



Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council

ADOPTION OF THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH 2025 LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

CEQA: Determine that this report is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) or, in the alternative that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

(Emergency Management Coordinator Maurice Wright)

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council adopt Resolution **(Attachment 2)** approving the City of Hermosa Beach 2025 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan **(Attachment 3)**.

Executive Summary:

This report recommends the adoption of the updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) (for the City of Hermosa Beach. Federal law (DMA 2000) mandates an approved LHMP for eligibility in pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The LHMP identifies the City's risks and vulnerabilities to natural hazards and outlines mitigation strategies. Developed with input from City staff, community partners, and the public, the plan has been approved by both CalOES and FEMA, contingent upon City Council adoption. Adopting this resolution will ensure the City's continued eligibility for these critical funding opportunities.

Background:

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires local governments to develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans to qualify for pre- and post-disaster funding from the FEMA. A Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is a comprehensive planning document that identifies a community's exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards and establishes long-term strategies for reducing those risks to protect life, property, and the environment.

The purpose of the LHMP is to establish proactive mitigation measures to minimize potential damage and reduce risks to public health and safety from natural hazards. The plan outlines a process for hazard identification, vulnerability assessment, goal setting, and the prioritization of mitigation strategies. The LHMP also documents the planning process, details the City's specific hazards and vulnerabilities, and outlines strategies to enhance overall community resilience and sustainability.

To maintain eligibility for certain federal grant programs under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), Local Hazard Mitigation Plans must be updated and re-adopted every five years. The City of Hermosa Beach's most recent LHMP was adopted in 2017, necessitating this update to ensure continued eligibility for disaster-related funding and to enhance the City's preparedness and resilience.

Discussion:

The updated LHMP provides a framework for long-term strategies aimed at enhancing the community's resilience to natural hazards within the City of Hermosa Beach, with the primary objectives of minimizing economic impacts and preventing human suffering.

The LHMP update was conducted over several months and involved a collaborative process with internal City departments and external community stakeholders, who formed the LHMP Planning Committee. This committee included representatives from all City departments and various community organizations. The update process involved a series of Planning Committee meetings that facilitated discussions, information gathering, and surveys to inform the development of the LHMP.

The Hermosa Beach LHMP has been prepared in accordance with FEMA's requirements as outlined in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and the Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide (FP-206-21-0002). Following review, the plan received conditional approval from CalOES and was subsequently forwarded to FEMA (**Attachment 1**). FEMA notified staff on April 14th, 2025, that the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan is approvable pending formal adoption, thereby securing eligibility for State and Federal hazard mitigation grant programs. The comprehensive LHMP details the planning process, community profile, risk and vulnerability assessments, mitigation strategy, and plan maintenance procedures. Appendices include information on the planning committee, survey results, outreach efforts, FEMA flood maps, a list of critical facilities, and relevant worksheets and review tools. The hazards identified and assessed in this LHMP include Coastal Hazards, Drought, Geological Hazards, Inland Flooding, Severe Weather, and Fire/Urban Wildland Interface (Wildfire). The LHMP demonstrates a sound planning process that accounts for the City's specific risks and capabilities.

Environmental Review:

Adoption of the LHMP is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the common sense exemption. The LHMP is a planning document and its adoption will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

General Plan Consistency:

This report and associated recommendation have been evaluated for their consistency with the City's General Plan. Relevant Policies are listed below:

Safety Element

Goal 5. High quality police and fire protection services provided to residents and visitors.

Policy:

- **5.2 High level of response.** Achieve optimal utilization of allocated public safety resources and provide desired levels of response, staffing, and protection within the community.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

However, adoption of the LHMP is a prerequisite for the City to be eligible for pre- and post-disaster FEMA mitigation funding, which can provide financial resources for future hazard mitigation projects.

Attachments:

1. Approvable Pending Adoption (APA) City of Hermosa Beach 4-14-25
2. Resolution Adopting the 2025 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
3. Hermosa Beach LHMP 11.4.2024

Respectfully Submitted by: Maurice Wright, Emergency Management Coordinator

Concur: Leo Zalyan, Interim Deputy City Manager

Noted for Fiscal Impact: Henry Chao, Finance Manager

Concur: Brandon Walker, Administrative Services Director

Legal Review: Todd Leishman, Interim City Attorney

Approved: Joe SanClemente, Interim City Manager / Public Works Director