



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Community Development and Infrastructure

Subject: Annual Report for Floodplain Management Planning Committee

Meeting Date: June 24, 2025

Formal Title: Accept and file the annual Floodplain Management Report, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Accept and file Annual Evaluation Report of the Flood Mitigation Planning Committee; and
2. Authorize the County Executive Officer to sign the Community Rating System (CRS) Annual Recertification form on behalf of the County.

Executive Summary

The County's 2021-2026 Local Hazard Mitigation plan (LHMP), valid through January 6, 2027, mandates the formation of a Flood Mitigation Planning Committee (FMPC) responsible for preparing an Annual Evaluation Report to assess and evaluate progress on the goals and action items related to flood hazards in the LHMP. County participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System (CRS) program requires that the FMPC Annual Evaluation Report be accepted by the Board of Supervisors and signed by the County Executive Officer as part of the annual CRS program recertification.

Discussion

This is the third Annual Evaluation report prepared for the 2021-2026 LHMP. The report summarizes progress on the goals and action items related to flood hazards for June 2024 to June 2025. This report was prepared by the FMPC based on the discussion topics at the annual meeting which was held on Tuesday March 11, 2025. The last report was accepted by the Board on June 25, 2024.

The County's 2021-2026 Local Hazard Mitigation plan (LHMP), valid through January 6, 2027, mandates the formation of a Flood Mitigation Planning Committee (FMPC) responsible for preparing an Annual Evaluation Report to assess and evaluate progress on the goals and action items related to flood hazards in the LHMP. County participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System (CRS) program requires that the FMPC Annual Evaluation Report be accepted by the Board of Supervisors and signed by the County Executive Officer as part of our annual CRS program recertification. The report finds that the County has made significant progress on the flood-related goals established in the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The full report, which lists these goals and the progress on each action item, is attached for review and acceptance by the Board.

The CRS is a voluntary FEMA program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards in exchange for reductions in flood insurance premiums for residents. The County of Santa Cruz has a class 8 rating which entitles residents in the flood hazard area to a 10% flood insurance premium discount. This report is required to be submitted to the CRS program by August 1, 2025, as part of the 2025 Annual

Recertification and the 5-year CRS verification visit.

The full Annual Evaluation report, which lists the flood hazard related goals in the 2021-2026 LHMP and the progress on each action item, is attached for review and acceptance by the Board.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Sustainable Environment

Climate Action - Water, Natural & Working Lands

Submitted By:

Matt Machado, Deputy CEO / Director of Community Development and Infrastructure

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.