

# General Plan Safety Element Assessment

## Board of Forestry and Fire Protection



June 2020

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## Purpose and Background

Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, the safety element is required to be reviewed and updated as necessary to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3).)

The safety element is required to include:

- Fire hazard severity zone maps available from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- Any historical data on wildfires available from local agencies or a reference to where the data can be found.
- Information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey.
- The general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities. The location and distribution of planned uses of land shall not require defensible space compliance measures required by state law or local ordinance to occur on publicly owned lands or open space designations of homeowner associations.
- The local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(A).)

Based on that information, the safety element shall include goals, policies, and objectives that protect the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B).) To carry out those goals, policies, and objectives, feasible implementation measures shall be included in the safety element, which include but are not limited to:

- Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
- Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of high fire risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in the SRA or VHFHSZ.
- Designing adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in the SRA or VHFHSZ, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression.
- Working cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for fire protection. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(C).)

The safety element shall also attach or reference any fire safety plans or other documents adopted by the city or county that fulfill the goals and objectives or contains the information required above. (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(D).) This might include Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Unit Fire Plans, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, or other plans.

There are several reference documents developed by state agencies to assist local jurisdictions in updating their safety elements to include wildfire safety. The Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), referenced in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and available at

1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 322-2318

The Technical Advice Series is also available from the OPR website ([Technical Advice Series link](#)).<sup>\*</sup> The Technical Advice Series provides policy guidance, information resources, and fire hazard planning examples from around California that shall be considered by local jurisdictions when reviewing the safety element of its general plan.

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) utilizes this Safety Element Assessment in the Board's review of safety elements under Government Code section 65302.5. At least 90 days prior to the adoption or amendment of their safety element, counties that contain SRAs and cities or counties that contain VHFHSZs shall submit their safety element to the Board. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b).) The Board shall review the safety element and respond to the city or county with its findings regarding the uses of land and policies in SRAs or VHFHSZs that will protect life, property, and natural resources from

unreasonable risks associated with wildfires, and the methods and strategies for wildfire risk reduction and prevention within SRAs or VHFHSZs. (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3).) The CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team provides expert fire protection assistance to local jurisdictions statewide. Fire captains are available to work with cities and counties to revise their safety elements and enhance their strategic fire protection planning.

## **Methodology for Review and Recommendations**

Utilizing staff from the CAL FIRE Land Use Planning team, the Board has established a standardized method to review the safety element of general plans. The methodology includes

- 1) reviewing the safety element for the requirements in Government Code section 65302, subdivision (g)(3)(A),
- 2) examining the safety element for goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that mitigate the wildfire risk in the planning area (Gov. Code, § 65302, subd. (g)(3)(B) & (C)), and
- 3) making recommendations for methods and strategies that would reduce the risk of wildfires (Gov. Code, § 65302.5, subd. (b)(3)(B)).

The safety element will be evaluated against the attached Assessment, which contains questions to determine if a safety element meets the fire safety planning requirements outlined in Government Code, section 65302. The reviewer will answer whether or not a submitted safety element addresses the required information, and will recommend changes to the safety element that will reduce the wildfire risk in the planning area. These recommended changes may come from the list of sample goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures that is included in this document after the Assessment, or may be based on the reviewer's knowledge of the jurisdiction in question and their specific wildfire risk. By answering the questions in the Assessment, the reviewer will determine if the jurisdiction's safety element has adequately addressed and mitigated their wildfire risk. If it hasn't, any specific recommendations from the reviewer will assist the jurisdiction in revising the safety element so that it does.

Once completed, the Assessment should provide clear guidance to a city or county regarding any areas of deficiency in the safety element as well as specific goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures the Board recommends adopting in order to mitigate or reduce the wildfire threat in the planning area.

## General Plan Safety Element Assessment

Jurisdiction: Temecula	Notes: Informal	CAL FIRE Unit: RRU	Date Received:
County: Riverside	LUPP Reviewer: Redden	UNIT CONTACT:	Date Reviewed:

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUMMARY

The safety element must contain specific background information about fire hazards in each jurisdiction.

*Instructions for this table: Indicate whether the safety element includes the specified information. If YES, indicate in the comments where that information can be found; if NO, provide recommendations to the jurisdiction regarding how best to include that information in their revised safety element.*

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are Fire Hazard Severity Zones Identified? <i>CAL FIRE or Locally Adopted Maps</i>	Yes	Figure PS-3 MJLHMP: Figure S-11
Is historical data on wildfires or a reference to where the data can be found, and information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey, included?	Yes	SE: Added historical data on wildfires in Fire Hazards section or reference to LHMP LHMP: pg. 14 MJLHMP: pg. 220, 221
Has the general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZs) and in state responsibility areas (SRAs), including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities, been identified?	Yes	"The Temecula General Plan identifies the general location and distribution of existing and planned land uses throughout the community, including in very high fire hazard severity zones and in state responsibility areas. Residential and nonresidential development, including roads and utilities, are planned for development in these areas." (Page PS-13)
Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified?	Yes	Page PS-13-Fire Hazards section "The Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD), through a cooperative agreement, provides fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical rescue services in the City of Temecula. Five fire stations are located within the City limits, and the Temecula Division encompasses three Riverside County Fire Department stations for a total of eight stations within the Temecula Division. Mutual Aid agreements with county, state, and federal government agencies further allow the City, and any other participating agency, to request additional

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		resources depending on the complexity and needs of a given incident, such as wildfires.”
Are other fire protection plans, such as Community Wildfire Protection Plans, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, CAL FIRE Unit or Contract County Fire Plans, referenced or incorporated into the Safety Element?	Yes	Page PS-5 “The County of Riverside Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJLHMP) was adopted in 2018. The purpose of the MJLHMP is to identify the County’s hazards, review and assess past disaster occurrences, estimate the probability of future occurrences and set goals to mitigate potential risks to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural and man-made hazards.”
Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified?	Yes	The City’s Growth Management and Public Facilities Element describes the role of essential facilities and maps these facilities on Figure GM-1.. PS-13 requires all residential developments with 35 or more DU to provide secondary access. (Page PS-33)
Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified?	Yes	Policy 4.7 “Coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies to evaluate the capacity, safety, and viability of evacuation routes under a range of emergency scenarios, and update plans as necessary.” (Page PS-26) LHMP: Objective 1.3 The City’s LHMP and EOP describe a range of emergency scenarios and the Public Safety Element and Growth Management Element speak to evacuation routes in an emergency scenario. At the top of page PS-20, the City includes information regarding routes and their viability during emergencies.

Is there any other information in the Safety Element regarding fire hazards in SRAs or VHFHSZs?
Yes

## GOALS, POLICIES, OBJECTIVES, AND FEASIBLE IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

The safety element must contain a set of goals, policies, and objectives based on the above information to protect the community from unreasonable risk of wildfire and implementation measures to accomplish those stated goals, policies, and objectives.

*Instructions for this table: Critically examine the submitted safety element and determine if it is adequate to address the jurisdiction's unique fire hazard. Answer YES or NO appropriately for each question below. If the recommendation is irrelevant or unrelated to the jurisdiction's fire hazard, answer N/A. For NO, provide information in the Comments/Recommendations section to help the jurisdiction incorporate that change into their safety element revision. This information may utilize example recommendations from Sample Safety Element Recommendations and Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan below, may indicate how high of a priority this recommendation is for a jurisdiction, or may include other jurisdiction-specific information or recommendations.*

### Section 1 Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
<p>Does local ordinance require development standards that meet or exceed title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1270) (<b>SRA Fire Safe Regulations</b>) and title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 3, article 3 (commencing with section 1299.01) (<b>Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations</b>) for SRAs and/or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Page PS-14 'Local Ordinance Requirements. The City of Temecula Municipal Code meets or exceeds title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1270) (SRA Fire Safe Regulations) and title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 3, article 3 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations) for SRAs and/or VHFHSZs." Policy 1.10 "Continue to meet or exceeds title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1-5 (commencing with section 1270) (SRA Fire Safe Regulations) and title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 3, article 3 (commencing with section 1299.01) (Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations) for SRAs and/or VHFHSZs." (Page PS-23)</p>
<p>Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 1.8 "Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> </ul>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention thru “fire prevention &amp; mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul>
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention thru “fire prevention &amp; mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul>
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	Yes	<p>Policy 4.5 “Regulate the location of critical facilities to ensure they continue to function after a disaster. Locate, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of very high fire hazard severity zones, including but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communication facilities, or identify construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in very high fire hazard severity zones.” (Page PS-26)</p>
Are there plans or actions identified to mitigate existing non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard?	Yes	<p>PS-1-Natural Hazard Risk Reduction “Reduce the risk to the community from hazards related to geologic conditions, seismic activity, wild land fires, and flooding by requiring feasible mitigation of such impacts on existing development, new development, and reuse projects. Assess development proposals for potential</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>hazards pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Require measures to mitigate all identified significant public safety hazards. Address the following issues in the assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steep slopes, unstable geologic materials and faulting</li> <li>• Flooding</li> <li>• Wild land and structural fires and adequacy of water pressure for fire fighting</li> <li>• Hazardous materials use, transport, storage or disposal</li> <li>• Mitigate existing non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard.” (Page PS-27)</li> </ul> <p>LHMP: pg. 25 mentions mitigation efforts including “aggressive weed abatement program”</p>
<p>Does the plan include policies to evaluate re-development after a large fire?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention through “fire prevention &amp; mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul>
<p>Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire</li> </ul>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention through “fire prevention &amp; mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul> <p>TMC: 17.06.080 Hillside development standards, (F) – requires a hillside development permit application in the HR-SM zoning district to include a fuel modification plan Riverside County Fire Dept requires Fuel Modification Plans as part of permitting process</p>
<p>Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention through “fire prevention &amp; mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul>
<p>Does the plan address long term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects, including community fire breaks and private road and public road clearance?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 1.9 “Reduce the risk of wildfire hazards by working with Homeowner Associations, Business Park Associations, and other property owners and RCFD to maintain fire retardant landscaping and buffer zones, community fire breaks, and private</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		road and public road clearance in areas of high wildfire risk.” (Page PS-23) CalFire/Riverside County Fire Unit Strategic Fire Plan: pg. 29 TMC: Fire breaks discussed 8.16.020 Duty to abate hazardous vegetation. Vegetation to be maintained by property owner or City (on city roads).
Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	PS-13-Secondary Access “Require all residential development with 35 or more dwelling units to provide secondary access that meets full City standards to ensure timely emergency service response.” (Page PS-33) LHMP: Objective 1.3: Improve community transportation corridors to allow for better evacuation routes for public and better access for emergency responders TMC: 16.03.060 Access to lots.
Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?	Yes	Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through: • minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible • imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones • coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations • evaluating re-development after a large fire. PS-1 aims to reduce natural hazard risk by requiring feasible mitigation of impacts. PS-8 promotes fire prevention through “fire prevention & mitigation measures” and CA Fire Code.” (Page PS-23)
If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?	Yes	PS-13-Secondary Access “Require all residential development with 35 or more dwelling units to provide secondary access that meets full City standards to ensure timely emergency service response.” (Page PS-33)

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?	Yes	PS-8-Promote Fire Prevention "Support public education, information, fire prevention and fire law enforcement programs conducted by the Fire Department, with an emphasis on reaching at-risk populations." (Page PS-30)
Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?	Yes	PS-8-Promote Fire Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Fire Department to provide adequate infrastructure for water supply and fire flow in new and existing developments and establish fire prevention and mitigation measures in wild land fire hazard areas.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the local water districts and Fire Department to ensure that water pressure for urban areas and sites to be developed is adequate for firefighting purposes. (Page PS-30 "Plans in Action" portion states "The City also works closely with local water districts to ensure water pressure is adequate for firefighting purposes.")</li> </ul>
Does new development have adequate fire protection?	Yes	Policy 1.8 "Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire." (Page PS-23)</li> </ul>

**Section 2 Develop adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in SRAs or VHFHSZs.**

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Water supply and fire flow?	Yes	PS-8-Promote Fire Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Fire Department to provide adequate infrastructure for water supply and fire flow in new and</li> </ul>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>existing developments and establish fire prevention and mitigation measures in wild land fire hazard areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with the local water districts and Fire Department to ensure that water pressure for urban areas and sites to be developed is adequate for firefighting purposes. (Page PS-30)</li> </ul> <p>“Plans in Action” portion states “The City also works closely with local water districts to ensure water pressure is adequate for firefighting purposes.”</p>
Location of anticipated water supply?	Yes	<p>PS-8-Promote Fire Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Fire Department to provide adequate infrastructure for water supply and fire flow in new and existing developments and establish fire prevention and mitigation measures in wild land fire hazard areas.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the local water districts and Fire Department to ensure that water pressure for urban areas and sites to be developed is adequate for firefighting purposes. (Page PS-30)</li> </ul> <p>“Plans in Action” portion states “The City also works closely with local water districts to ensure water pressure is adequate for firefighting purposes.”</p>
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	Yes	<p>PS-8-Promote Fire Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Fire Department to provide adequate infrastructure for water supply and fire flow in new and existing developments and establish fire prevention and mitigation measures in wild land fire hazard areas.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the local water districts and Fire Department to ensure that water pressure for urban areas and sites to be developed is adequate for firefighting purposes.” (Page PS-30)</li> </ul> <p>“Plans in Action” portion states “The City also works closely with local water districts to ensure water pressure is adequate for firefighting purposes.”</p>
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> </ul>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul> <p>TMC: Emergency vehicle access addressed in 16.03.060 Access to lots.</p>
Fuel modification and defensible space?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul> <p>TMC: Any development in HR-SM zone (hillside dev’t) requires application w/ a fuel modification plan consistent with the General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space adopted by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, February 8, 2006. CalFire/Riverside County Fire Unit Strategic Fire Plan: pg. 29</p>
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.9” Reduce the risk of wildfire hazards by working with Homeowner Associations, Business Park Associations, and other property owners and RCFD to maintain fire retardant landscaping and buffer zones, community fire breaks, and private</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>road and public road clearance in areas of high wildfire risk.” (Page PS-23)  TMC: Chapter 8.16 HAZARDOUS VEGETATION - Vegetation to be maintained by property owner or City (on city roads). If property owner does not abate, City can do it  CalFire/Riverside County Fire Unit Strategic Fire Plan: pg. 29</p>
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.8 “Require new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs to be located, designed, and constructed to minimize the risk of loss resulting from fires through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimizing development in SRAs or VHFHSZs when feasible</li> <li>• imposition of site-specific development standards during project review, including fire safe design, fire protection plans, sufficient ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, defensible space, visible home addressing and signage, and fuel modification zones</li> <li>• coordination with the City Fire Department and other organizations</li> <li>• evaluating re-development after a large fire.” (Page PS-23)</li> </ul> <p>TMC: 17.22.176 Design Guidelines.</p>
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	Yes	<p>Policy 1.9” Reduce the risk of wildfire hazards by working with Homeowner Associations, Business Park Associations, and other property owners and RCFD to maintain fire retardant landscaping and buffer zones, community fire breaks, and private road and public road clearance in areas of high wildfire risk.” (Page PS-23)  CalFire/Riverside County Fire Unit Strategic Fire Plan: pg. 29  TMC: Fire breaks discussed 8.16.020 Duty to abate hazardous vegetation. Vegetation to be maintained by property owner or City (on city roads).</p>

**Section 3 Working cooperatively with public agencies responsible for fire protection.**

Question	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Is there a map or description of existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, specifically noting any areas in SRAs or VHFHSZs?	Yes	City Growth Management/Public Facilities Element includes Figure GM-1 Community Safety Facilities – reference made on PS-21
Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?	Yes	Page PS-13- Fire Hazards “The Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD), through a cooperative agreement, provides fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical rescue services in the City of Temecula. Five fire stations are located within the city limits, and the Temecula Division encompasses three Riverside County Fire Department stations for a total of eight stations within the Temecula Division. Mutual Aid agreements with county, state, and federal government agencies further allow the city, and any other participating agency, to request additional resources depending on the complexity and needs of a given incident, such as wildfires.”
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?	Yes	Standards provided in County EOP: Section 3.15 Training, Documentation and Exercises
Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements?	Yes	Policy 2.1 “Minimize the risks associated with hazardous materials through careful land use planning and coordination with responsible federal, State, and County agencies.” (Page PS-24) LHMP: pg. 25 (mentions EOC), Objective 5.3: Maximize the use of shared resources between jurisdictions and special districts for mitigation/communication. 5.3.1: Maintain and develop Mutual/Automatic Aid agreements with adjacent jurisdictions and agencies. County EOP: Section 3.12 Statewide Emergency Management.

## Sample Safety Element Recommendations

These are examples of specific policies, objectives, or implementation measures that may be used to meet the intent of Government Code sections 65302, subdivision (g)(3) and 65302.5, subdivision (b). Safety element reviewers may make recommendations that are not included here.

### A. MAPS, PLANS AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Include or reference CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps or locally adopted wildfire hazard zones.
2. Include or reference the location of historical information on wildfires in the planning area.
3. Include a map or description of the location of existing and planned land uses in SRAs and VHFHSZs, particularly habitable structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
4. Identify or reference a fire plan that is relevant to the geographic scope of the general plan, including the Unit/Contract County Fire Plan, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and any applicable Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
5. Align the goals, policies, objectives, and implementation measures for fire hazard mitigation in the safety element with those in existing fire plans, or make plans to update fire plans to match the safety element.
6. Create a fire plan for the planning area.

### B. LAND USE

1. Develop fire safe development codes to use as standards for fire protection for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs that meet or exceed the statewide minimums in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
2. Adopt and have certified by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection local ordinances which meet or exceed the minimum statewide standards in the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
3. Identify existing development that do not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances.
4. Develop mitigation measures for existing development that does not meet or exceed the SRA Fire Safe Regulations or certified local ordinances or identify a policy to do so.

### C. FUEL MODIFICATION

1. Develop a policy to communicate vegetation clearance requirements to seasonal, absent, or vacation rental owners.
2. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of vegetation clearance on public and private roads.
3. Include fuel breaks in the layout/siting of subdivisions.
4. Identify a policy for the ongoing maintenance of existing or proposed fuel breaks.
5. Identify and/or map existing development that does not conform to current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
6. Identify plans and actions for existing non-conforming development to be improved or mitigated to meet current state and/or locally adopted fire safety standards for access, water supply and fire flow, signing, and vegetation clearance.

## D. ACCESS

1. Develop a policy that approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in SRAs or VHFHSZs is conditional based on meeting the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations, particularly those regarding road standards for ingress, egress, and fire equipment access. (See Gov. Code, § 66474.02.)
2. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with an adequate road network and associated infrastructure.
3. Identify multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing in SRAs or VHFHSZs and develop a policy to create evacuation or shelter in place plans.
4. Include a policy to develop pre-plans for fire risk areas that address civilian evacuation and to effectively communicate those plans.
5. Identify road networks in SRAs or VHFHSZs that do not meet title 14, CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 2 and 3 (commencing with section 1273.00) or certified local ordinance and develop a policy to examine possible mitigations.

## E. FIRE PROTECTION

1. Develop a policy that development will be prioritized in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure.
2. Plan for the ongoing maintenance and long-term integrity of planned and existing water supply infrastructure.
3. Map existing emergency service facilities and note any areas lacking service, especially in SRAs or VHFHSZs.
4. Project future emergency service needs for the planned land uses.
5. Include information about emergency service trainings or standards and plans to meet or maintain them.
6. Include information about inter-agency preparedness coordination or mutual aid agreements.

## **Fire Hazard Planning in Other Elements of the General Plan**

When updating the General Plan, here are some ways to incorporate fire hazard planning into other elements. Wildfire safety is best accomplished by holistic, strategic fire planning that takes advantage of opportunities to align priorities and implementation measures within and across plans.

### **LAND USE ELEMENT**

Goals and policies include mitigation of fire hazard for future development or limit development in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Disclose wildland urban-interface hazards, including fire hazard severity zones, and/or other vulnerable areas as determined by CAL FIRE or local fire agency.

Design and locate new development to provide adequate infrastructure for the safe ingress of emergency response vehicles and simultaneously allow citizen egress during emergencies.

Describe or map any Firewise Communities or other fire safe communities as determined by the National Fire Protection Association, Fire Safe Council, or other organization.

### **HOUSING ELEMENT**

Incorporation of current fire safe building codes.

Identify and mitigate substandard fire safe housing and neighborhoods relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Consider diverse occupancies and their effects on wildfire protection (group housing, seasonal populations, transit-dependent, etc).

### **OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENTS**

Identify critical natural resource values relative to fire hazard severity zones.

Include resource management activities to enhance protection of open space and natural resource values.

Integrate open space into fire safety planning and effectiveness.

Mitigation for unique pest, disease and other forest health issues leading to hazardous situations.

### **CIRCULATION ELEMENT**

Provide adequate access to very high fire hazard severity zones.

Develop standards for evacuation of residential areas in very high fire hazard severity zones.

Incorporate a policy that provides for a fuel reduction maintenance program along roadways.