



# Memorandum

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE, &  
STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Raymond Riordan

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** May 08, 2018

Approved

Date

10 MAY 2018

**SUBJECT: SAN JOSÉ COMMUNITY RESILIENCY PLAN STATUS REPORT**

## RECOMMENDATION

Accept the status report on San José Community Resiliency Plan, developed with partners such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Association of Bay Area Governments, Santa Clara County, and the private sector, that aligns resources and information to enable the community to better recover from a disaster.

## BACKGROUND

On March 28, 2017, the City Council unanimously approved the Mayor's March 2017 Budget Message for Fiscal Year 2017-2018<sup>1</sup> which outlined the need to establish efforts on Community Resilience. On August 8, 2017 the Emergency Management Roadmap identified the path the city was taking to improve emergency management planning, response and recovery, along with the integration of community resilience. At the December 1, 2017 Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support Committee, the Office of Emergency Management reported on the progress on community resilience efforts.

## ANALYSIS

Since December 1, 2017, the City continued progress on the Emergency Management Roadmap to facilitate improvements in:

1. Strengthening Organizational Structure for Emergency Management
2. Improving Emergency Planning and Resilience
3. Completing Flood Recovery
4. Preparing for the Next Rainy Season & Earthquake Preparation
5. Enhancing Key Capabilities
6. Increasing Coordination

<sup>1</sup> Mayor's March Budget Message: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/documentcenter/view/71811>

In each of the established six areas, key tasks support the development of community resilience, consistent with the concepts of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Association of Bay Area Governments definitions.

1. Strengthen Organizational Structure for Emergency Management
  - The City established an Emergency Management Work Group to facilitate interdepartmental planning and emergency planning leadership within each department.
  - The City is completing an assessment of policy and ordinance improvements that will enhance the current emergency services provisions of the municipal code to include re-vitalizing our local disaster council, the Emergency Services Council, SJMC Sections 8.08.010 – 8.08.030, (this Council is also designated by the City Council as the San Jose Citizen Corps Council) engaging volunteer resources, and improving stakeholder involvement.
  - The 2018-2019 proposed budget includes adding staff to the Office of Emergency Management, including a Deputy Director and three limit-dated Senior Executive Analysts. In addition, four existing temporary staff will be converted to four limit-dated positions. This is consistent with the staffing identified in the memorandum<sup>2</sup> from Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Carrasco, and Councilmembers Peralez, Diep, and Nguyen approved as part of the August 8, 2017 direction regarding the Office of Emergency Services Assessment Report.
2. Improve Emergency Planning
  - The City has completed six workshops on key areas related to the Emergency Operations Plan that has not been updated since 2006. The six areas include: Evacuation Planning in all hazards, Crisis Communications, Mass Care, Damage Assessment, Debris Management and Recovery.
  - The City is in the process of requesting bids for development of a detailed Shelter Inventory and Operations Plan, Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan, and other gaps identified in the August 8, 2017 Coyote Creek Flood After Action Report.
3. Complete Flood Recovery
  - The efforts to support the recovery of people, homes, and infrastructure from the flood damage are successful. The effort to coordinate case management for the affected residents received national interest and resulted in the State of California Public Health Department approval of a \$5.4 million grant to continue the efforts.
  - Coordination on reimbursements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency over the last nine months have required significant staff resources, and will continue to do so over the next 18-24 months until completion of repairs.

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<sup>2</sup> Memorandum: [http://sanjose.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view\\_id=&event\\_id=2696&meta\\_id=647721](http://sanjose.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view_id=&event_id=2696&meta_id=647721)

4. Prepare for Next Rainy Season & Earthquake Preparation

- Flood preparedness continues by including detailed response procedure for waterways that have the potential for flooding, in addition to Coyote Creek. Staff are beginning to update detailed data for the Guadalupe River and Canoas and Ross Creeks to add to the Joint Emergency Action Plan.
- The City has included addressing the significant seismic threat San José faces with four potential United States Geological Survey (USGS) risk and threat scenarios.
- In June 2017, the City of San José adopted a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan that identified how the City faces many potential disasters, in addition to floods. With the successful development of and November 2017 approval of the Joint Emergency Action Plan (also adopted by the Santa Clara Valley Water District), the City has expanded this Emergency Roadmap item to include seismic planning. Earthquakes along the San Andreas, Hayward, South Hayward, and Calaveras Faults are extremely likely to impact San José.<sup>3</sup> These scenarios present data that suggest a more than 60 percent probability of a significant earthquake in the Bay Area. In addition, the April 2018 United States Geological Survey announcement of a new Bay Area Seismic scenario confirms the need to expand this effort.
- A significant consequence of seismic incidents is the impact on “soft story” buildings. Staff have been meeting regularly to address the concerns related to these structures, identify completed studies, specify gaps, and initiate follow up studies for updating city ordinance, prepare incentives and enforcement capabilities. Staff has applied for grant funds to support this work.

5. Enhance Key Capabilities

- The City has made significant improvements in its ability to communicate messages with the public via the automated alert and warning systems, as well as field-deployed loud speakers.
- The City has conducted multiple trainings in the Emergency Operations Center to improve readiness and response. Recently 33 staff members completed the Essentials of Emergency Management Course, to improve the ability for the Emergency Operations Center and multiple Department Operations Centers to respond. Three more trainings are scheduled for 2018-2019.

6. Increase Coordination

- The City participated in multiple workshops with CADRE organization to improve coordination with community resources. CADRE, which stands for Collaborating Agencies Disasters Relief Effort, is a countywide organization whose membership includes nonprofit, faith-based, and social service organizations who work in partnership with local government to prepare and plan for the community needs following a disaster, especially for vulnerable populations.
- The City has identified a path forward to prepare the policy structure, registration process, trainer training, and delivery of Community Emergency Response Team (or

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<sup>3</sup> USGS website and library: <https://www.usgs.gov/>

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CERT) program and sponsorship to ensure neighborhood, senior and other populations vulnerable to disaster impacts.

### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Staff will return to the Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support Committee annually with an update on progress on the Emergency Management Roadmap as it builds Community Resilience.

### **COORDINATION**

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

/s/

RAYMOND RIORDAN

Director of Emergency Management

For questions, please contact Raymond Riordan, Director of the Office of Emergency Management at 408.794.7050.