

RESOLUTION NO. 21-20 (PC)

**RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AN AMENDMENT OF THE
SAFETY ELEMENT OF THE 2005 WATSONVILLE GENERAL PLAN TO
INCORPORATE THE 2020 SINGLE JURISDICTION LOCAL HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN**

Project: Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, in September 2020, the City of Watsonville submitted a draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to California Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for approval and

WHEREAS, the draft LHMP was approved by both agencies for incorporation into the Safety Element of the City of Watsonville's 2005 General Plan by amendment and adoption of the LHMP by the Planning Commission and Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 14-12 of the Watsonville Municipal Code, whenever the public necessity, the general community welfare, and good zoning practice permit such an amendment to the 2005 General Plan. WMC § 14-12.700. Amendments to the General Plan may be initiated by the Zoning Administrator. WMC § 14-12.701.

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to the Safety Element of the General Plan is determined to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption). The LHMP guides future hazard mitigation strategies but does not implement any specific project, action, or funding. A Notice of Exemption will be filed in accordance with CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, notice of time and place of the hearing to consider incorporation and adoption of the LHMP was given at the time and in the manner prescribed by Watsonville

Municipal Code. The matter called for hearing evidence both oral and documentary introduced and received, and the matter submitted for decision; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has considered all written and verbal evidence regarding this project at the public hearing and has made Findings, attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A," in support of incorporation of the LHMP into the amended City of Watsonville 2005 General Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Commission of the City of Watsonville, California, as follows:

Good cause appearing, therefore, the Planning Commission of the City of Watsonville does hereby recommend incorporation of the draft LHMP by amending the Safety Element of the City of Watsonville's 2005 General Plan.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Watsonville, California, held on the 1st of December 2020, by Commissioner Cole, who moved its adoption, which motion being duly seconded by Commissioner Sarmiento, was upon roll call, carried and the resolution adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Acosta, Cole, Dorantes-Pulido, Kammer, Sarmiento, Veitch-Olson, Jones

Noes: Commissioners: None

Absent: Commissioners: None

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Suzi Merriam
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Suzi Merriam, Secretary
Planning Commission

DocuSigned by:
Matthew Jones
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Matthew H. Jones, Chairperson
Planning Commission

**CITY OF WATSONVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION**

EXHIBIT A

Hearing Date: December 1, 2020

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT FINDINGS (WMC § 14-12.708)

- (a) That the proposed amendment is consistent with the policies embodied in the General Plan;**

Supportive Evidence

The recommended text amendment is consistent with policies embodied in the General Plan. In particular it is consistent with the following policies in Chapter 12 in that the LHMP furthers the goals of the Safety Element and establishes a process where hazards are identified and profiled, the people and facilities at risk are analyzed, and mitigation actions are developed to reduce or eliminate hazard risk:

- Policy 12. A Environmental and Public Safety
- Policy 12. B Seismic Hazards
- Policy 12. C Soil Constraints
- Policy 12. D Flood Hazard Reduction
- Policy 12. H Fire Suppression Planning

- (b) That the proposed amendment is compatible to the extent possible with the actual and general planned use of the adjacent properties.**

Supportive Evidence

The recommended text amendment will incorporate the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the 2005 General Plan, thus requiring that hazards within the community can be identified and profiled in order to take actions that will minimize or eliminate those identified risks. The proposed text amendment will serve to improve the quality and safety of all properties within the City.