

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (CM)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE ADOPTING THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2025 UPDATE (VOLUME 1 AND VOLUME 2)**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Watsonville first adopted its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) in 2019, which requires an update in 2025 to meet FEMA assistance requirements. To complete this update, Watsonville has joined the 2025 Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) effort, led by the County’s Office of Response, Recovery, and Resilience (OR3) with consulting support from Dynamic Planning + Science (DP+S); and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update (“the Plan”) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people, property infrastructure and natural resources within our City of Watsonville; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of hazard mitigation actions can significantly reduce the risk of injury, loss of life, property damage, and disruption caused by future natural hazard events; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires all cities, counties, and special districts to have adopted a Hazard Mitigation Plan to receive pre-and post-disaster mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Watsonville fully participated in the FEMA-prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, a coalition of Santa Cruz County local governments and special districts embarked on a planning process to prepare for and lessen the impacts of specified hazards by updating the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, each participating jurisdiction, including the City of Watsonville, has been responsible for reviewing and approving its respective Jurisdictional Annex within the Plan, and the Plan compiles individual annexes into a unified framework to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated hazard mitigation strategy for the entire Santa Cruz County planning area, aligned with the goals, objectives, and priorities of the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update is comprised of two volumes, including Volume 1: Base Plan, which contains the countywide hazard mitigation framework and risk assessment, and Volume 2: Jurisdictional Annexes, which document the hazard profiles, vulnerabilities, and mitigation actions of participating jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) has reviewed and approved the Plan and has forwarded the plan to FEMA Region IX for final review and approval.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The City of Watsonville hereby adopts the Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update as an official plan of the jurisdiction

replacing the City's stand-alone Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City of Watsonville adopts Volume 1 of the Plan in its entirety and acknowledges that the City of Watsonville Jurisdictional Annex contained in Volume 2 represents the jurisdiction's specific hazard mitigation strategies and responsibilities.

2. The City Council authorizes staff to make minor technical edits or administrative corrections to the Plan, as necessary to address FEMA review comments, prior to final adoption; and

3. Per Assembly Bill 2140, the City Council resolves to integrate the Plan by reference into the Public Safety Element of the General Plan in accordance with the requirements of Government Code sections 65302, 65302.6, and 8685.9; and

4. The City Council of the City of Watsonville further encourages the respective departments identified in the implementation strategy of the plan to carry out the recommended mitigation actions assigned to them; and

5. This Resolution will be submitted to Cal OES on behalf of the City of Watsonville by Santa Cruz County Staff to enable the Plan's final approval by Cal OES and FEMA; and

6. This action is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15000 et. seq.), including without limitation, Public Resources Code section 21065 and California Code of Regulations 15378 as this is not a "project" that may cause a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment and because the action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical

changes in the environment. Additionally, even if a “project,” the action would be exempt under the “common sense” exception (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3)) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment. Adoption of the Plan is also exempt from further CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, because adoption of the Plan is planning for future actions, rather than committing to a specific action.

7. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to incorporate the Santa Cruz County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update (Volume 1 and Volume 2) to this resolution upon final review by FEMA Region IX.

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