

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](#)).^{*} 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: Menifee	Notes: Formal Review	CAL FIRE Unit: RRU	Date Received:
County: Riverside	LUPP Reviewer: Marcus Hernandez	UNIT CONTACT: Tyrell Davis	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	Provided as Exhibit S-6
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	FHSZ are mapped in Exhibit S-6: Historical Wildfires are mapped in Exhibit S-b3
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	Critical Facilities are noted in Exhibit S-7: FHSZs are noted in Exhibit S-6 and VHFHSZs and Public Facilities are noted in Exhibit S-8. The Land Use and Circulation Elements contains information of land use and roadways.
Have local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services, been identified?	Yes	Safety element identifies Riverside County Fire Department: FEMA: State Responsibility and Jurisdiction.
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	Resources are linked through the Safety Element. The Element includes LHMP, Hazardous Materials maps, wildland fires, and flooding hazards exhibits.
Are residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes identified?	Yes	Policy S-4.14, Pg.11, "All new parcel maps and tentative maps in the LRA, SRA, and VHFHSZ shall provide two points of access to the project in conformance with the California Building Code and California Fire Code and CA GC 65302 (g)(5). Approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in LRA's, SRAs or VHFHSZs is conditional based on meeting the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and

Required Information	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		Structures Regulations, particularly those regarding road standards for ingress, egress, and fire equipment access. (See Gov. Code, § 66474.02.)”
Have evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios been identified?	Yes	S-4.15, Pg.11, “When feasible, the city will prepare a survey of existing non-conforming developments to identify all existing developments within the City that do not provide two points of access/evacuation routes and identify measures or improvement plans to address opportunities to improve access. Where no additional access opportunities exist, the City and Fire Department should identify a plan for emergency operations in fire/emergency events.” Western Riverside Council of Government (WRCOG) Evacuation Map.

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) (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?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-4.1, Pg.9 “Require fire-resistant building construction materials, the use of vegetation control methods, and other construction and fire prevention features to reduce the hazard of wildland fire. Ensure all new development and/or redevelopment in the LRA and VHFHSZ will comply with the California Fire Code (CFC) and California Building Code (CBC). All new development within the LRA Very High Fire zone will comply with Chapter 49 of the California Fire Code and Chapter 7A of the California Building Code.”</p>
<p>Are there goals and policies to avoid or minimize new residential development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-4.9, Pg.10 “Ensure all new development and/or redevelopment within the SRA will comply with all provisions of 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 VHFHSZs.”</p> <p>Policy S-4.10, Pg.10 “Ensure all new residential development as well as all new development and redevelopment within the LRA and VHFHSZ will comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code.”</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
Has fire safe design been incorporated into future development requirements?	Yes	Policy S-4.1, Pg.9 “Require fire-resistant building construction materials, the use of vegetation control methods, and other construction and fire prevention features to reduce the hazard of wildland fire. Ensure all new development and/or redevelopment in the LRA and VHFHSZ will comply with the California Fire Code (CFC) and California Building Code (CBC). All new development within the LRA Very High Fire zone will comply with Chapter 49 of the California Fire Code and Chapter 7A of the California Building Code.”
Are new essential public facilities located outside high fire risk areas, such as VHFHSZs, when feasible?	Yes	Policy S-4.8, Pg.10, Exhibit S-8 “When feasible locate 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 a state responsibility area or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.”
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	Policy S-4.15, Pg.11 “When feasible, the City will prepare a survey of existing non-conforming developments to identify all existing developments within the City that do not provide two points of access/evacuation routes and identify measures or improvement plans to address opportunities to improve access. Where no additional access opportunities exist, the City and Fire Department should identify a plan for emergency operations in fire/emergency events.”
Does the plan include policies to evaluate redevelopment after a large fire?	Yes	Policy S-4.18, Pg.11 “The City shall evaluate all redevelopment as well as new development after a large fire event to ensure development will comply with the most current version of the California

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>Building Codes and California Fire Code. The City and Fire Department will continue to coordinate with State, regional, and local agencies on emergency management and on fire risk reduction planning”</p> <p>Policy S-4.9, Pg.10 “Ensure all new development and/or redevelopment within the SRA will comply with all provisions of 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 VHFHSZs.”</p>
<p>Is fuel modification around homes and subdivisions required for new development in SRAs or VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy 4.12, Pg.10 “All new development located in the LRA VHFHSZ shall be required to provide a site-specific Fire Protection Plan (FPP) and a Fuel Modification Plan that address fuel modification or incorporate open space and other defensible space areas, as well as multiple points of ingress and egress before approval.”</p>
<p>Are fire protection plans required for new development in VHFHSZs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Policy S-4.10, Pg.10 “Ensure all new residential development as well as all new development and redevelopment within the LRA and VHFHSZ will comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code.”</p> <p>S-4.11, Pg. 10 “When feasible, the City will minimize all new residential, commercial, and industrial development in the VHFHSZ.”</p> <p>Policy 4.12, Pg.10 “All new development located in the LRA VHFHSZ shall be required to provide a site-specific Fire Protection Plan (FPP) and a Fuel Modification Plan that address fuel modification or incorporate open space and other defensible space areas, as well as multiple points of ingress and egress before approval.”</p>
<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 S-4.13, Pg.11 “All new development within the LRA VHFHSZ shall be responsible for long-term maintenance of fire reduction projects; including but</p>

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		not limited to, a roadside fuel reduction plan (including private/public road clearance), defensible space clearances (including fuel breaks) around structures, subdivisions, and other development in the VHFHSZ.”
Is there adequate access (ingress, egress) to new development in VHFHSZs?	Yes	Policy S-4.14, Pg.11 “All new parcel maps and tentative maps in the LRA, SRA, and VHFHSZ shall provide two points of access to the project in conformance with the California Building Code and California Fire Code and CA GC 65302 (g)(5). Approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in LRA’s, 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.)”
Are minimum standards for evacuation of residential areas in VHFHSZs defined?	Yes	Policy S-4.14, Pg.11 “All new parcel maps and tentative maps in the LRA, SRA, and VHFHSZ shall provide two points of access to the project in conformance with the California Building Code and California Fire Code and CA GC 65302 (g)(5). Approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in LRA’s, 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.)”
If areas exist with inadequate access/evacuation routes, are they identified? Are mitigation measures or improvement plans identified?	Yes	Policy S-4.15, Pg.11 “When feasible, the City will prepare a survey of existing non-conforming developments to identify all existing developments within the City that do not provide two points of access/evacuation routes and identify measures or

Questions	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		improvement plans to address opportunities to improve access. Where no additional access opportunities exist, the City and Fire Department should identify a plan for emergency operations in fire/emergency events.”
Are there policies or programs promoting public outreach about defensible space or evacuation routes? Are there specific plans to reach at-risk populations?	Yes	Policy S-4.16, Pg.11 “The City and Fire Department shall develop a policy or program promoting public outreach about defensible space and evacuation routes. The City and Fire District shall include specific plans to reach at risk populations.”
Does the plan identify future water supply for fire suppression needs?	Yes	Policy S-4.17, Pg.11 “The City should ensure that all new development has adequate water, sewer, and fire protection consistent with the most current California Building Code and California Fire Code and will comply with the board of forestry and fire protection fire safe regulations.”
Does new development have adequate fire protection?	Yes	Policy S-4.1, Pg.9, PolicyS-4.8, Pg.10, Policy S-4.11, Pg.10, Policy S-4.12, Pg.10, Policy S-4.13, Pg.10, Policy S-4.15 Pg.11 and Policy S-17, Pg.11 Safety Element identifies adequate fire protection in the Safety Background Document and Definitions section. Pg,13

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	Policy S-4.6. Pg.10 “Coordinate with Easter Municipal Water District to ensure adequate water availability for fire suppression.” Policy S-4.17, Pg.11 “The City should ensure that all new development has adequate water, sewer, and fire protection consistent with the most current California Building Code and California Fire Code and will comply with the board of forestry and fire protection fire safe regulations.” Safety Element identifies water supply and flow in the Safety Background Document and Definitions

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>section. Pg,14 “Effective fire response and suppression relies on the ability to meet peak load water supply. The City requires all new development to install adequate water conveyance facilities to meet this requirement to ensure adequate water supplies. The City is served by the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) who is able to provide proposed development and existing customers in the City water service.”</p>
Location of anticipated water supply?	Yes	<p>Policy S-4.6. Pg.10 “Coordinate with Easter Municipal Water District to ensure adequate water availability for fire suppression.” Policy S-4.17, Pg.11 “The City should ensure that all new development has adequate water, sewer, and fire protection consistent with the most current California Building Code and California Fire Code and will comply with the board of forestry and fire protection fire safe regulations.”</p>
Maintenance and long-term integrity of water supplies?	Yes	<p>Policy S-4.6. Pg.10 “Coordinate with Easter Municipal Water District to ensure adequate water availability for fire suppression.” Policy S-4.17, Pg.11 “The City should ensure that all new development has adequate water, sewer, and fire protection consistent with the most current California Building Code and California Fire Code and will comply with the board of forestry and fire protection fire safe regulations.”</p>
Evacuation and emergency vehicle access?	Yes	<p>and Policy S-4.15, Pg.11 “When feasible, the City will prepare a survey of existing non-conforming developments to identify all existing developments within the City that do not provide two points of access/evacuation routes and identify measures or improvement plans to address opportunities to improve access. Where no additional access opportunities exist, the City and Fire Department</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		<p>should identify a plan for emergency operations in fire/emergency events." Safety Element identifies "the Police department as lead organization in carrying out evacuations, supported by County Fire Department as appropriate. The Public Works Department typically assists in the identification of the best evacuation routes and in barricading the evacuated areas." Pg,27.</p>
Fuel modification and defensible space?	Yes	<p>Policy S-4.12, Pg.10 "All new development located in the LRA VHFHSZ shall be required to provide a site-specific Fire Protection Plan (FPP) and a Fuel Modification Plan that address fuel modification or incorporate open space and other defensible space areas, as well as multiple points of ingress and egress before approval." Policy S-4.13, Pg.11 "All new development within the LRA VHFHSZ shall be responsible for long-term maintenance of fire reduction projects; including but not limited to, a roadside fuel reduction plan (including private/public road clearance), defensible space clearances (including fuel breaks) around structures, subdivisions, and other development in the VHFHSZ."</p>
Vegetation clearance maintenance on public and private roads?	Yes	<p>Policy S-4.13, Pg.11 "All new development within the LRA VHFHSZ shall be responsible for long-term maintenance of fire reduction projects; including but not limited to, a roadside fuel reduction plan (including private/public road clearance), defensible space clearances (including fuel breaks) around structures, subdivisions, and other development in the VHFHSZ."</p>
Visible home and street addressing and signage?	Yes	<p>Policy S-4.10, Pg.10 "Ensure all new residential development as well as all new development and redevelopment within the LRA and VHFHSZ will</p>

Does the plan identify adequate infrastructure for new development related to:	Yes or No	Comments and Recommendations
		comply with the most current version of the California Building Codes and California Fire Code”
Community fire breaks? Is there a discussion of how those fire breaks will be maintained?	Yes	Policy S-4.13, Pg.11 “All new development within the LRA VHFHSZ shall be responsible for long-term maintenance of fire reduction projects; including but not limited to, a roadside fuel reduction plan (including private/public road clearance), defensible space clearances (including fuel breaks) around structures, subdivisions, and other development in the VHFHSZ.”

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	Specified in Table S-2 of referenced Safety Background Document.
Does the plan include an assessment and projection of future emergency service needs?	Yes	The Background report includes an assessment of emergency needs, risk analysis and recovery assessment. It has been updated with Police services, Climate Adaptation, WUI, and other information.
Are goals or standards for emergency services training described?	Yes	S-4.2, Pg. 9 “Ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that fire services, such as firefighting equipment and personnel, infrastructure, and response times, are adequate for all sections of the City. The City will continue to coordinate with the Riverside County Fire Department, for Interagency coordination, to respond to emergency calls in Menifee and to provide training and ongoing programs for public education.”
Does the plan outline inter-agency preparedness coordination and mutual aid multi-agency agreements?	Yes	Included in the Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery section and LHMP.

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.