

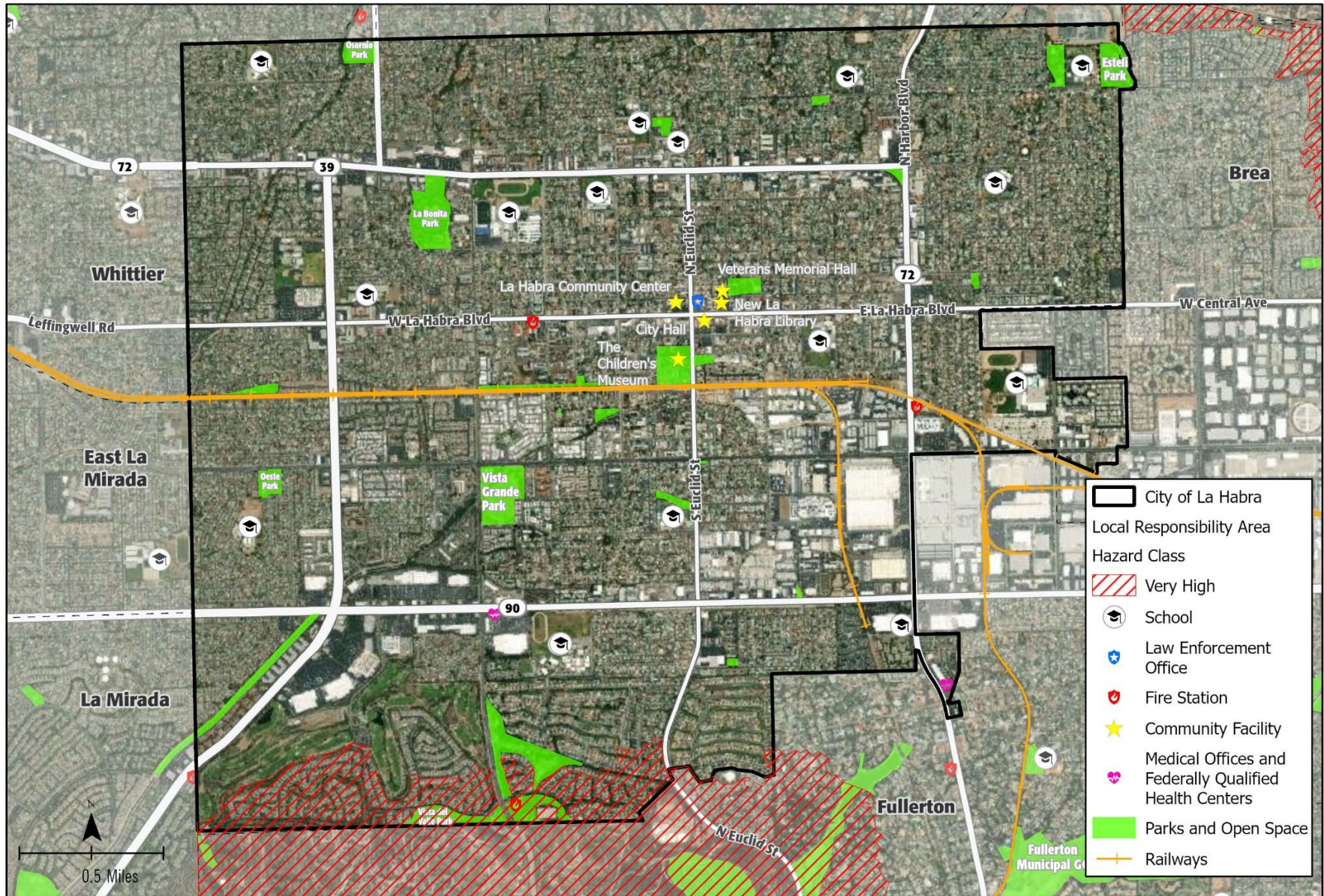
# Chapter 7 COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community safety and protection from the risks of natural and human-induced disasters, emergencies, and hazards is vital in establishing a safe and healthful environment for residents, businesses, and visitors of La Habra. The built and natural environments contain a number of hazards that require special consideration and treatment in the planning process. The California Government Code (Govt. Code), Section 65302(g) requires a general plan to identify specific areas in the community subject to hazards and include appropriate actions to minimize these hazards. Community safety concerns in La Habra include disaster preparedness and emergency response as well as hazards from geologic and seismic activity, wildland and urban fires, floods, noise, and hazardous materials and waste. To address the requirements of the Govt. Code, the City has prepared its own content and incorporated content from other agencies' documents addressing community safety. These documents include the 2020 California Adaptation Planning Guide (APG), the City of La Habra Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), the 2021 Orange County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (2021 OCLHMP), and the 2019 Orange County Water and Wastewater Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019 MJHMP). The current City of La Habra Hazard Mitigation Plan, approved by FEMA, is hereby incorporated into this Community Safety Element by reference. The current HMP can be found on the City's website: <https://lahabraca.gov/1370/General-Plan-Documents>.

Identifying the city's assets and knowing how different hazards might impact each one is also critical for understanding how to provide resources to harden and protect the city's facilities during a natural disaster or other emergency event. Figure 7-1 shows the city's facilities throughout its jurisdictional area. Additional details of the City's infrastructure, services, and systems are in the Infrastructure Element, Community Services Element, and Conservation and Natural Resources Element. The Community Safety Element is consistent with these elements and focuses on addressing the hazards that may affect the City's critical and lifeline facilities.

To support further compliance with the Govt. Code, the City prepared a Vulnerability Assessment and Summary Report, in accordance with the Govt. Code Section 65302(g)(4) and the APG, to assess and present the impacts of climate change conditions on the city's assets and populations. Although the Community Safety Element has incorporated some of these data and findings from the Vulnerability Assessment and Summary Report, the Vulnerability Assessment Report is the authoritative source of this information and is hereby incorporated by reference into the general plan.

Figure 7-1 Critical and Community Facilities



## A. Natural Hazards (NH)

The identification and mitigation of relevant natural hazards in La Habra will result in better protection of the community's health and welfare. To ensure the safety of the La Habra community, proper regard of geologic and seismic, wildland and urban fire, and flooding hazards are considered to the extent feasible.

### Geologic and Seismic Hazards

Geologic and seismic hazards in La Habra include events such as seismic shaking, liquefaction, subsidence, and landslides associated with earthquakes or other ground movements. These hazards occur when the tectonic plates underneath the Earth's surface move against each other, causing shaking on the surface (earthquakes), or when environmental conditions otherwise impact the physical stability of the land on which human settlements stand. Seismic shaking itself can cause or exacerbate other ground movements, such as when an earthquake causes a landslide. The most direct threat posed by geologic and seismic hazards to La Habra is seismic shaking from an earthquake, which could damage or destroy essential buildings, such as City Hall and schools, or infrastructure in the city, such as major roadways and water conveyance systems, depending on the intensity and duration of the shaking.

The most recent seismic event of note in the city was a magnitude 5.1 earthquake in 2014. The earthquake caused shaking that registered as "strong" in La Habra, causing some damage, minor injuries, and power outages. Other major earthquakes of note that affected Orange County include the 1994 Northridge, the 1992 Landers, and the 1933 Long Beach earthquakes. In La Habra's HMP, Table 3.6, "Southern California Historical Earthquakes," outlines a number of earthquakes and seismic hazard events that have occurred in or impacted La Habra since the late 18th century. Figure 3.1 of the HMP, "Southern California Historic Earthquakes," maps the major historical earthquakes by magnitude in the Los Angeles and Orange County region as well as regional fault lines.

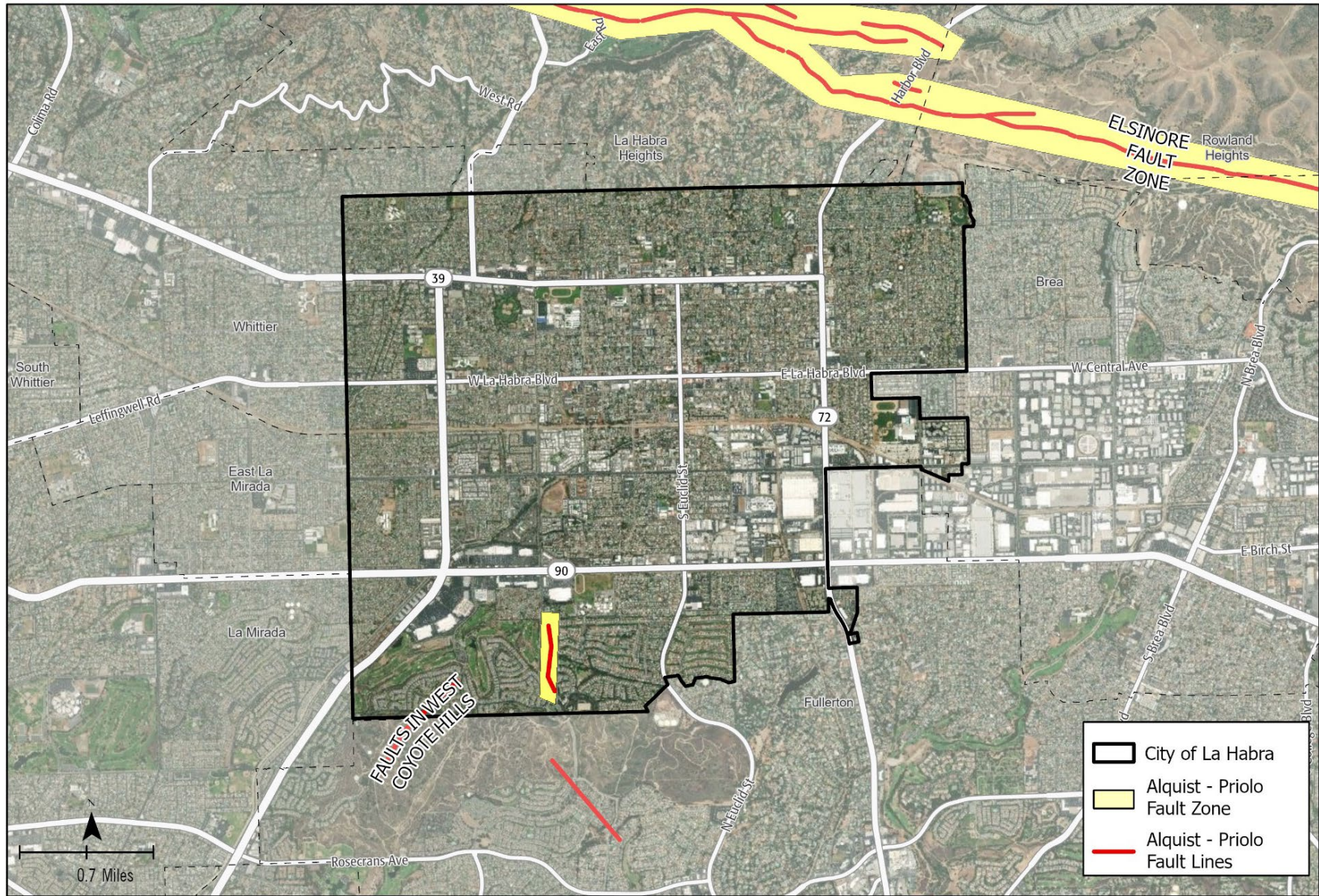
The HMP identifies three regional fault lines that could generate seismic events strong enough to impact La Habra: the San Andreas Fault, the Whittier-Elsinore Fault, and the Elsinore Fault. Tables 3.7, 3.8, and 3.9 in the HMP give information on these fault lines, respectively, describing their length, location, most recent major rupture event, slip rate, and probable magnitudes. Table 5, "Southern California Region Earthquakes with a Magnitude 5.0 or Greater," in the 2021 OCLHMP contains a list of earthquake events that have been detected in or have impacted Orange County or La Habra. As shown on Figure 7-2, the Elsinore Fault Zone runs to the north of the city, and faults in the West Coyote Hills run through the southern portion of the city. The Elsinore Fault Zone has the highest potential for producing an earthquake of magnitude 6.7 or greater.

Figure 7-3 in this element shows the areas of the city at risk for landslide susceptibility, which are predominantly on the northern and southern edges of La Habra. Landslide susceptibility is classified on a scoring system that ranges from 0 to X (excluding classes I, II, and IV). Lower classes express low landslide susceptibility, and classes VIII, IX, and X mean very high susceptibility. The classification is a function of rock strength and slope class. Landslide susceptibility increases with steepness and weak rocks. The HMP has maps showing the sections of the city at risk from geologic and seismic hazards and their intersection with the city's infrastructure:

- HMP Figure 5, Ground Shaking and City of La Habra Potable Water Infrastructure.
- HMP Figure 6, Ground Shaking and City of La Habra Wastewater Infrastructure.
- HMP Figure 7, Liquefaction and City of La Habra Potable Water Infrastructure.
- HMP Figure 8, Liquefaction and City of La Habra Wastewater Infrastructure.
- HMP Figure 9, Landslide and City of La Habra Potable Water Infrastructure.
- HMP Figure 10, Landslide and City of La Habra Wastewater Infrastructure.

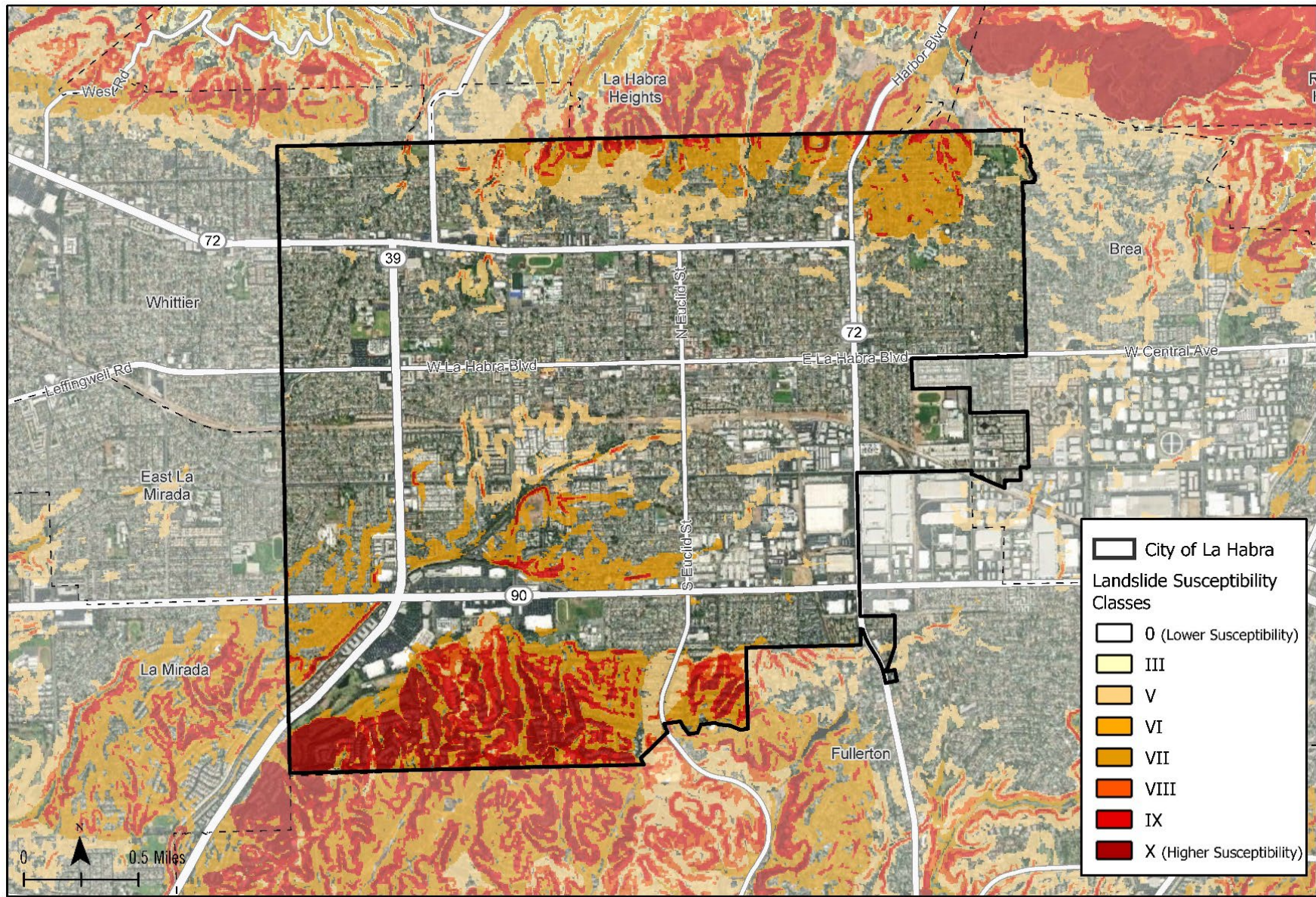
Ground shaking and landslides are of particular concern for linear infrastructure such as water and wastewater pipelines, natural gas pipelines, electrical transmission lines, and roadways, which could be damaged or destroyed by these events. The following goal and policies provide guidance to minimize the exposure of people and property to geologic and seismic hazards by requiring enforcement of safety standards, inclusion of best management practices in site design and construction methods, and incorporation of mitigation to reduce and/or avoid impacts.

Figure 7-2 Regional Fault Lines



CGS, County of Orange, PlaceWorks, ESRI

**Figure 7-3 Landslide Susceptibility**



See Page 7-4 for the description of the susceptibility classes.

## Goal NH 1

**Geologic and Seismic Hazards.** Adverse effects to persons, property, and essential public facilities caused by geologic and seismic hazards are minimized.

### Policies

**NH 1.1 Safety Standards.** Enforce state and local seismic and geologic safety laws, standards, and guidelines, including the California Building Code, for site design and construction of new and renovated structures.

**NH 1.2 Geotechnical Investigations.** Require geotechnical investigations prior to approval of development in areas where the potential for geologic or seismic hazards exists, addressing, as appropriate, ground shaking, landslides, liquefaction, expansive soils, subsidence, and erosion. Consider incidents that may be caused by other hazards and those exacerbated by climate change, such as landslides caused by extreme rainfall, erosion caused by loss of vegetation, and subsidence caused by drought. Incorporate recommended mitigation measures to reduce or avoid the identified hazards.

**NH 1.3 Existing Essential Public Facilities.** Explore opportunities to upgrade and/or retrofit existing essential public facilities (e.g., fire stations, police stations) and other important public facilities that do not meet current building and safety code standards, as resources are available.

**NH 1.4 Reduce and Control Erosion.** Require that development projects involving grading in hillside areas reduce and control erosion potential by utilizing rapid-developing planting techniques, slope terracing, replacement with cohesive soils not subject to erosion, and/or the construction of slope drainage improvements.

**NH 1.5 Education and Coordination.** Educate the public about potential geologic and seismic hazards in the community.

**NH 1.6 Multiagency Seismic and Geologic Information.** Establish cooperative partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies to promote sharing of educational information regarding seismic and geologic hazards and safety.

## Fire Hazards

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Fire hazards include fires in undeveloped and open space lands (wildfires) as well as developed, urbanized land (urban fires). Fires damage or destroy buildings, infrastructure, and ecological systems and degrade local and regional air quality with smoke.

Figure 7-4 shows the locations in La Habra that are at risk from fire hazards—the city’s southern section between Westridge Golf Club and the city limits as well as some areas outside the city in Brea, La Habra Heights, and unincorporated Orange County. As shown on Figure 7-5, primary land uses in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in La Habra include low density residential, parks and flood channels, and public facilities. The Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone stops at the northern border of the City primarily due to vegetation and topography. The area within the City is more urban or suburban and has less vegetation and wildlands. The HMP includes mapping that shows wildfire risks in the city, including Figure 1, “Fire Hazard and City of La Habra Potable Water Infrastructure,” and Figure 2, “Fire Hazard and City of La Habra Wastewater Infrastructure.”

Most of the city’s facilities are outside of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, except for Vista del Valle Park and Los Angeles County Fire Department Station 193. The higher fire risk faced by these facilities may require additional consideration when planning emergency response efforts. Current fire hazards data from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) are [online \(https://ca.water.usgs.gov/wildfires/california-wildfire-data.html\)](https://ca.water.usgs.gov/wildfires/california-wildfire-data.html). This map can help the City monitor current and emerging fire events in the surrounding area and divert appropriate resources in response.

Table 3.11 in the HMP, “Southern California Historical Fires (2001–2016),” and Table 7 in the 2021 OCLHMP, “Historic Wildfires in Orange County,” show the history of significant wildfire events in Orange County and the surrounding region, respectively. Recent major fires in the region include the 2008 Freeway Complex, 2017 Canyon I, 2017 Canyon II, and 2018 Holy fires.

The primary firefighting agency for La Habra is the Los Angeles County Fire Department; other agencies responsible for fire protection and emergency response in La Habra are listed in the HMP Table H-3a, “Planning and Regulatory Capabilities Summary.”

Fire hazards have been present in the past, and they are likely to continue in the future. Warmer temperatures and increases in drought conditions are likely to create more fuel for fires, leading to an increase in the quantity of wildfires and the size of burned areas. Santa Ana winds may contribute to the sparking and spreading of wildfires. Overall burned area in the region is expected to increase over 60 percent for fires associated with Santa Ana winds, and 75 percent for fires not associated with Santa Ana winds. Climate change is also expected to extend



the fire season because of warmer temperatures earlier in spring and later into the fall. The Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional information on how fire hazards are likely to change due to climate change.

The following goal and policies address the risks of wildland and urban fire hazards.

## Goal NH 2

**Wildland and Urban Fire Hazards. Persons and property are protected from wildland and urban fire hazards.**

### Policies

- NH 2.1 Urban-Wildland Interface.** Locate, design, and construct development within or adjacent to areas subject to high wildland fire risks, such as La Habra’s hillsides, to standards that reduce exposure and potential impacts. Consider alternative development sites outside of the wildland-urban interface, as appropriate.
- NH 2.2 Open Space Fire Suppression Access.** Ensure existing access points to La Habra’s open space areas are maintained for fire suppression.
- NH 2.3 Fuel Modification and Vegetation Management Review.** Continue to support the City’s fire service provider’s review of new development to ensure development complies with fuel modification requirements, creation of defensible space, and habitat restoration by replacing invasive and fire-susceptible plants with indigenous species, thus reducing baseline fire risk in the city’s very high fire hazard severity zone, wildland-urban interface, and elsewhere as applicable.
- NH 2.4 Wildland Fire Coordination.** Work with the City’s fire service provider and surrounding jurisdictions that are subject to wildfires that may impact La Habra to coordinate vegetation management strategies and wildfire hazard protection and prevention services.
- NH 2.5 Wildland Fire Education.** Educate the public on wildland fire prevention techniques such as site design, landscaping, and defensible space vegetation management practices to minimize potential wildland fire hazards.
- NH 2.6 Urban Fire Risks.** Work with the City’s fire service provider to maintain an ongoing fire inspection program to reduce fire hazards associated with critical facilities, public assembly facilities, industrial buildings, and nonresidential buildings.
- NH 2.7 Long-Term Maintenance.** Provide for the long-term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and activities, such as fuel clearing and

vegetation management, with the City administering these activities on public lands and working with fire protection agencies and landowners to ensure maintenance of privately held parcels.

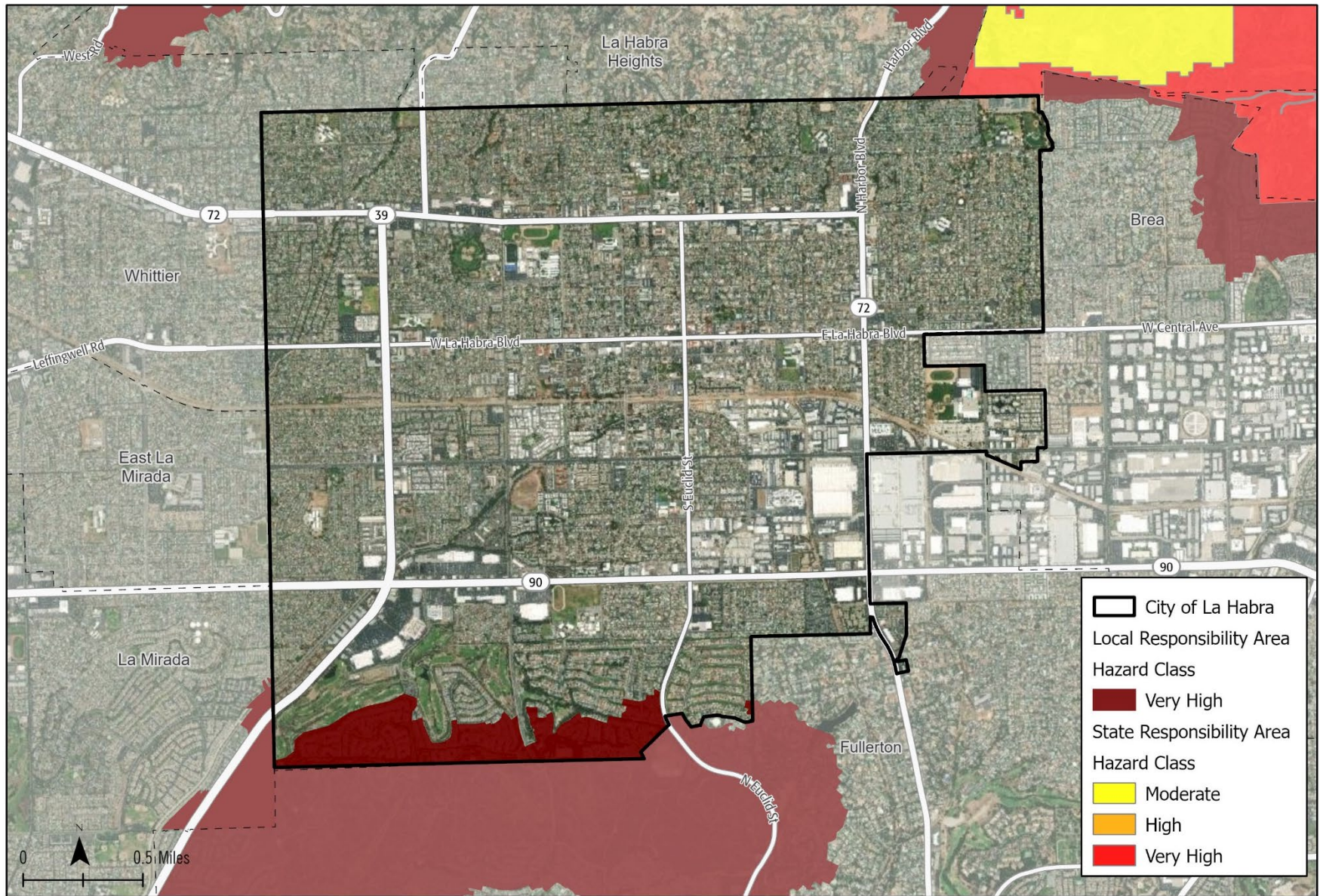
- NH 2.8 Fire Protection Plans.** Support efforts by the Los Angeles County Fire Department to protect development, including significant redevelopments of existing structures, in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in La Habra through adoption of project-specific fire protection plans or other appropriate strategies. Such efforts may include standards for adequate roadways and accessibility, firefighting infrastructure, signage, vegetation management, construction materials, emergency evacuation route standards with sufficient ingress/egress access, fire-adapted and indigenous plantings, and other necessary elements to comply with state requirements.
- NH 2.9 Water Supply Planning.** Coordinate with local water utility providers to ensure an adequate supply of water for fire suppression efforts in the city and undertake planning efforts to acquire and maintain a sufficient water supply if supply for current and/or future needs does not exist.
- NH 2.10 Preemptive Review.** Anticipate risks to redevelopments in the city's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and other fire-prone areas. Continue to work with the Los Angeles County Fire Department and enforce the California Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction and Buildings and Structures Regulations, as applicable.
- NH 2.11 Post-disaster Review.** Following major wildfire events, reevaluate development standards for wildfire risk areas and apply stricter standards as needed to maintain high levels of wildfire protection.
- NH 2.12 Fire Hazards Response Support.** Support measures that help firefighting crews and emergency response teams respond to fire hazards or work under low-visibility conditions, such as high-visibility signage for streets and building addresses that meet or exceed the standards in the California Fire Safe Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Articles 2 and 3, Sections 1273 and 1274).
- NH 2.13 Access for Fire and Emergency Vehicles and Equipment.** Require proposed development to provide adequate access for fire and emergency vehicles and equipment that meets or exceeds the standards in the California Fire Safe Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Articles 2 and 3, Sections 1273 and 1274).
- NH 2.14 Long-Term Water Supply.** Coordinate with the Municipal Water District of Orange County to maintain an adequate, long-term water

supply for fire suppression needs for the community.

**NH 2.15 Development in Fire-Prone Areas.** Minimize residential development in areas designated as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, as shown on Figure 7-4, *Fire Hazard Severity Zones: La Habra, CA*.

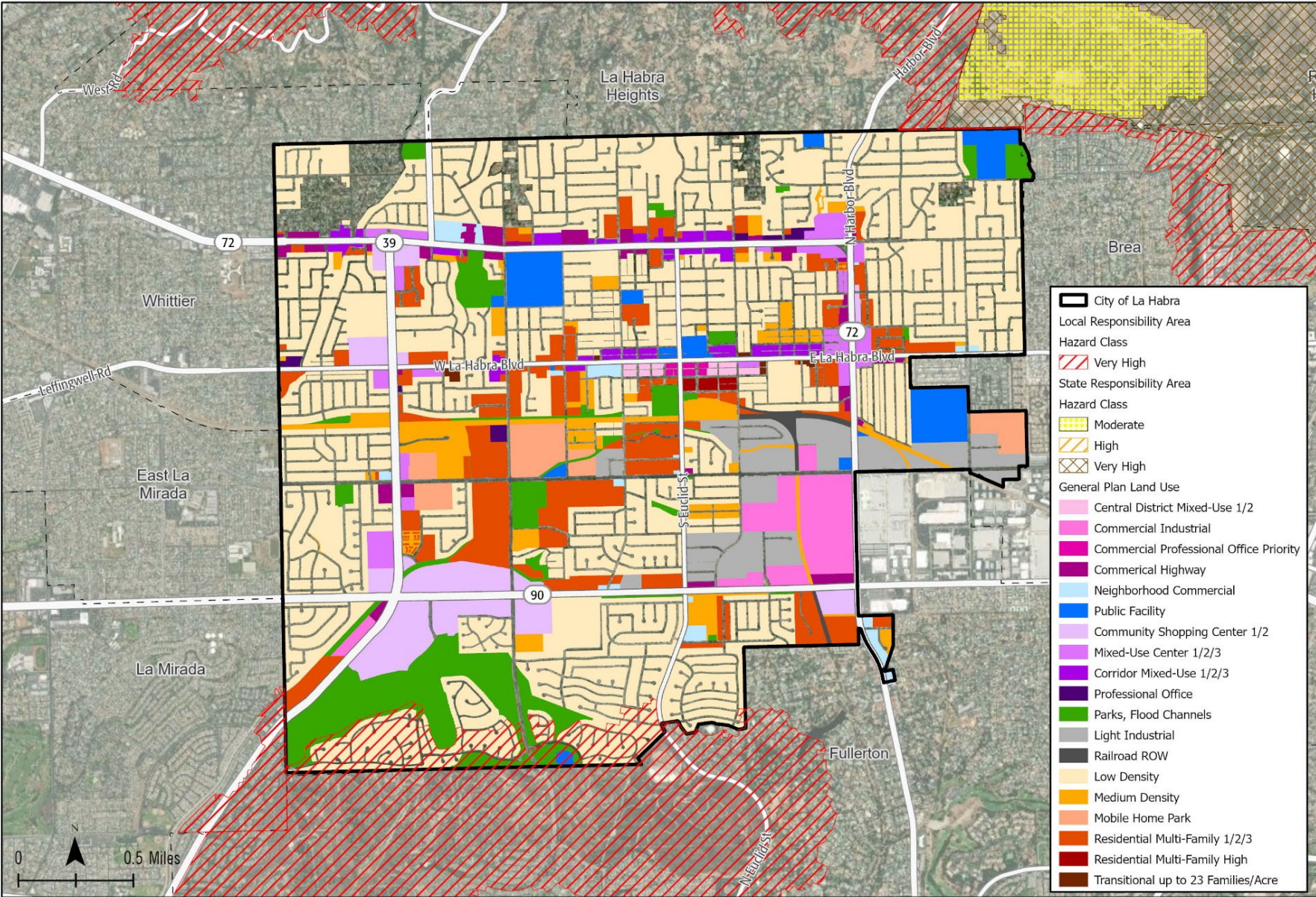
**NH 2.16 Existing Non-conforming Development.** Coordinate with the City's fire service provider to evaluate development that does not meet fire-safe road and vegetation standards and ensure that road standards and vegetation management are created and maintained.

**Figure 7-4 Fire Hazard Severity Zones: La Habra, CA**



CalFire 2007/2011, PlaceWorks, ESRI

Figure 7-5 Land Uses in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones



CalFire 2007/2011, PlaceWorks, ESRI

## Flooding Hazards

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Flood hazards occur when the amount of water on a particular spot exceeds the drainage capacity of that land to move the water away. Floods often occur after a heavy precipitation event but can also be caused by slow or blocked storm drains, dam failures, or other infrastructure breaks. In urban areas, floods may also occur if a section of water storage or delivery infrastructure (water line, reservoir, tank, etc.) becomes damaged to the extent that it releases water faster than the city's established drainage systems can accommodate. Flood hazards are common in urban environments because the high volume of impermeable surfaces (e.g., concrete, asphalt, buildings) impedes natural drainage.

Figure 7-6 of this Community Safety Element shows the parts of La Habra in mapped floodplain areas, including the 100-year floodplain (areas where there is a 1 percent chance of flooding in any given year), the 500-year floodplain (areas with a 0.2 percent chance of flooding in any given year), and the Regulatory Floodway (the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood) as mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). These areas are located along Coyote Creek and a creek in the northwestern portion of the city.

The City's HMP Figures 3.18, "FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)," and 3.19, "FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Zoomed," show the FEMA-identified flood zones for the greater Orange County area and La Habra, respectively. Most of the city lies in Zone X, indicating most of La Habra is in an area of minimal flood hazards. The HMP mapping also shows flood hazards superimposed on the city's infrastructure, including Figure 3, "Flood Hazards and City of La Habra Potable Water Infrastructure," and Figure 4, "Flood Hazard and City of La Habra Wastewater Infrastructure."

The City's HMP lists flooding events in Orange County from 1993 onward, detailing the number of injuries and fatalities and the property damage cost. Additionally, Section 3.2, "Flood-Storm: Previous Occurrences," of the 2021 OCLHMP lists historically significant flooding events in Orange County since the late 18th century. These data describe where flooding has occurred in the past and can help the City anticipate how to prepare for future flood hazards. Flooding hazards could also occur due to an uncontrolled release of water from a reservoir through a dam because of structural failures or deficiencies. The primary danger from dam failure is the high-velocity flooding downstream of the dam and limited warning times for evacuation. Failures are rare but not unprecedented; they can be caused by overtopping, foundation defects, piping and seepage failures, or conduit and valve failures. Many dam or pipeline failures are the secondary result of other natural disasters, such as earthquakes, landslides, and extreme storms.

As shown on Figure 7-7, the 30-million-gallon Central Reservoir in the City of Brea has an inundation zone that goes through La Habra. The Chino Ranch #1 reservoir

has an inundation zone that would travel southeast of the city. Damage to any of these reservoirs, directly or indirectly, could result in inundation of the land below the reservoirs, damage buildings and infrastructure, and harm community members. Dams are regulated by the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams, which inspects each dam on an annual basis to ensure it is safe and performing as intended. This substantially reduces the risk of dam failures.

Due to the occurrence of flooding hazards in the past, floods are likely to continue in the future and may occur in more frequent and intense events as a result of climate change. However, dam inundation hazards are likely to remain rare events in the future due to annual inspections from California Division of Safety of Dams. The Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional information on how flooding hazards are likely to change due to climate change.

The primary agency for flood protection in La Habra is the Orange County Flood Control District, with other agencies playing supporting roles as identified in Table H-3d of the HMP. The City of La Habra maintains and enforces its own floodplain management ordinance in Chapter 15.64 of the La Habra Municipal Code. This ordinance establishes standards for development activity in the city's identified floodplain and provides the legal authority for the city to apply special review to these projects. The policies and implementation actions in this Community Safety Element provide high-level policy support for the provisions of Chapter 15.64 to help achieve its goal of minimized flood damage.

The following goal and policies provide the City with guidance in reducing present and future flood hazards.

### **Goal NH 3**

**Flood Protection.** A community protected from the risks of loss of life, personal injury, and property damage associated with potential flooding hazards.

#### **Policies**

**NH 3.1 Protection of People and Property.** Adopt, maintain, and implement applicable federal, state, and local laws, standards, and guidelines to protect people and property from the risks of flooding.

**NH 3.2 National Flood Insurance Program.** Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and floodplain management practices in accordance with federal guidelines to maintain the City's eligibility for flood insurance and qualification for disaster assistance.

**NH 3.3 Flood Hazard Zones.** Require that any substantial improvements or upgrades in identified Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood hazard zones (i.e., 100- and 500-year floodplains), as shown on Figure 7-6 (Flood Hazards), be constructed in accordance with applicable

city, state, and federal regulations, including compliance with the minimum standards of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Act to avoid or minimize the risk of flood damage.

**NH 3.4 Orange County Public Works.** Support Orange County Public Works' design, construction, operation, and maintenance of its flood control facilities in La Habra and work with Orange County Public Works to ensure that these facilities maintain adequate capacity to accommodate 100-year storm events or more severe scenarios, as appropriate.

**NH 3.5 City Storm Drains.** Design and construct storm drains per Orange County Public Works' standards and ensure that City-owned storm drains are operated and maintained to allow for maximum capacity of the system and continued operations during a flood event.

**NH 3.6 Privately Owned Natural Drainage Channels.** Require owners of privately owned sections of natural drainage channels in La Habra to keep these sections free from obstructions that may adversely affect flooding on-site or of downstream properties.

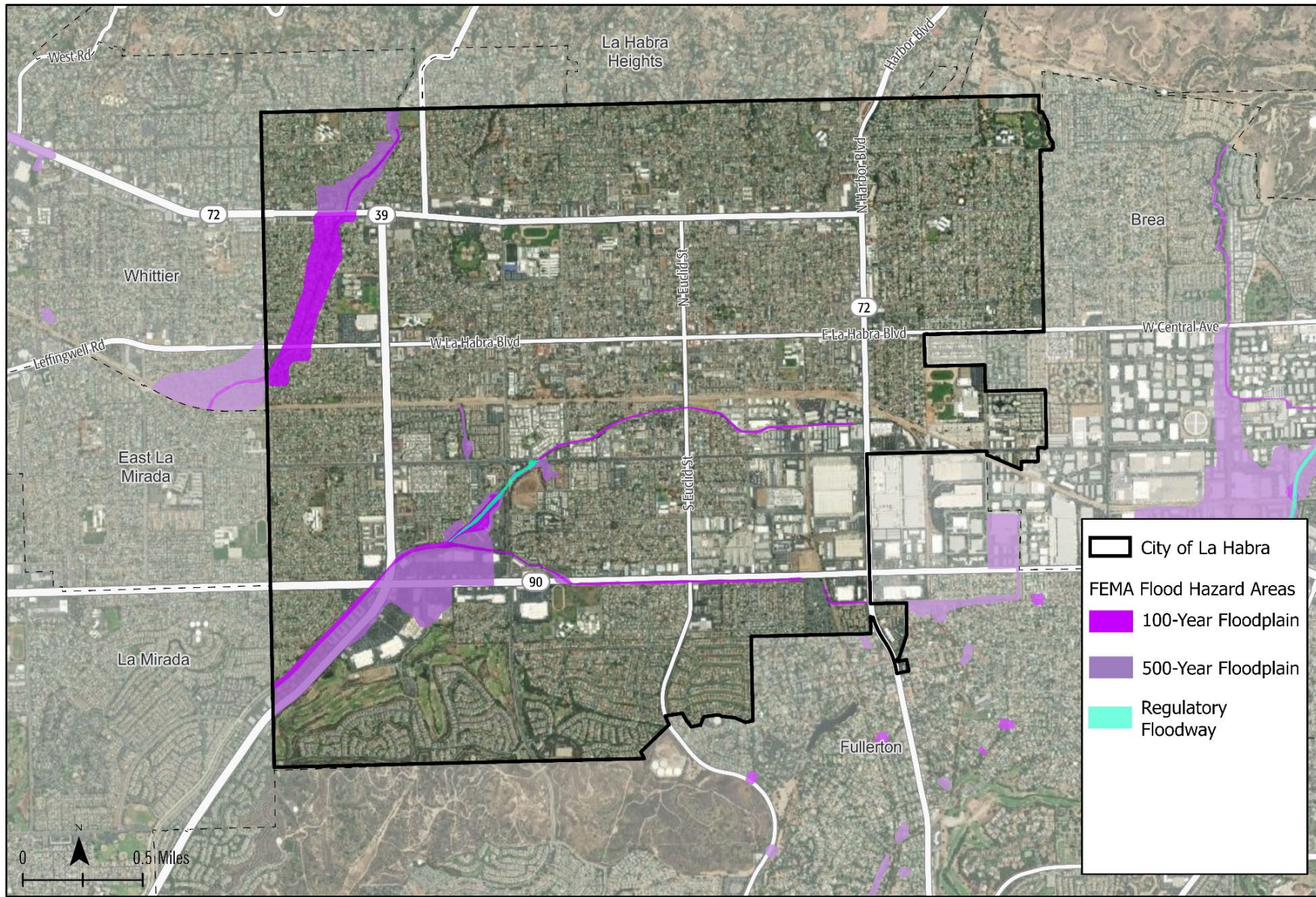
**NH 3.7 Essential Public Facilities.** Maintain the structural and operational integrity of critical facilities during flooding events and locate new public facilities outside of the city's identified hazard zones. If this proves infeasible, require that such facilities be sited, designed, constructed, and operated to reduce the risks of flooding.

**NH 3.8 Sustainable Flood Control Practices.** Work with Orange County Public Works to incorporate improvements, including green infrastructure, in flood control channels and other spaces (e.g., parking lots, open space areas) that provide opportunities for stormwater detention and groundwater recharge, at the time of major upgrades and/or reconstruction and when feasible.

**NH 3.9 Agency Coordination.** Establish cooperative working relationships among local, regional, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for flood protection to minimize flood hazards and improve safety.

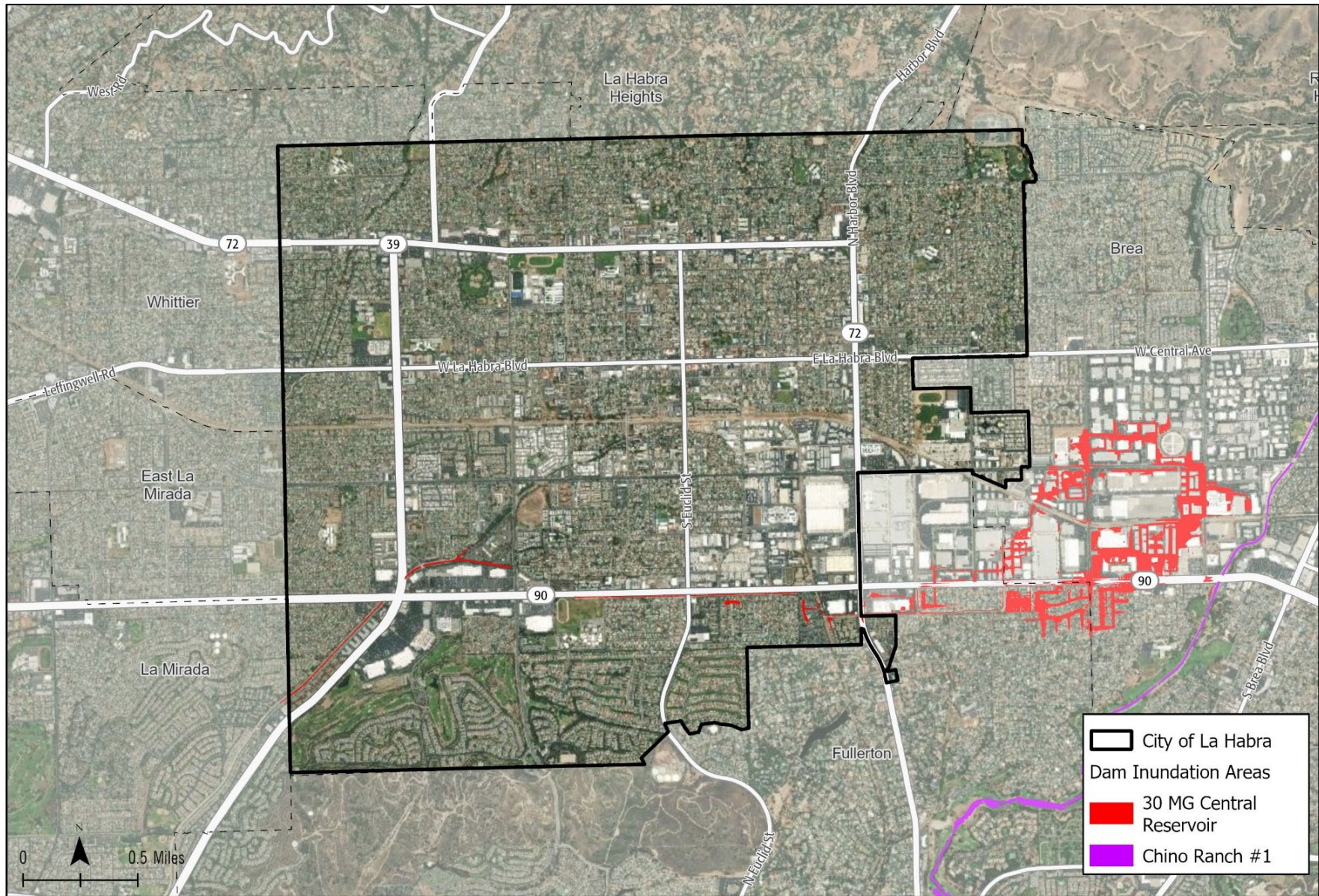


Figure 7-6 Flood Zones and Flood Control Channels



FEMA 2020, PlaceWorks, ESRI

Figure 7-7 Dam Inundation



FEMA 2020. PlaceWorks. ESRI

## Drought Hazards

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Drought events occur when precipitation and water supplies fall below normal levels. They can occur locally if local precipitation and/or groundwater levels diminish or regionally when long-distance water sources become similarly stressed. The City’s HMP contains a discussion of past droughts in Orange County or California as a whole in Section 3.11.2, “Drought History,” and a reference to the [US Drought Monitor](#), which displays current and archived data on drought hazards in the US, including California.

Virtually all of La Habra’s water comes from local groundwater supplies or other groundwater basins in Los Angeles or Orange Counties, although approximately 1 percent of water is imported from distant sources. The high reliance on groundwater supplies makes La Habra more resilient to drought than communities that depend on surface water, although long-term and persistent decreases in local precipitation will eventually affect local groundwater as well. From 1961 to 1990, which are Cal-Adapt recommended years to capture historic averages, La Habra received an annual average of 15.4 inches of precipitation. Climate change is expected to increase annual average slightly, to 15.5 inches by midcentury (2035 to 2064) and 17.4 inches by late century (2070 to 2099). However, precipitation is expected to fall in fewer, more intense storms, leading to extended periods of little precipitation, causing drought conditions that can affect water recharging in the groundwater basins. The Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional details about the impact of drought on La Habra.

The following goal and policies provide guidance to minimize the exposure of people and property to drought.

### Goal NH 4

**Drought Reduction.** A community resilient to the risks of reduced water supply and increased fire hazards associated with potential drought episodes.

#### Policies

**NH 4.1 Long-Term Planning.** Use the latest climate change data to understand the changing situation of localized and statewide drought on La Habra.

**NH 4.2 Improved Water Resilience.** Transition to less water-intensive operations and practices at the City government as well as private properties within the city.

**NH 4.3 Economic Justice.** Anticipate and moderate any potential increases

in water prices due to resource scarcity, especially on the city's low-resourced population.

**NH 4.4 Unhoused Persons.** Work with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and California Domestic Water Company to ensure that disadvantaged populations, including persons experiencing homelessness, have access to affordable water.

**NH 4.5 Tree Mortality.** Reduce the impacts of drought on the city's urban forest to reduce incidence of tree death through resilient and water-efficient irrigation and pest maintenance programs.

## **Extreme Heat and Warm Night Hazards**

Extreme heat events occur when temperatures are significantly above average. In La Habra, an extreme heat day is one with a temperature above 99.3 degrees Fahrenheit. Multiple extreme heat days in a row are known as a heat wave. The danger of extreme heat days comes from their potential to cause heat illnesses, such as heat stroke, or even death in people who have little to no protection from exposure to these temperatures. They can also damage infrastructure and cause power outages, further increasing risks to human health. Historically, La Habra experienced an average of four extreme heat days annually. By 2070 and beyond, the number of extreme heat days could increase to 33 days per year, depending on future climate change conditions. A warm night event occurs when the daily minimum temperature exceeds 98 percent of all minimum temperatures recorded in the community between 1961 to 1990, which in La Habra is 67.6 degrees Fahrenheit. Warm nights can be hazardous to public health and infrastructure since they do not provide the typical cooling effect of nighttime after an extreme heat day. Table 7-1 displays the projections reported by the state's Cal-Adapt database showing the increased frequency and duration of extreme heat days and warm nights in La Habra. The City's HMP includes a discussion about past extreme heat events in California, and the Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional details on how extreme heat and warm nights will likely be affected by climate change.

**Table 7-1 Projected Changes in Frequency and Duration of Extreme Heat Days and Warm Nights**

Metric	Observed Historical (1961–1990)	Lower-Emissions Scenario (2021–2050)	Higher-Emissions Scenario (2021–2050)	Lower-Emissions Scenario (2051–2070)	Higher-Emissions Scenario (2051–2070)	Lower-Emissions Scenario (2070–2099)	Higher-Emissions Scenario (2070–2099)
Average number of extreme heat days annually	4	10	12	14	21	18	33
Average days of longest annual heat wave	2.6	4	4	4	6	5	8
Average number of warm nights annually	4	19	23	28	51	38	83
Average length of longest annual stretch of warm nights	2.1	6	7	8	15	9	29

Sources: Cal-Adapt, Extreme Heat Days and Warm Nights, accessed March 3, 2022, <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/extreme-heat>; National Weather Service, NOAA Online Weather Data, San Diego Weather Forecast Office, <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=sgx>.

The following goal and policies provide guidance to minimize the exposure of people and property to extreme heat and warm night hazards.

## Goal NH 5

**Heat Wave Resilience.** A community resilient to the threat of extreme heat and warm night conditions associated with heat waves.

### Policies

- NH 5.1 Equity and Vulnerable Populations.** Reduce the threat of extreme heat to vulnerable populations in La Habra, such as unhoused people and lower-income households, by encouraging equitable retrofitting of housing units with modern air conditioning, hardening and diversifying energy generation and delivery infrastructure and providing public cooling centers. Such efforts may include providing education about available rebates and incentives, encouraging limited HVAC retrofits at time of major renovations, encouraging renewable energy generation, and requiring it when mandated by State law, and coordinating with community-based organizations and electricity providers.
- NH 5.2 Grid Resilience.** Work with electricity providers to prepare for potential brownouts or blackouts of the power grid during extreme heat hazards, and maintain energy access to the extent feasible in the city by encouraging the development of dispersed energy microgeneration facilities, including solar energy systems, that can offset losses due to grid stress.
- NH 5.3 Cooling Centers.** Provide designated locations throughout the city where residents can access air conditioning during extreme heat.
- NH 5.4 Extreme Heat Response Plan.** Develop and implement an extreme heat response plan that establishes community cooling centers, weatherizes City buildings, and identifies other cooling strategies.
- NH 5.5 Shifted Outdoor Work Hours.** Work with businesses that have outdoor workers to encourage shifting in work hours to earlier in the day from May through September to reduce heat-related illnesses among outdoor workers on extreme heat days.

## Extreme Storm Hazards

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Extreme storms can cause severe weather events such as high winds, lightning, and hail. In La Habra, hot and dry Santa Ana winds from the desert and atmospheric river events with heavy precipitation are the most common types of extreme storms. They can cause flooding, destroy power infrastructure, topple trees and telephone poles, and create dangerous airborne debris. In La Habra, extreme storms and related weather events can not only disrupt normal city operations and life but can exacerbate other hazards. The City's HMP includes details on past severe weather or storms in Orange County that may have impacted La Habra from 1966 to 2000 in Table 3.13 "Historical Severe Weather Damage in Orange County." The HMP also describes a more recent event in 2016, a strong thunderstorm with winds up to 60 miles per hour and rainfall totals from 0.5 to 1.5 inches that day. According to the California 4th Climate Change Assessment's Regional Report for Los Angeles and Orange Counties, the frequency and intensity of atmospheric rivers will likely increase in the future. The Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional details on how the occurrence of extreme storms may change due to climate change.

The following goal and policies provide guidance to minimize the exposure of people to human health hazards.

### Goal NH 6

**Reduction of Extreme Storm Hazards. A community and population safe from extreme weather events and other associated hazards.**

#### Policies

**NH 6.1 State of Awareness.** Stay up to date on emerging weather conditions and projected extreme weather events that could impair public safety.

**NH 6.2 Vulnerable Populations.** Protect and support vulnerable populations in the city that may lack protection against extreme storms, such as unhoused people or people with limited resources, by offering evacuation assistance and emergency overnight housing at resilience hubs and evacuation centers and encouraging the preemptive hardening of homes. Provide education and coordinate with community-based organizations to support these activities.

**NH 6.3 Preventative Action.** Work with regional partners to take predisaster action to reduce the impacts of extreme storm hazards on vulnerable populations, essential services, and infrastructure. Coordinate with community-based organizations, service providers, and regional infrastructure owners to support their efforts and align them with community vulnerabilities.



**NH 6.4 Outdoor Employment.** Work with outdoor industries, such as construction, to ensure that state and federal safety standards for extreme heat are being followed at job sites.

## Human Health Hazards

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Human health hazards include vector-borne diseases transmitted by pest and animal activity, such as hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, Lyme disease, West Nile virus, and influenza. This may also include other infectious diseases that are capable of rapidly spreading through a community. These contagious diseases can be harmful to community members, particularly to senior citizens, persons with compromised immune systems, and other at-risk populations. Changes in climate conditions, including warmer temperatures, may cause disease-carrying organisms to be more active throughout the year, increasing the risk of disease spread. These changes may also cause organisms not currently living in La Habra to spread into the area, potentially creating new health risks. The City's 2020 LHMP has data on past disease outbreaks in Orange County and California that may have impacted La Habra; see section 3.10.2, "Disease Outbreak Hazard History." More recently, La Habra has experienced the COVID-19 pandemic that began in March 2020, which has caused significant global impacts. As of March 2022, the Orange County Health Care Agency reports over 54,400 cases and more than 6,800 deaths in the county since the pandemic began. The pandemic also caused substantial economic harm from layoffs, business closures, and other loss of economic activities. The Vulnerability Assessment Report provides additional details on how human health hazards may change due to climate change.

The following goal and policies provide guidance to minimize the exposure of people to human health hazards.

### Goal NH 7

**Reduction of Human Health Hazards.** A community and population safe from hazards that degrade human health and well-being.

#### Policies

**NH 7.1 Preventative Action.** Continue to work with regional partners, such as the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District, to reduce vectors in the city.

**NH 7.2 Training and Workshops.** Provide training opportunities, workshops, and other educational efforts for residents and businesses to abate vector sources and reduce the transmission of human health hazards.

**NH 7.3 Public Spaces.** Implement vector abatement measures in city parks and other outdoor public gathering spaces to maintain public and environmental health.

**NH 7.6 Signage.** In public outdoor spaces, post signage and informational material about how to reduce the risk of bug bites and exposure to vectors.

**NH 7.5 Private Spaces.** Work with businesses and property owners to reduce vector sources on-site, such as standing water.

**NH 7.6 Pandemic Preparation.** Coordinate with the Orange County Health Care Agency to prepare for future pandemic events, including developing effective messages on preventive actions and treatments, implementing appropriate public health measures, and securing necessary supplies.

**NH 7.7 Material Distribution.** Work with the Orange County Health Care Agency, health care providers, community-based organizations, and others during public health emergencies to equitably distribute protective gear, testing supplies, and information about treatment options and risk minimization behavior.

**NH 7.6 Indoor Air Quality.** Provide information and training opportunities to residents and businesses on how to maintain healthy indoor air quality.

## B. Emergency Preparedness (EP)

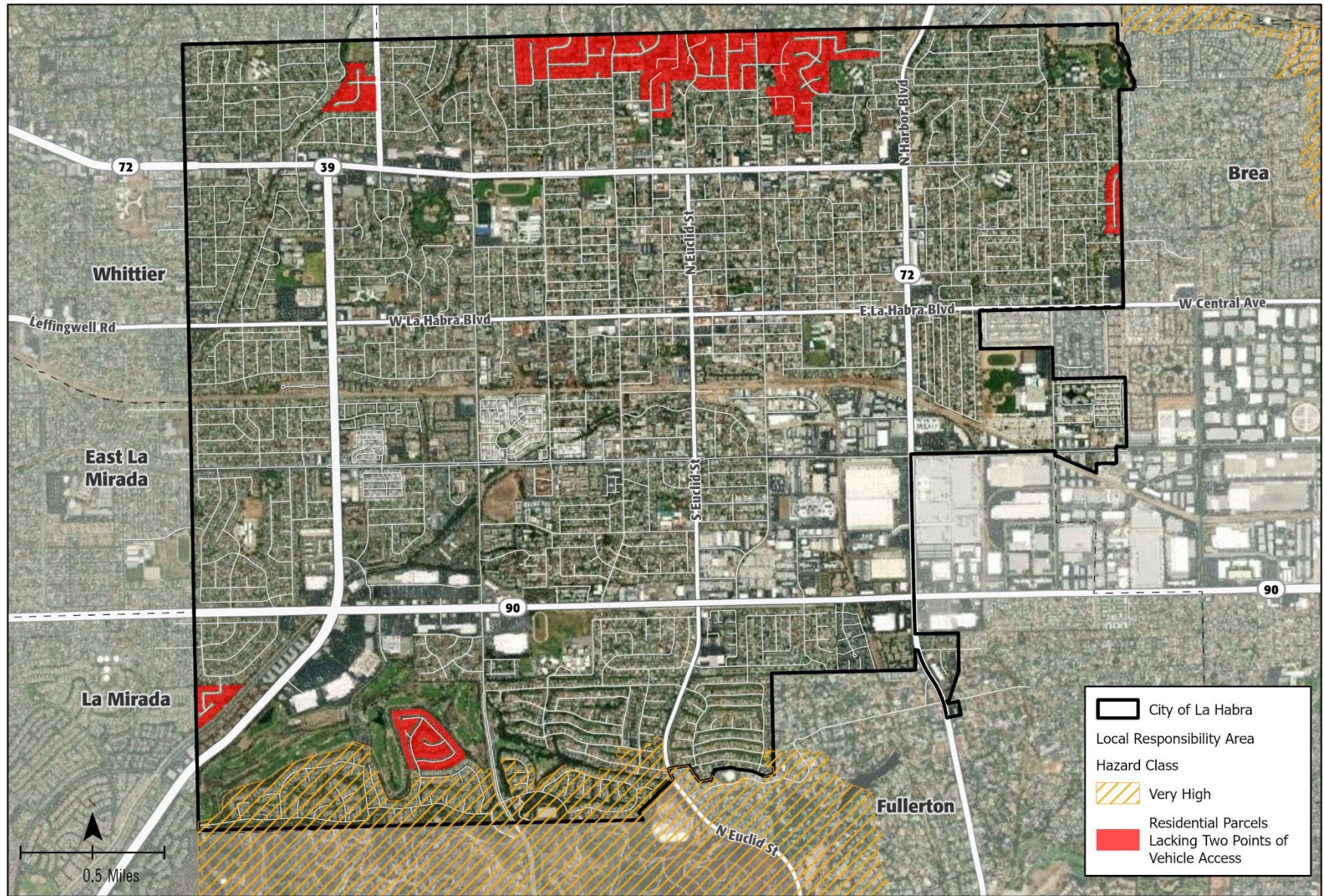
Emergency preparedness is essential to establishing a sense of well-being in the community. The City's emergency service provider is responsible for monitoring and coordination of all tactical, medical, and rescue operations, including response to situations such as collapsed structures, earthquakes, hazardous materials, multiple casualties, terrorism, and wildland fires. The City of La Habra supports an appropriate and effective response to emergencies and disasters that includes implementation of the City's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The ERP determines the actions to be taken by the City to prevent disasters, where possible; reduces the vulnerability of residents to any disasters that cannot be prevented; establishes capabilities for protecting citizens from the effects of disasters; responds effectively to the actual occurrence of disasters; and provides for recovery in the aftermath of an emergency involving extensive damage to the community.

The HMP, approved by FEMA in 2020, is a strategic planning tool that provides mitigation strategies for the reduction or prevention of injury to people and damage to property from hazards. Effective hazard mitigation decreases the demand for emergency response resources, reduces the principal causes of injuries and deaths, enables a quicker lifesaving response and economic recovery, and reduces societal impacts. The City's participation in automatic and mutual aid agreements ensures adequate resources, facilities, and other support services necessary during and after disasters and emergencies.

Part of hazard mitigation includes planning efforts to allow for safe emergency evacuation efforts when necessary. Ideally, residential developments and neighborhoods should have at least two points of emergency ingress and egress to help support a safe and effective evacuation as well as providing emergency responders with access to the area. Limited points of access can result in traffic jams and slow evacuation efforts. This in turn may expose community members to elevated risks and hinder emergency access to the site. Figure 7-8 shows residential areas in La Habra that do not have at least two points of access to an evacuation route.

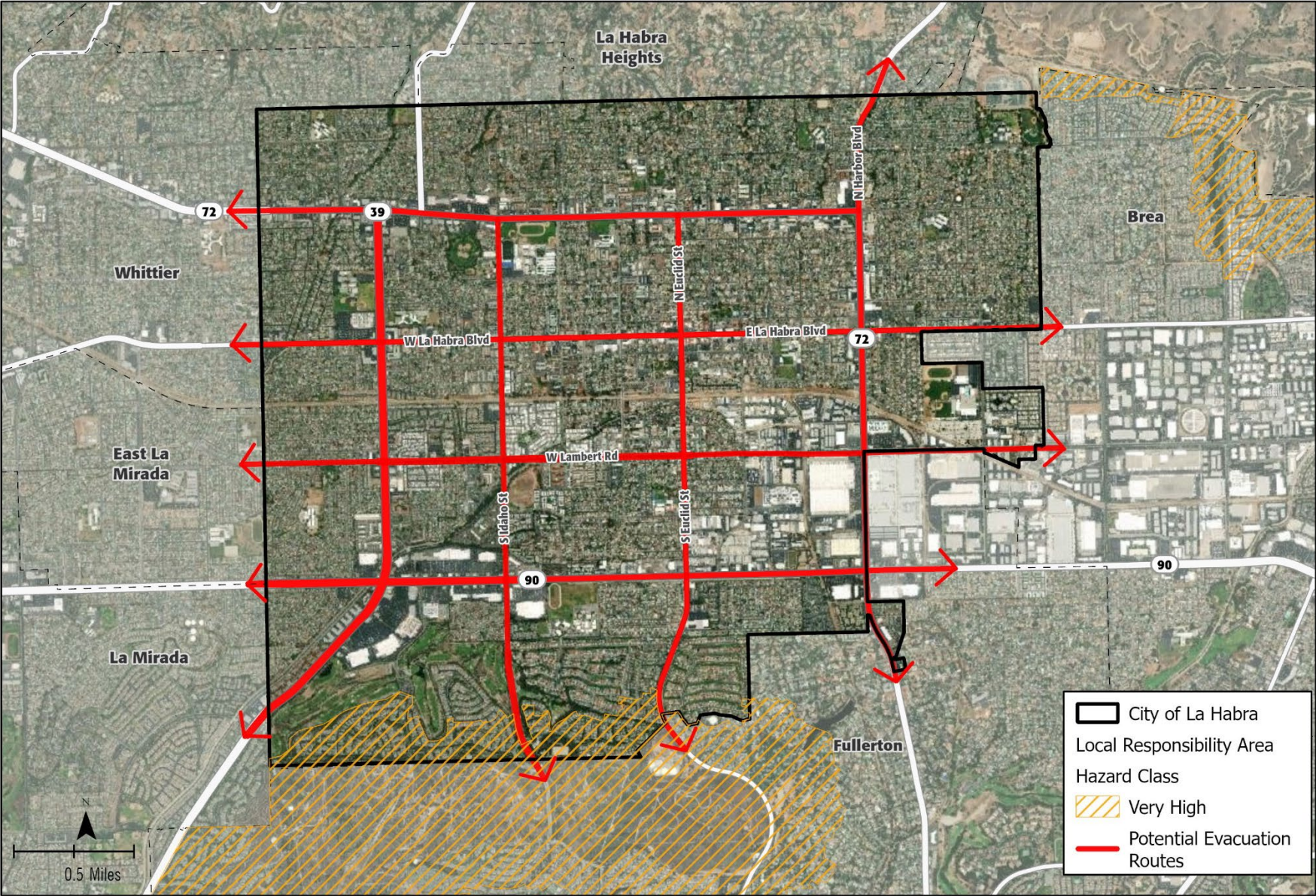
If parts or all of La Habra need to evacuate, there are several routes in the community that can support evacuations. Primary north-south evacuation routes are Beach Boulevard, Idaho Street, Euclid Street, and Harbor Boulevard. Primary east-west evacuation routes are Imperial Highway, Lambert Road, La Habra Boulevard, and Whittier Avenue. Figure 7-9 shows these primary evacuation routes in La Habra. Many of these roads provide access to major freeways, including Interstate 5, Interstate 605, and State Route 57. Depending on the specific evacuation scenario, specific evacuation routes may be prioritized. Parts of Whittier Boulevard, La Habra Boulevard, Imperial Highway, and Beach Boulevard run through floodplains, and sections of Beach Boulevard, Euclid Street, and Harbor Boulevard pass through fire hazard zones. These routes may be damaged or blocked during these types of hazard events, requiring alternate evacuation routes.

Figure 7-8 Evacuation-Constrained Residential Parcels



County of Orange, PlaceWorks, ESRI

Figure 7-9 Potential Evacuation Routes



# Disaster and Emergency Preparedness and Response

The following goal and policies provide for preparedness, response, and recovery from a natural or human-induced disaster or emergency to avoid or minimize the loss of life and property.

## **Goal EP 1**

**Preparedness and Response.** A prepared and responsive community before, during, and after natural and human-induced disasters and emergencies.

### **Policies**

**EP 1.1 Emergency and Hazard Mitigation Plans.** Maintain and implement emergency response and disaster preparedness/hazard mitigation plans to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to life and property from natural or human-induced disasters and emergencies and to be eligible for certain disaster assistance and mitigation funding, including the La Habra Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and the La Habra Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP).

**EP 1.2 Emergency Management Systems.** Maintain and implement compliance standards and protocol provisions for emergency response organization, communication, and incident management to retain eligibility for federal and state grant and recovery funds, including the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

**EP 1.3 Comprehensive Evacuation Plan.** Participate in regional planning efforts to develop a comprehensive evacuation plan that identifies evacuation strategies, evacuation routes, and evacuation locations and their safety, capacity, and viability under multiple hazards scenarios; identify the resources needed to maintain them and for the safe and orderly evacuation of affected areas of the city; provide emergency shelters for the population, including access and functional-needs residents, pets, and other animals.

**EP 1.4 Adequate Emergency Services.** Coordinate with fire and police service, emergency medical aid providers, water utilities, and other support services that include first response to disasters and emergencies, including hazardous materials spills, to plan for existing and projected future emergency and first-responder needs based on changing demographics, development patterns, and other factors that may affect future service demands.

- EP 1.5 Emergency Site Access.** Require that roads, driveways, and other clearances around structures are located and designed to ensure emergency access.
- EP 1.6 Automatic and Mutual Aid.** Continue to participate in automatic and mutual aid agreements between nearby local cities and county agencies to ensure adequate resources, facilities, and other support services during and after disasters and emergencies.
- EP 1.7 Essential Public Facilities/Post-disaster Response and Recovery.** Require that essential public facilities such as hospitals, fire and police stations, and emergency command centers be located outside of potential hazard areas, including fire and flood hazard zones, and plan for the continued function of these facilities to facilitate post-disaster response and recovery.
- EP 1.8 Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Exercises.** Conduct periodic emergency and disaster preparedness exercises with Orange County, surrounding jurisdictions, and applicable agencies to test and improve response to emergencies.
- EP 1.9 Public Education and Awareness.** Support emergency response and disaster preparedness public education and awareness to empower residents and businesses to prepare for an emergency or disaster. Provide education and preparedness materials in multiple formats and languages, consistent with the demographics of city residents.
- EP 1.10 Visibility.** Require high-visibility street signage and house numbers; keep vegetation clear of street signage; and require ongoing maintenance of vegetation along rights-of-way.
- EP 1.11 Emergency Resources Planning.** Assess current and projected future emergency resources needs to account for changes in population and development patterns.
- EP 1.12 Evacuation Route Planning.** Coordinate with City and regional transit providers to identify alternative routes and stops if normal infrastructure is damaged or closed as a result of extreme events, avoiding areas with existing evacuation constraints.
- EP 1.13 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Supporting Document Integration.** The La Habra Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, approved by FEMA in 2020, is incorporated by reference into this Community Safety Element to support hazard mitigation planning and implementation efforts in La Habra.

**EP 1.14 Adequate Egress.** All new residential developments of at least 10 units shall have a minimum of two points of emergency ingress and egress.

**EP 1.15 Adequate Access.** Ensure that emergency vehicles and personnel can access all developed areas in the city in a timely manner.

**EP 1.16 Resilience Hubs.** Establish a network of equitably located public facilities—and private facilities as appropriate and feasible—to operate as resilience hubs where La Habra community members can seek shelter, information, and resources before, during, and after an emergency.

**EP 1.17 Energy Resilience.** Incentivize the development and implementation of resilient energy infrastructure in the city through the deployment of energy microgeneration facilities (solar, wind, etc.), localized battery storage, and microgrids that can share locally generated energy with neighboring land uses.

**EP 1.18 Evacuation Assistance.** Coordinate with the Orange County Transportation Authority to develop an evacuation assistance program for those with limited mobility or those who do not have access to a vehicle.

**EP 1.19 Evacuation-Constrained Parcels.** Explore secondary means of ingress and egress in areas with evacuation constraints, as shown in Figure 7-8, *Evacuation-Constrained Residential Parcels*, for existing subdivisions or developments of 10 units or more.

## C. Noise (N)

The urban environment has a variety of land uses—residential, commercial, institutional, industrial, and recreational—that can be sources of noise and affect the way people live and work. In general, the greatest source of noise throughout La Habra is vehicle roadway noise along the city’s arterial roadways—such as Beach Boulevard, Imperial Highway, Whittier Boulevard, and Harbor Boulevard—and in residential areas. Other sources of noise in La Habra include freight trains passing through the city on the rail line and various stationary sources such as commercial heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units and park facilities with active sports fields.

### Noise Reduction

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The following goals and policies are designed to maintain compatible land uses with acceptable environmental noise levels to protect La Habra’s residents and workforce from excessive noise.



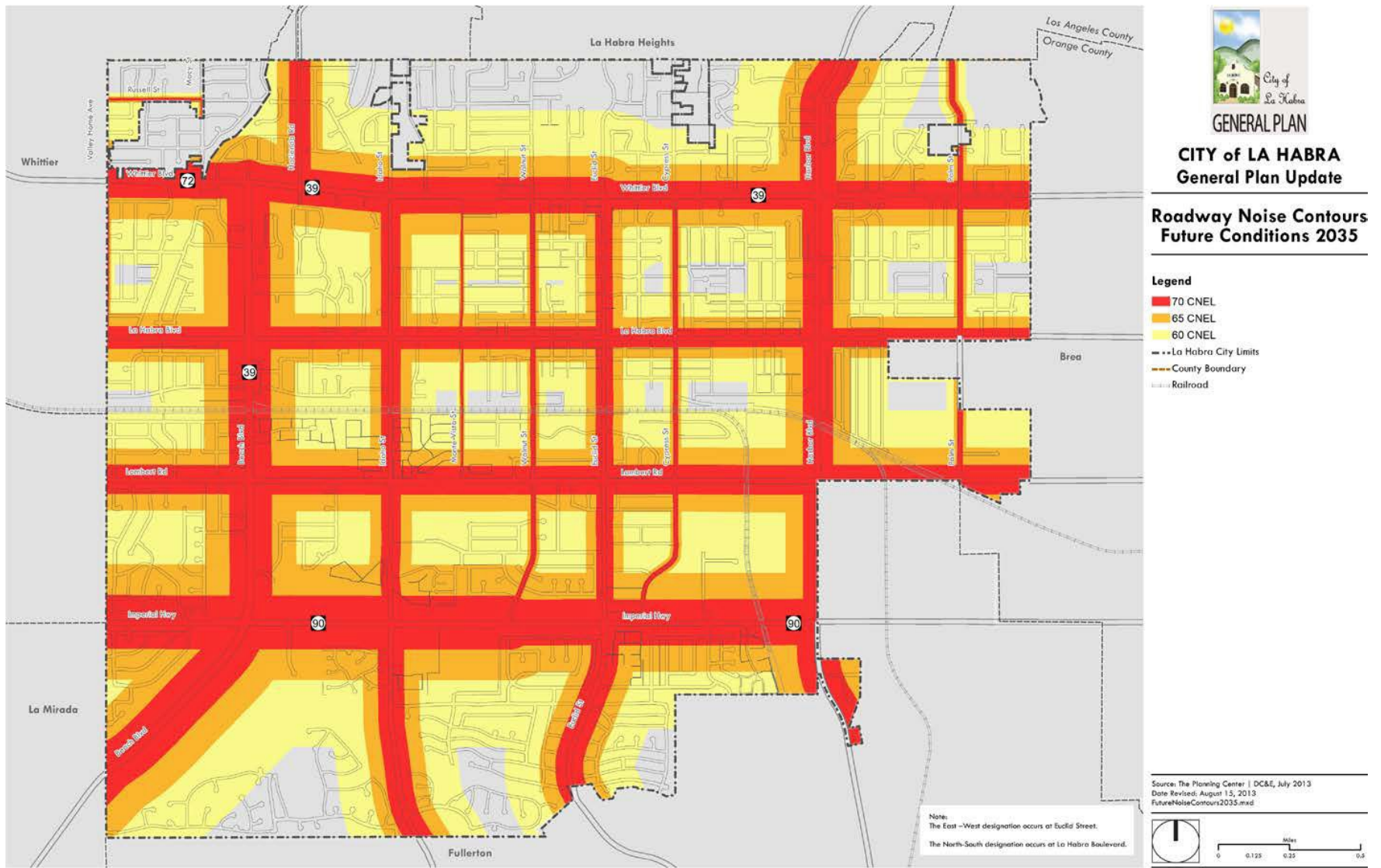
**Goal N 1**

**Noise Environment.** Ambient noise levels that are compatible with La Habra’s small-town character and are not disruptive to the residents’ quality of life.

**Policies**

**N 1.1 Land Use Compatibility.** Restrict the development of noise-sensitive land uses (i.e., schools, medical centers and hospitals, senior centers, and residences) in areas with noise levels that exceed those considered clearly incompatible with the use, as shown on Figure 7-10 and in Table 7-2 (Land Use Compatibility with Community Noise Environments), unless measures can be implemented to reduce noise to acceptable levels.

**Figure 7-10 Roadway Noise Contours Future Conditions 2035**



**Figure 7-2**

**Table 7-2 Land Use Compatibility with Community Noise Environments**

Land Use Categories and Uses		Compatible Land Use Zones (by CNEL)						
CATEGORIES	USES	<55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	>80
Residential	Single Family, Duplex, Multiple Family	A	A	B	B	C	D	D
	Mobile Home	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
Commercial Regional, District	Hotel, Motel, Transient Lodging	A	A	B	B	C	C	D
Commercial Regional, Village District, Special	Commercial Retail, Bank, Restaurant, Movie Theater	A	A	A	A	B	B	C
Commercial, Industrial, Institutional	Office Building, Research and Development, Professional Offices, City Office Building	A	A	A	B	B	C	D
Commercial Recreation Institutional Civic Center	Amphitheater, Concert Hall, Auditorium, Meeting Hall	B	B	C	C	D	D	D
Commercial Recreation	Children’s Amusement Park, Miniature Golf Course, Go-cart Track, Equestrian Center, Sports Club	A	A	A	B	B	D	D
Commercial General, Special Industrial, Institutional	Automobile Service Station, Auto Dealership, Manufacturing, Warehousing, Wholesale, Utilities	A	A	A	A	B	B	B
Institutional General	Hospital, Church, Library, Schools’ Classroom, Day Care	A	A	B	C	C	D	D
Open Space	Parks	A	A	A	B	C	D	D
	Golf Course, Cemeteries, Nature Centers, Wildlife Reserves, Wildlife Habitat	A	A	A	A	B	C	C
Agriculture	Agriculture	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

SOURCE: California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, General Plan Guidelines 2003, Appendix C (Guidelines for the Preparation and Content of the Noise Element of the General Plan), October 2003.

INTERPRETATION:

*Zone A, Clearly Compatible:* Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction without any special noise insulation requirements.

*Zone B, Compatible with Mitigation:* New construction or development should be undertaken only after detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements are made and needed noise insulation features in the design are determined. Conventional construction, with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning, will normally suffice. Note that residential uses are prohibited with Airport CNEL greater than 65.

*Zone C, Normally Incompatible:* New construction or development should generally be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of noise reduction requirements must be made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.

*Zone D, Clearly Incompatible:* New construction or development should generally not be undertaken.

**N 1.2 Noise Standards.** Require noise attenuation for residential development where the projected exterior and interior noise levels exceed those shown in Table 7-3 (Residential Exterior and Interior Noise Standards).

Table 7-3 Residential Exterior and Interior Noise Standards		
	Exterior Noise Levels	Interior Noise Levels
7:00 am to 10:00 pm	55 dBA	55 dBA
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	50 dBA	45 dBA

SOURCE: City of La Habra, La Habra Municipal Code, Noise Ordinance, Section 9.32.050 and Section 9.32.060.

**N 1.3 Noise Studies for New Development.** Require an acoustical study for all new residential developments that lie within the 65 dBA noise contour based on projections of future noise conditions resulting from the plan’s traffic increases to ensure indoor levels will not exceed City standards. In addition, the City will continue to enforce the California Building Code for indoor noise levels.

**N 1.4 Noise Attenuation Through Building Design.** Require measures that attenuate exterior and/or interior noise levels to acceptable levels to be incorporated into all development projects where current and/or future noise levels may be unacceptable.

**N 1.5 Noise Attenuation Through Site Design.** Require noise reduction features to be used in the site planning process for new projects where current and/or future noise levels may be unacceptable. The focus of these efforts will be site design techniques. Techniques include:

- Designing landscaped building setbacks to serve as a buffer between the noise source and receptor.
- Placing noise-tolerant land uses such as parking lots, maintenance facilities, and utility areas between the noise source and receptor.
- Orienting buildings to shield noise-sensitive outdoor spaces from a noise source.
- Locating bedrooms or balconies on the sides of buildings facing away from noise sources.
- Utilizing noise barriers (e.g., fences, walls, or landscaped berms) to reduce adverse noise levels in noise-sensitive outdoor activity areas.

**N 1.6 Noise Between Adjacent and Mixed Uses.** Require that mixed-use and multifamily residential developments demonstrate adequate isolation of noise between adjacent uses through building design and location of loading areas, parking lots, driveways, trash enclosures, mechanical equipment, and other noise sources away from the residential portion of the development.

- N 1.7 Interior Vibration Standards.** Require construction projects anticipated to generate a significant amount of vibration to ensure acceptable interior vibration levels at nearby residential and commercial uses based on current City or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) criteria.
- N 1.8 Construction Noise.** Require development projects subject to discretionary approval to assess potential construction noise impacts on nearby sensitive uses and to minimize impacts on these uses, to the extent feasible.

## Goal N 2

### **Mobile Noise Sources. Minimized noise impacts of motor vehicle traffic on sensitive receptors.**

#### **Policies**

- N 2.1 State Motor Vehicle Noise Standards.** Encourage the enforcement of State motor vehicle noise standards for cars, trucks, and motorcycles through coordination with the California Highway Patrol and La Habra Police Department.
- N 2.2 Municipal Fleet.** Purchase municipal vehicles and equipment with low noise generation and maintain them to minimize noise.
- N 2.3 Roadway Noise Sensitivity Measures.** Ensure the implementation of noise attenuation measures in the design of roadway improvements consistent with funding capability.
- N 2.4 Roadway Construction.** Coordinate with Caltrans to minimize transportation noise through street and right-of-way design or route coordination, including reducing speed limits or planting street trees along high-volume arterials.
- N 2.5 Train Operations.** Work with the railroad company to ensure that it mitigates train operations and noise levels to not adversely impact adjoining residential neighborhoods, to the extent feasible, including incorporation of mitigating buffers or other noise abatement improvements.

## Goal N 3

### **Stationary Noise Sources.** Minimized noise impacts of non-transportation-related sources on sensitive receptors.

#### Policies

- N 3.1 Protection from Stationary Noise Sources.** Continue to enforce interior and exterior noise standards to ensure that sensitive noise receptors are not exposed to excessive noise levels from stationary sources such as machinery, equipment fans, and air conditioning equipment.
- N 3.2 High-Noise-Generating Uses.** Require that bars, clubs, entertainment venues, and other uses characterized by high levels of patronage and activity be constructed and designed consistent with the City's noise standards to isolate noise to the interiors and limit perceptible exterior noise.
- N 3.3 Compatibility with Parks and Recreation Uses.** Limit the hours of operation for parks and active recreation uses in residential areas to minimize disturbances to residents.
- N 3.4 Regulation of Sound-Amplifying Equipment.** Continue to regulate the use of sound-amplifying equipment to prevent impacts on sensitive receptors.
- N 3.5 Construction Activity Hours.** Continue to enforce restrictions on the hours of construction activity to minimize impacts of noise and vibration on adjoining uses from the use of trucks, heavy drilling equipment, and other heavy machinery.

## D. Hazardous Waste (HW)

Hazardous waste or materials are generally considered any substance whose quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics pose a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released. These include liquid chemicals, gases, waste oils, and solvents used in commercial-industrial processes or as cleaning solutions and/or paints commonly used in residential homes. Automotive- and transportation-related businesses, dry cleaners, and industrial facilities are the primary sources of hazardous waste or materials in La Habra, in addition to household hazardous waste (e.g., paint, oil, batteries, oil filters, household chemicals, and household cleaners), which can be harmful if not handled and disposed of properly.

## Hazardous Materials, Conditions, and Household Hazardous Waste

The following goals and policies provide for the protection of the community from potential hazardous materials, conditions, and disposal of household hazardous waste.

### **Goal HW 1**

**Hazardous Materials.** A safe and healthy living and working environment protected from the production, use, storage, disposal, and transport of hazardous materials.

**HW 1.1 Hazardous Materials Response.** Maintain and periodically update the City's Hazardous Material Response Plan for the disclosure, regulation, and mitigation of the hazards created by the use, creation, storage, or on-site processing of hazardous materials and how natural hazards can affect these activities.

**HW 1.2 Hazardous Waste Facility Siting.** Ensure that hazardous waste facilities that transfer, treat, store, and dispose of hazardous materials are properly sited and compatible with surrounding land uses, in accordance with the City's Hazardous Waste Facility Ordinance and associated sections of the Orange County Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

**HW 1.3 Hazardous Material Disclosure.** Require that essential information is provided to emergency service personnel of the known use and dangers of hazardous materials in La Habra, in accordance with La Habra's Hazardous Material Disclosure Ordinance.

**HW 1.4 Assessment of Known Areas of Contamination.** Require new development in known contamination areas to perform comprehensive soil and groundwater contamination assessments, in accordance with applicable regulations, and if contamination exceeds regulatory levels, require new development to undertake remediation procedures consistent with county, regional, and state regulations prior to any site disturbance or development.

**HW 1.5 Remediation of Known Sites.** Require that businesses and property owners of known hazardous materials contamination and waste sites develop and implement a remediation plan to investigate, facilitate, and manage the cleanup in coordination and compliance with Orange County, state, and/or appropriate federal agency requirements, including the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

**HW 1.6 Hazardous Materials Business Plan.** Require that owners and/or

operators of facilities that handle hazardous materials or a mixture containing hazardous materials in a quantity equal to or greater than 55 gallons for liquid, 500 pounds for solids, or 200 cubic feet of gas complete a Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) to minimize the potential for accidents involving hazardous materials and to facilitate an appropriate response to possible hazardous materials emergencies pursuant to the California Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Law (Business Plan Act).

**HW 1.7 Project Review.** Review all proposed development projects that manufacture, use, or transport hazardous materials and waste in coordination with appropriate state and federal agencies.

**HW 1.8 Best Practices and New Technologies.** Encourage industries, businesses, and residents to utilize best practices and technologies to reduce the use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste.

**HW 1.9 Hazardous Materials Transport.** Coordinate with Orange County and other relevant agencies to enforce applicable state and local laws regulating the transport of hazardous materials through the City of La Habra, including the restriction of hazardous materials transport to designated routes.

**HW 1.10 Railroad Shipments.** Work with the railroad company to identify hazardous wastes shipped through La Habra and confirm programs to ensure public safety.

**HW 1.11 School Siting.** Cooperate with local school districts in enforcing, as appropriate, the California Education Code sections that outline the requirements of siting school facilities near or on known or suspected hazardous materials sites, or near industrial facilities that emit hazardous air emissions, handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste.

## **Goal HW 2**

**Hazardous Conditions.** Energy-related infrastructure is located and designed to protect the health and safety of La Habra's residents and businesses.

### **Policies**

**HW 2.1 Safe Infrastructure.** Work with utility and infrastructure providers to ensure the proper design, location, and maintenance of energy-related infrastructure such as petroleum and high-pressure natural gas lines to protect the community from the potential dangers of damaged or compromised facilities.



**HW 2.2 Sufficient Setbacks.** Work with utility and infrastructure providers to ensure sufficient setbacks for energy-related infrastructure from sensitive uses such as schools and day care facilities, residential, and medical care facilities.

**HW 2.3 Emergency Response.** Ensure the City’s Emergency Response Plan adequately addresses the impacts and response to a damaged or compromised petroleum or high-pressure natural gas fuel line in La Habra.

### **Goal HW 3**

**Household Hazardous Waste. Proper collection, handling, recycling, reuse, treatment, and long-term disposal of household hazardous waste generated in La Habra.**

**HW 3.1 Household Hazardous Waste Program.** Provide incentives, when available, to encourage source reduction of hazardous wastes through the City’s Household Hazardous Waste Program.

**HW 3.2 Hazardous Waste Collection.** Encourage La Habra residents to safely dispose of household hazardous waste such as batteries, paints, and e-waste at community collection events or at designated Orange County collection centers.

**HW 3.3 Used Motor Oil.** Encourage La Habra residents to safely dispose of used motor oil at certified oil recycling centers in the city.

**HW 3.4 Community Education.** Educate residents and businesses on the proper use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and products, and encourage the use of safer, nontoxic, environmentally friendly equivalents.

**HW 3.5 Monitor Hazardous Waste Disposal Practices.** Monitor household hazardous waste disposal practices in coordination with the City’s Household Hazardous Waste Program.

**HW 3.6 Proper Disposal of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medications.** Continue to collect unused and waste prescription and other over-the-counter medications at the Police Department’s annual collection event, and work with pharmacies in La Habra to expand their collection throughout the year for proper disposal.

**HW 3.7 Monitor Legislation.** Monitor state and federal legislation regarding household hazardous waste to remain current on regulatory requirements and improve hazardous waste management methods.

**HW 3.8 Responsibility of Supplier.** Support voluntary initiatives or legislation that would decrease the toxicity of household products sold in La Habra and place more responsibility on products manufacturers to pay disposal costs.

**HW 3.9 End Markets.** Identify end markets for materials with recycling potential, especially high-volume materials such as latex paints.

**HW 3.10 Waste Exchange Program.** Investigate the feasibility of a waste exchange program for unusable products such as paints, cleaning products, and gardening products.