, category of benefit, implementation responsibility, and resources required.



**TABLE 7-8
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
1.B.1 Continue to implement and improve the City's Uniform Building Codes relative to fire safety (fire-retardant roof covering and sprinkler systems) and flood safety, and investigate, and implement if feasible, new measures to avoid impacts in landslide-prone areas (hillsides) and in potential subsidence areas.	<i>Prevention Property Protection Structural Projects</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Existing UBCs (wildland fire and flood) significantly reduce vulnerability, and new UBCs (landslide and subsidence) will do the same.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept. Emergency Services Dept.</i>	<i>Existing UBCs: ¼ FTE-month annually for enforcement annually; ½ FTE-month annually to review State code changes New UBCs: 1 FTE month every 3 years to develop new codes</i>	<i>Existing: General Fund New: General Fund</i>	<i>Every 3 years (or in conjunction with the State's schedule of adopting updated building and safety codes)</i>
2.A.1 Continue to seek Pre Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds (HMGP).	<i>Prevention Property Protection</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Grant funds provide direct economic resources to the City for hazard mitigation activities that reduce the threat to life and property.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept. (Housing Programs Manager) Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer)</i>	<i>¼ FTE-month annually</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>



**TABLE 7-8 (CONTINUED)
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
2.A.3 Continue and maintain relationship with the California Office of Emergency Services and the San Luis Obispo County Office of Emergency Services.	Prevention Property Protection Natural Resources Protection Emergency Services	Medium	Maintaining these relationships facilitates the exchange of information on hazard mitigation and may lead to collaborative hazard mitigation actions and cost-sharing.	Emergency Services Dept. City Manager	1/8 FTE-month annually	General Fund	Ongoing
4.A.1 The City will continue efforts toward water infrastructure improvements of channels, storm drains, diversions, and retention basins in the City for flood protection.	Prevention Property Protection Natural Resources Protection Structural Projects	Medium	Floods are a moderate threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the probability and magnitude of floods.	Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer and Utilities Engineer) Community Development Dept (City Engineer)	1/4 FTE Annually	Capital Improvement Program; possibly FEMA PDM-C grant program; possibly FEMA FMA grant program. Conditions imposed by City on private development	Ongoing



**TABLE 7-8 (CONTINUED)
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
4.A.2 Encourage bridge or culvert construction where roads are in locations susceptible to flooding.	Prevention Property Protection Structural Projects	Medium	Floods are a moderate threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the probability and magnitude of floods.	Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer)	1/8 FTE annually	Capital Improvement Program	2006 - 2009
4.B.3 Continue the production of an updated storm drain atlas for the City's Storm Drain Master Plan that identifies potential drainage hazards, solutions, budgets, and priorities.	Prevention Property Protection Public Education and Awareness Natural Resources Protection	High	Floods are a moderate threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the probability and magnitude of floods.	Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer)	1/8 FTE-month ¹ annually	General Fund; possibly PDM-C planning grant Drainage Fees (condition of parcel maps and subdivision maps)	2006 - 2008
5.A.1 Ensure that subdivision regulations for new subdivisions allow adequate access for fire apparatus.	Prevention Property Protection Structural Projects	High	Wildland fires are a significant threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the magnitude of fires.	Community Development Dept. Emergency Services Dept.	Negligible	General Fund	Ongoing



**TABLE 7-8 (CONTINUED)
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
5.A.2 Ensure that building codes for all new homes prohibit the use of untreated wood shake roofs and encourage the installation of a spark arresting system on the chimneys of new homes with wood burning fireplaces.	<i>Prevention Property Protection Emergency Services</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Wildland fires are a significant threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the probability of fires.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept. Emergency Services Dept.</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
5.A.3 Investigate, and implement if feasible and appropriate, mandating the installation of fire extinguishing sprinklers in new homes and substantial renovations.	<i>Prevention Property Protection Emergency Services Structural Projects</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Wildland fires are a significant threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces the magnitude of fires.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept. Emergency Services Dept.</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>



**TABLE 7-8 (CONTINUED)
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
6.C.1 Post water conservation messages and newspaper articles relative to the City's water resources on the City's website.	<i>Prevention Public Education and Awareness</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Drought is cyclical threat to the region. This action reduces water usage.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept.</i>	<i>Negligible</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>2005 - 2009</i>
7.A.1 Continue to enforce the provisions of Ordinance 878 N.S., which requires that all commercial unreinforced masonry buildings be retrofitted by January 2007.	<i>Prevention Property Protection Structural Projects</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Earthquakes are a significant threat to life and property in the City. This action reduces earthquake vulnerability.</i>	<i>Community Development Dept. (Building Official and 3 building inspectors) Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer and Utilities Engineer)</i>	<i>¼ FTE-month¹ annually</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>2005, 2006 (all URM's must be retrofitted by January 2007)</i>



**TABLE 7-8 (CONTINUED)
MITIGATION ACTION PLAN**

Actions	Category of Benefit	Priority	Economic Justification	Implementation Responsibility	General Resources Required	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule
9.A.1 Evaluate and consider requiring the construction and maintenance of retaining structures that will help to control landslide risk in key residential and/or commercial areas. Mitigation measures should be consistent with the City's hillside development General Plan policies and zoning regulations.	Prevention Property Protection Structural Projects	Medium	Landslides are a moderate threat to life and property in the City. This actual reduces landslide probability and magnitude.	Community Development Dept. (Building Official and 3 building inspectors) Public Works Dept. (Capital Projects Engineer and Utilities Engineer)	¼ FTE-Month ¹	General Fund	2006, 2007, 2008

¹ FTE is the "Full-time equivalent" (City personnel), and FTE-Month is 1/12 of an FTE

Source: City of Paso Robles, 2004/2005.