

# Resolution Exhibit – A Proposed Safety Element Amendments



## Safety Element

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#### OVERVIEW

It is of fundamental importance to the City of Menifee to protect and preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the community to ensure that it continues to be a place people want to live, work, and spend their time. The Safety Element of the General Plan provides a strategy for City staff, residents, developers, and business owners to effectively address natural and man-made hazards in Menifee, including seismic and geological issues; flood hazards; fire hazards; hazardous materials; wind hazards; and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The policies and action items provided herein can help create a community that is minimally at risk from natural hazards and that responds quickly, effectively, and efficiently to those hazards. It is the primary goal of this document that as the policies and actions are implemented over the next 20 years, the City of Menifee will be increasingly less impacted by disasters, and in the process, become more self-reliant, sustainable, and prosperous.

The first step in hazard mitigation is to understand the community's vulnerability to the various natural and man-made hazards that can impact the region. To that end, the Safety Element identifies the potential hazards that can significantly affect the City of Menifee. More in-depth information regarding these hazards is provided in the supporting Technical Background Report.

#### PURPOSE OF ELEMENT

Section 65302 of the State of California Government Code identifies seven mandatory elements in a General Plan, including Safety. Section 65302 (g) defines the types of hazards that need to be identified and addressed. The following hazards, along with strong winds, hazardous materials, and critical facilities (including airports) and emergency response, are considered in Menifee's Safety Element.

1. Seismic and geologic hazards: Seismic hazards, including strong ground shaking, surface fault rupture, and seismically induced ground failure, such as liquefaction and slope failures and geologic hazards, including slope instability due to non-seismic causes, and subsidence (GC 65302(g)(1);
2. Flooding hazards, including storm-induced flooding, inundation resulting from the failure of water reservoirs, dams, and levees, and areas vulnerable to flooding after wildfires (GC 65302(g)(2);
3. Fire hazards, including both wildland fires and structure fires in state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones (GC 65302(g)(3);

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4. Climate adaptation and resiliency including a vulnerability assessment (GC 65302(g)(4);
5. Residential developments in any hazard area identified in the safety element that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes (GC 65302(g)(5);
6. Revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every eight years, to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element (GC 65302(g)(6);
7. Incorporate Federal floodplain management regulations and/or Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved flood plain management ordinance(s) to flood-prone areas (GC 65302(g)(7).

The Safety Element is written in conjunction and designed to work together with all other elements of the General Plan, most notably the Housing, Land Use, and Open Space and Conservation Elements. For example, the Safety Element contains policies and programs to address future drainage and flood hazards for housing sites. The Housing Element will comply with these requirements, and any future updates to the Housing Element will incorporate any changes in flood hazard and management information. Related to the Land Use Element, the Safety Element involves land-use-related policies that address potential hazards such as seismic and geologic issues, fire, and floods. Some of the land-use-related policies include, but are not limited to, requiring all new developments to mitigate the geologic hazards that have the potential to impact habitable structures and other improvements and requiring all new developments and redevelopment in areas susceptible to flooding (such as the 100-year floodplain and areas known to the City to flood during intense or prolonged rainfall events) to incorporate mitigation measures designed to mitigate flood hazards. Additionally, one of the goals of the Open Space and Conservation Element is to identify and protect sensitive environments and preserve amenities such as the rock features, natural landforms, and ridgelines that characterize Menifee. These landforms are the result of active natural processes (such as erosion) that have the potential to cause future damage to the built environment and are therefore best left either undeveloped or developed following careful design guidelines. These issues are discussed in the Safety Element. The goals of the Open Space and Conservation Element echo this concern by identifying some of these safety constraints as resources that merit conservation. The Safety Element also works together with various federal, state, and local regulations such as the Federal Clean Water Act, FEMA, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the California Building and Fire Codes, and the Menifee Municipal Code, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Menifee's residents, visitors, and businesses.

#### **BACKGROUND**

This element describes the natural and man-made hazards most likely to impact the Menifee area. To reduce their potential effect on the community, these hazards should be carefully considered when new development or redevelopment is proposed in the area. Some issues should be considered for all types of development,

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whereas others are specific to critical or essential facilities or infrastructure. These distinctions are spelled out where appropriate.

The Safety Element covers eight general topics: seismic and geological issues; flood hazards; fire hazards; hazardous materials; wind hazards; disaster preparedness, response, and recovery; climate adaptation, and resiliency; and police services. A brief description of each of these topics is presented alongside the related goal and policies to provide context. For more detailed information on each of these issues and how they relate to Menifee's past and future, please review the General Plan exhibits and related documents identified below.

#### **LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) for the City of Menifee planning area was developed in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and follows FEMA's 2011 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance. The LHMP incorporates a process where hazards are identified and profiled, the people and facilities at risk are analyzed, and mitigation actions are developed to reduce or eliminate hazard risk. The implementation of these mitigation actions, which include both short-term and long-term strategies, involve planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities. In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 2140, the latest adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is incorporated by reference into this Safety Element and can be viewed at the "Menifee Local Hazard Mitigation" link provided below under "City Resources." The LHMP is also available for review in the Community Development Department at Menifee City Hall.

#### **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

For detailed information related to safety, please refer to the following documents. (Weblinks are available on the City's General Plan website).

##### **City Resources**

[Safety Background Document & Definitions](#)  
[Technical Background Report to the Safety Element of the General Plan for the City of Menifee \(Earth Consultants International, Inc., July 2010\)](#)  
[Climate Vulnerability Assessment](#)  
[Menifee Local Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)  
[General Plan Environmental Impact Report](#)  
[Exhibit S-b1: Engineering Materials](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.1: Dams with the Potential to Inundate](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.2: Diamond Valley Lake West Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.3: Diamond Valley Lake Saddle Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.4: Lake Perris Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.5: Hemet Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.6: Diamond Valley Lake East Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b2.7: Diamond Valley Lake Forebay Dam Failure](#)  
[Exhibit S-b3: Historical Wildland Fires \(updated\)](#)  
[Exhibit S-b4: Hazardous Materials](#)

##### **Additional Information**

[Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission](#)

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### GENERAL PLAN EXHIBITS

[Exhibit S-1: Fault Map \(updated consistent with LHMP\)](#)

[Exhibit S-2: Slope Distribution](#)

[Exhibit S-3: Liquefaction and Landslides](#)

[Exhibit S-4: Geologic Map](#)

[Exhibit S-5: Flood Hazards \(updated\)](#)

[Exhibit S-6: High Fire Hazard Areas \(updated\)](#)

[Exhibit S-7: Critical Facilities](#)

[Exhibit S-8: Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and Public Facilities \(new\)](#)

[Exhibit S-9: Evacuation Routes \(new\)](#)

## GOALS AND POLICIES

### SEISMIC AND GEOLOGIC ISSUES

The Menifee General Plan area is highly diverse geologically, the result of both the youthful seismic setting of the surrounding region and the effects of climate. No active faults (faults that show evidence of having experienced surface displacement within the last 11,000 years) have been mapped in the Menifee General Plan area; therefore, the hazard of primary surface fault rupture is considered low to none. However, Menifee is located near several regional active faults—such as the San Jacinto and Elsinore faults—that have the potential to cause strong ground shaking in the area (see Exhibit S-1, Fault Map).

Topographically, the Menifee area encompasses numerous rugged and moderately steep hills and mountains surrounded by a series of broad, nearly flat-bottomed valleys (see Exhibit S-2, Slope Distribution). Most development in the area occurs in the valleys and low hillside areas, with the prominent hills and ridgelines largely undeveloped. As a result, slope instability, including rockfalls, debris flows, or ridgetop shattering, is a potential hazard only where development has encroached onto the hills or is at the base of the hills. Most slope damage in the region is likely to occur as a result of earthquake-induced shaking or during periods of exceptional and/or prolonged rainfall.

Seismic shaking can also cause various types of ground deformation; liquefaction and slope failure are the most destructive of these. When liquefaction occurs, the soils that liquefy lose their ability to support structures; buildings may sink or tilt, with the potential for extensive structural damage. Three areas in Menifee are thought to have soils that could liquefy during an earthquake: the Salt Creek floodplain, the Warm Springs Creek floodplain, and portions of the Paloma Wash Valley (see Exhibit S-3, Liquefaction and Landslides). The geology of a community also plays a part in determining the significance of its seismic and geologic issues. Sedimentary units in the Menifee area consist mainly of water-transported (alluvial) sand, silt, clay, and gravel derived from erosion of the adjacent hills and mountains (see Exhibit S-4, Geologic Map). See the Safety Element Background Report for further details regarding these geology types.

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**Goal S 1:** *A community that is minimally impacted by seismic shaking and earthquake-induced or other geologic hazards.*

#### Policies

- S-1.1 Require all new habitable buildings and structures to be designed and built to be seismically resistant in accordance with the most recent California Building Code adopted by the City.
- S-1.2 Encourage owners of old or potentially hazardous buildings— including pre-1952 wood-frame structures, concrete tilt-ups, pre-1971 reinforced masonry, soft-story, and multifamily residential buildings— to assess the seismic vulnerability of their structures and conduct seismic retrofitting as necessary to improve the building’s resistance to seismic shaking.
- S-1.3 Encourage the City’s utility service providers to identify sections of their distribution networks that are old and/or in areas susceptible to earthquake-induced ground deformation, and to repair, replace, or strengthen the sections as necessary.

**Goal S- 2:** *A community that has used engineering solutions to reduce or eliminate the potential for injury, loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption caused by geologic hazards such as slope instability; compressible, collapsible, expansive or corrosive soils; and subsidence due to groundwater withdrawal.*

#### Policies

- S-2.1 Require all new developments to mitigate the geologic hazards that have the potential to impact habitable structures and other improvements.
- S-2.2 Monitor the losses caused by geologic hazards to existing development and require studies to specifically address these issues, including the implementation of measures designed to mitigate these hazards, in all future developments in these areas.
- S-2.3 Minimize grading and modifications to the natural topography to prevent the potential for man-induced slope failures.
- S-2.4 Manage the groundwater resources in the area to prevent over-drafting of the aquifers, which in turn could result in regional subsidence.

#### FLOOD HAZARDS

Floods are natural and recurrent events that generally do not pose a hazard when they occur in an undeveloped area; it is only when floods interact with the built environment— typically in the form of structures built in the floodplain, where they obstruct floodwaters— that they become hazardous. Unfortunately, as development in

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floodplains has increased, the average annual losses due to flooding have increased. Menifee is in the lower part of the San Jacinto River basin, a regional watershed of more than 700 square miles. Most flooding in Menifee is the result of flows along the San Jacinto River, Salt Creek, and several smaller drainages along the City's boundaries (including Ethanac Wash, the creek through Quail Valley, Paloma Wash, and Warm Springs Creek). The City of Menifee is aware of these flood-prone areas and has plans to improve or replace some of the existing flood control structures to reduce the flood hazards.

Although new storm drain improvements have been constructed within and north of the City boundary, Line A Storm Drain Channel, portions of Romoland continue to be designated a Special Flood Hazard Area Zone (SFHA) and therefore subject to federal floodplain management regulations. SFHAs are areas subject to a high risk of inundation by a "base flood," also referred to as the 100-year flood (a flood having a 1 percent chance of occurring annually). SFHAs are regulated zones, requiring the mandatory purchase of flood insurance. They are also subject to special standards and regulations that apply to new construction, and in some cases, existing buildings. In addition, currently there is one Critical Facility, Heritage High School, that is located in the 100-year flood zone; see Exhibit S-7– Critical Facilities. The City of Menifee encourages the efforts of the Homeland/Romoland Area Drainage Plan participants' efforts and has funded improvements for flood control facilities necessary to facilitate removing the area from the 100-year flood zone. Exhibit S-5; Flood Hazards, shows the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) inundation limits for the 100-year and 500-year flood; however, it should be noted that the study areas are limited and the flood zones are incomplete. Consequently, there are areas outside of the mapped flood zones that are likely to be subject to flood hazards.

**Goal S- 3:**     *A community that is minimally disrupted by flooding and inundation hazards.*

#### **Policies**

- S-3.1     Require that all new developments and redevelopments in areas susceptible to flooding (such as the 100-year floodplain and areas known to the City to flood during intense or prolonged rainfall events) incorporate mitigation measures designed to mitigate flood hazards.
- S-3.2     Reduce flood hazards in developed areas known to flood.
- S-3.3     Use technology to identify flood-prone areas and to notify residents and motorists of impending flood hazards and evacuation procedures.
- S-3.4     Develop floodplains as parks, nature trails, equestrian parks, golf courses, or other types of recreational facilities or joint-use facilities that can withstand periodic inundation wherever feasible.
- S-3.5     Encourage neighboring jurisdictions to require development occurring adjacent to the City to consider the impact of flooding and flood control measures on properties within Menifee.

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- S-3.6: Coordinate with FEMA to ensure that flood mapping and flood risk information is current and available.
- S-3.7: When feasible locate new essential public facilities outside of flood risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities or identify other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in flood hazard zones.

#### **FIRE HAZARDS**

Wildfires are a necessary part of the natural ecosystem in southern California, but they become a hazard when they extend out of control into developed areas, with a resultant loss of property, and sometimes, injuries or loss of life. The wildfire risk in the United States has increased in the last few decades with more encroachment of residences and other structures into the wildland environment, and the growing number of people living and playing in wildland areas.

#### **Wildland Urban Interface**

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development is referred to as the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The WUI zone is highly susceptible to wildfires because it is where built environment meets with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) estimates the length of fire season had increased by 75 days in 2020. In 2015, wildfires in Riverside County and nearby municipalities resulted in approximately \$42 million worth of losses in residential and commercial properties. Riverside County Fire Department data indicate about 47 wildland fire incidents occur in the Menifee area every year; with careful planning, the number of fires can be reduced and their impact to the City of Menifee can be minimized. The burn area is estimated to decrease its average size from the 156.8 acres observed between the years 1961 through 1990 to 128.2 acres projected for the years 2035 through 2064.

Topography has considerable effect on wildland fire behavior and on the ability of firefighters and their equipment to take action to suppress those fires. A fire starting in the bottom of a canyon may rush quickly to the ridge and become large, before initial attack forces can arrive, simply because of topography.

In an effort to alleviate fire dangers near the interface between urban development and wildlands, the construction of fuel modification zones (firebreak, fuel break, or greenbelt) has been required. The continued application of this method does have drawbacks and, therefore, is not the only acceptable solution. Impacts on wildlife, unique vegetation, and, in some cases, to the watershed, can be impacted with fuel modification zones. Balancing fire prevention measure to reduce the level of risk to structures with wildland impacts must be developed with the design of each project.



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### Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones shown in Exhibit S-6 were established in 1996 to identify areas at the greatest threat of wildfires that require added precautions and protection. The designation is established based on the following criteria:

- Vegetation and its potential to burn over a 5-year time period
- Topography
- Weather
- Crown fire potential
- Ember production and movement
- Likelihood of an area burning over a 30 to 50-year time period

The California Building Code Chapter 7A requires that buildings constructed in areas identified as VHFHSZ must be built using fire-resistive features. Within the City of Menifee, certain roads, residential development, and commercial areas are currently located within the VHFHSZ.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) has recommended that the urban, low-lying areas in Menifee be classified as having a Moderate Fire Hazard, whereas the hillside areas are generally classified as having a Very High Fire Hazard. The majority of the City's VHFHSZ falls under local responsibility, however, a small portion falls under federal responsibility. The areas between the flatlands and the hillsides are classified as High Fire Hazard. Most of the low-lying areas within the City are located within local responsibility areas (LRAs); the hillsides are within either state or federal responsibility areas. Fire suppression responsibility for these areas is divided among local, state, and federal agencies, respectively (see Exhibit S-6, High Fire Hazard Areas). California state law requires that fire hazard areas be disclosed in real estate transactions.

*Goal S- 4: A community that has effective fire mitigation and response measures in place, and as a result is minimally impacted by wildland and structure fires.*

### Policies

S-4.1 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.



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- S-4.2 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.
- S-4.3 Encourage owners of non-sprinklered high-occupancy structures to retrofit their buildings to include internal sprinklers.
- S-4.4 Review development proposals for impacts to fire facilities and compatibility with fire areas or mitigate.
- S-4.5 Coordinate with CalFire to ensure that Fire Hazard Severity Zone mapping is up to date.
- S-4.6 Coordinate with Eastern Municipal Water District to ensure adequate water availability for fire suppression.
- S-4.7 Encourage multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing in SRAs, LRAs, or VHFHSZs to develop a policy to create emergency evacuation or shelter in place plans.
- S-4.8 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.
- S-4.9 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.
- S-4.10 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.
- S-4.11 When feasible, the City will minimize all new residential, commercial, and industrial development in the VHFHSZ.
- S-4.12 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

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open space and other defensible space areas, as well as multiple points of ingress and egress before approval.

- S-4.13 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.
- S-4.14 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.).
- S-4.15 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.
- S-4.16 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.
- S-4.17 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.
- S-4.18 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 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.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

Hazardous materials are used every day in industrial, commercial, medical, and residential applications. The primary concern associated with a hazardous materials release is the short- and/or long-term effect to the public

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from exposure to these substances. Although compared to other cities in Southern California, Meniffee has a relatively low number of sites that generate, use, or store hazardous materials, it is still critical to plan for hazardous materials in order to ensure public safety. The City created measures to analyze/assess development in high risk areas and include measure to protect the community in the event of natural disasters and protects sensitive receptors such as homes and schools. See Exhibit S-B4, Hazardous Materials Sites, for the location of hazardous material sites in Meniffee.

*Goal S-5: A community that has reduced the potential for hazardous materials contamination.*

#### **Policies**

- S-5.1 Locate facilities involved in the production, use, storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials away from land uses that may be adversely impacted by such activities and areas susceptible to impacts or damage from a natural disaster.
- S-5.2 Ensure that the fire department can continue to respond safely and effectively to a hazardous materials incident in the City, whether it is a spill at a permitted facility, or the result of an accident along a section of the freeway or railroads that extend across the City.
- S-5.3 Continue to support the operation of programs and recycling centers that accept hazardous substances, such as paint, paint thinner, used waste oil, etc.
- S-5.4 Ensure that all facilities that handle hazardous materials comply with federal and state laws pertaining to the management of hazardous wastes and materials.
- S-5.5 Require facilities that handle hazardous materials to implement mitigation measures that reduce the risks associated with hazardous material production, storage, and disposal.
- S-5.6 Require all new industrial development projects and significant rehabilitation or expansion projects to reduce industrial truck idling by enforcing California's five (5) minute maximum law, requiring warehouse and distribution facilities to provide adequate on-site truck parking, and requiring refrigerated warehouses to provide generators for refrigerated trucks. Require air pollution point sources to be located at safe distances from sensitive sites such as homes and schools.

#### **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY**

A disaster is a sudden and dramatic emergency. When a disaster occurs, the threatened community strives to: 1) protect its residents to the extent possible, 2) care for victims, and 3) restore basic services as soon as possible. To do this, a community needs to respond quickly and dynamically and as effectively as possible. This requires preparation at all levels, from the federal government (for large-scale disasters) down to individual neighborhoods, families, and businesses. Planning issues pertaining to emergency response, disaster

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preparedness, and disaster recovery require an assessment of the hazards, identification of functions and resources to handle short-term and long-term response, and development of recovery procedures. Planning can help speed the response to an emergency, while ensuring that the response is appropriate to the situation. Some level of preparedness, however basic, can be very useful to facilitate the safety and recovery of people who live and work in the City of Menifee.

HazUS (short for Hazards United States) is a methodology developed by the National Institute of Building Sciences with funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to make standardized loss estimates at a regional scale resulting from earthquakes, floods, or hurricanes. HazUS addresses nearly all aspects of the built environment and is used in planning for disaster loss mitigation and emergency preparedness, response and recovery. HazUS breaks critical facilities into two groups: (1) essential facilities and (2) high potential loss (HPL) facilities. Essential facilities are those parts of a community's infrastructure that must remain operational after an earthquake. Buildings that house essential services include hospitals, emergency operation centers, fire and police stations, schools, airport control towers, and communication centers. HPL or high-risk facilities are those that, if severely damaged, may result in a disaster far beyond the facilities themselves. Examples include power plants; dams and flood control structures; and industrial plants that use or store explosives, extremely hazardous materials, or petroleum products in large quantities, Exhibit S-7 - Critical Facilities, identifies where these facilities are located in Menifee.

**Goal S-6:** *A City that responds and recovers in an effective and timely manner from natural disasters such as flooding, fire, and earthquakes, and as a result is not impacted by civil unrest that may occur following a natural disaster.*

#### **Policies**

- S-6.1 Continuously review, update, and implement emergency preparedness, response, and recovery plans that make the best use of the City- and county-specific emergency management resources available.
- S-6.2 Ensure to the fullest possible extent that, in the event of a major disaster, critical, dependent care and high-occupancy facilities remain functional.
- S-6.3 Work with the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission to strengthen the City's disaster preparedness, response, and recovery program in accordance with the Airport Land Use Plans for March Air Reserve Base and Perris Valley Airport.
- S-6.4 Locate new essential or critical facilities away from areas susceptible to impacts or damage from a natural disaster.

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- S-6.5 Promote strengthening of planned and existing critical facilities and lifelines, the retrofit and rehabilitation of existing weak structures, and the relocation of certain critical facilities as necessary to adequately meet the needs of Menifee’s residents and workforce.

#### CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCY

Senate Bill 379 requires all cities to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies to their General Plan Safety Element. The goals, policies, and objectives of this section are derived from a Climate Vulnerability Assessment, which identifies the exposure risks; sensitive structures, functions, and populations; potential impacts and risks; and the City’s adaptive capabilities. Additional reference documents include the latest adopted Menifee Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015) and the Western Riverside Council of Governments Subregional Climate Action Plan Update (2014). ~~It is important to note that the City is currently updating the LHMP set for adoption in late 2021 and WRCOG is currently working on a comprehensive update to the CAP that is scheduled to be adopted in late 2021 as well.~~

Climate change generally occurs at a global scale. However, the climate change that is currently occurring at an unprecedented rate is the direct result of intensive human-generated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Human-generated GHG emissions significantly contribute to the changes in the global climate, which have a number of physical and environmental effects. These effects include sea level rise, an increase in the frequency and intensity of droughts, and increased temperatures. Increased GHG emissions are largely the result of increasing energy consumption, particularly through the combustion of fossil fuels. These effects may also affect communities differently based on their geography, weather, environmental resources, urbanization, and populations.

#### Climate Change Considerations

The City of Menifee’s inland location within a naturally dry climate makes it more susceptible to the effects of climate change in the forms of increased average temperature, a greater occurrence of extreme temperature days (days with temperatures that exceed the 105.8°F extreme temperature threshold), and enhanced wildfire severity. Specific scenarios and effects are further outlined in the City of Menifee Climate Vulnerability Assessment. The potential climate change-related risks were analyzed using a continued high emissions scenario calculated by Cal-Adapt. The high GHG emissions activity used to calculate potential risks illustrates more dramatic consequences than a scenario in which emissions peak in 2040 and then decrease.

Prior to the Climate Vulnerability Assessment, the City of Menifee adopted a variety of plans, policies and reduction strategies to address climate change. The City’s General Plan Open Space and Conservation Element (OSC-9) includes Air Quality Goals and Policies; as well emissions reduction consideration in the Land Use and Circulation Elements through Policies that encourage local jobs and housing balance, improving the transportation network, and uses of neighborhood electric vehicles (NEVs). In addition, the City also adopted an Active Transportation Plan (ATP) in 2020 to meet the City’s goals and vision for providing a transportation system

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that supports walking, cycling, public transit and automobiles. The ATP promotes programs that help reduce GHG emissions through increasing bicycling and walking; as well as improving non-motorized travel infrastructure to provide safer, walkable streets throughout the City. The City's adopted 2015 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) also provides plans to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards, including hazardous air emissions.

The City of Menifee is a member of the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG). WRCOG adopted a Subregional Climate Action Plan (also referred to as CAP or CAPtivate) in 2014. CAPtivate included a study on Climate Adaptation and Resiliency. The CAPtivate Adaptation and Resiliency Strategy recommends strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the subregion, including Menifee. Currently, WRCOG is in the process of preparing an update and expansion to the 2014 CAPtivate, which is referred to as the CAP Update. The CAP Update will include a comprehensive update to GHG inventories and GHG emissions reduction strategies for all sectors and establishes GHG targets for the years 2030 and 2050 for all WRCOG member jurisdictions. At this time, the CAP Update has not been adopted. Furthermore, the State of California has adopted a variety of bills aimed at decreasing the State's impact on climate change and improving the resiliency of its communities, such as the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 and SB-379.

The City of Menifee and WRCOG both have a variety of plans adopted, which each address various aspects of the potential threats outlined in the Climate Vulnerability Assessment. Both jurisdictions recognize the importance of public and private partnerships and planning for potential issues the community may face in the coming years.

**Goal S- 7:** *A community that has protected its sensitive structures, functions, and populations from the risks associated with climate change.*

#### **Policies**

- S-7.1 Continue to require environmental analysis for proposed projects which may produce harmful levels of greenhouse gas.
- S-7.2 Ensure that the City's water supply is protected against drought conditions intensified by climate change.
- S-7.3 Coordinate with energy providers to ensure reliable energy availability for the City's residents.
- S-7.4 Promote alternative forms of energy production such as solar or wind power.
- S-7.5 Promote the use of climate ready architecture designed to maintain adequate indoor climate with minimal energy use.

## **Resolution Exhibit – A**

### **Proposed Safety Element Amendments**

- S-7.6 Continue to monitor potential climate risks occurring within the City.
- S-7.7 The City shall maintain consistent outreach to notify the community of extreme weather hazards such as extreme heat, severe rain events, and potential wildfire risk.
- S-7.8 The City shall communicate the location and availability of shelters in cases of hazardous climate conditions such as wildfire, severe rain events, and extreme temperatures.
- S-7.9 Promote drought resistant landscaping to continue reducing water consumption and potential fuel sources.

#### **POLICE SERVICES**

In November 2018, the Menifee City Council voted to create their own police department. Being a young city, which incorporated in 2008, this was a bold step on the City Council's part. Menifee is one of the fastest growing and vibrant cities in America and it only made sense to have local control of their own police department. On July 1, 2020, the Menifee Police Department officially entered service with over 60 officers and 17 professional staff. Soon after its formation, the Menifee Police Department adopted the following Mission Statement and Values:

##### **MISSION**

"We deliver an experience where people feel unified, engaged and safe."

##### **VALUES**

- Together – See one another-Know one another-Empower one another
- Humble – Learn-Serve-Sacrifice
- Creative – Encourage and pursue original ideas

The Chief of Police is responsible for administering and managing the Menifee Police Department. There are three divisions in the Police Department as follows:

- **OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE:** Under the direction of the Chief of Police, this Division has overall authority and is responsible for the effective administration, management and coordination of police services in the community. In addition to the Office of the Chief, this Division includes Budget and Finance, Policy and Procedure (updates/issuance/adherence), as well as the Senior Police Personnel and Training Analyst, and Professional Standards and Training Unit (PST). PST includes hiring, personnel, training, organizational adherence to Federal, State and local laws, acceptance and review of personnel commendations and complaints, Property and Evidence (as well as Crime Scene Investigations), short- and long-range Strategic Planning, and public information and social media.



## **Resolution Exhibit – A**

### **Proposed Safety Element Amendments**

- **OPERATIONS DIVISION:** The Operations Division is commanded by a Captain, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Operations Division. The Operations Division consists of Uniformed Patrol, Traffic Unit, School Programs, SWAT and K-9.
- **INVESTIGATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION:** The Investigations and Support Services Division is commanded by a Captain, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Services Division. The Services Division consists of the General Investigation Unit, Special Investigations Unit, Problem Oriented Policing Unit, Code Enforcement Unit, Crime Analysis Unit, Property and Evidence Unit which includes Crime Scene Investigations, Volunteer Program, and protection and order during public meetings pursuant to California Government Code 38638.

**Goal S-8:**     *A community that provides high-quality police services and effective police response to major disasters and emergency events.*

#### **Policies**

- S-8.1     Utilize technology and IT infrastructure such as mobile platforms allowing for connectivity at remote work sites in the event of displacement.
- S-8.2     Provide citywide surveillance connectivity allowing for assessment of critical roadways and infrastructure and video analytics including facial and physical recognition for threat analysis around critical infrastructure and government buildings.
- S-8.3     Provide a diversity of fleet for specific and general mission accomplishments including for mobile command operations capable of replacing dispatch in long-term displacement situations.
- S-8.4     Identify currently owned City buildings and property for expansion of emergency services.
- S-8.5     Comply with all federal and State of California training requirements including POST (State of California) and FEMA ICS courses 100, 200, 300, 400 and 700 and provide officer and supervisor training in areas of Emergency Management and as Terrorism Liaison Officers.

#### **EVACUATION ROUTES**

The Western Riverside County of Governments (WRCOG) and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) prepared a *Community Vulnerability Profiles Western Riverside County* report and the *Regional Climate Adaptation Toolkit for Transportation Infrastructure, “Resilient IE Toolkit”* to support member agencies prepare climate adaptation and resilience strategies to reduce risks. As part of this effort, The Vulnerability Profile identified key hazards, vulnerable populations, and infrastructure vulnerabilities in the evacuation network. The assessment identified the City’s evacuation network and provided potential conflicts or hazard prone areas

## **Resolution Exhibit – A**

### **Proposed Safety Element Amendments**

along the identified evacuation routes. Exhibit S-9: Evacuation Routes, identifies the City's evacuation route network relating to hazard impacts, bridges, and water crossings and the following provides a breakdown of hazard-prone areas in the City:

- Evacuation Route Miles in Fire Hazard Zones (8 miles and 12% of City's network)
- Evacuation Route Miles in Flood Hazard Zones (13 miles and 20% of City's network)
- Evacuation Route Miles in Landslide Hazard Zones (8 miles and 13% of City's network)
- Menifee's total Evacuation Network Miles (65 miles and 100% of City's network and 3.4% of City's total network as part of the larger Wester Riverside County network).
- Bridge Crossings in Menifee's Evacuation Network (16 miles)
- Water Crossings in Menifee's Evacuation Network (29 miles)