



Amendment to the Environmental Hazards Element of the General Plan

City Council
November 17, 2025

2035 General Plan



General Plan



"The General Plan for San Leandro presents a vision for the city's future and a strategy to make that vision a reality."



The Environmental Hazards Element is the City's foundational policy document for addressing natural and man-made hazards in the City, including earthquakes, floods, and wildfire.

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The overall purpose of this Element is to minimize the potential for damage and injury resulting from environmental hazards. The State Government Code requires that the Element identify and evaluate the hazards that are present and establish appropriate goals, policies, and action programs to reduce those hazards to acceptable levels. Environmental hazards define basic constraints to land use that must be reflected in how and where development takes place.

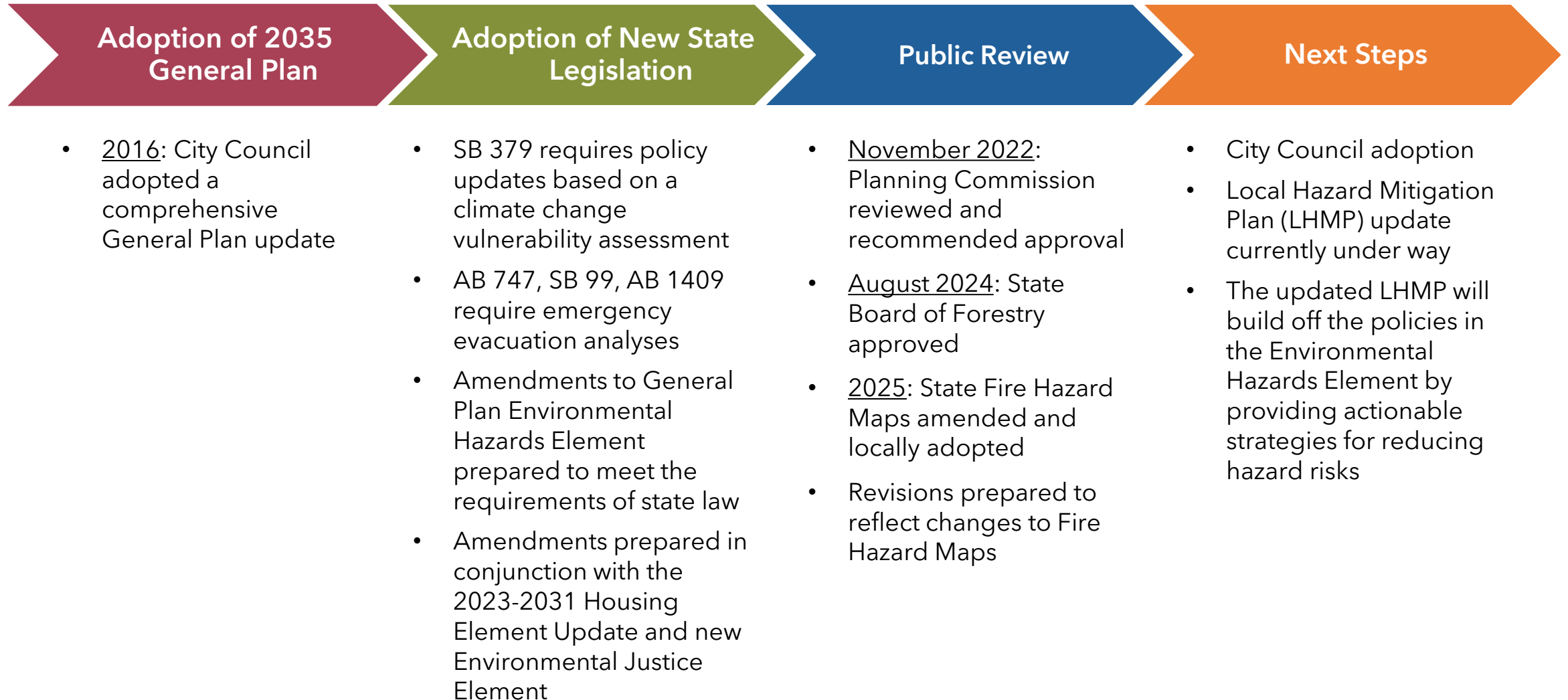
Public education is critical to the successful implementation of this Element. Although San Leandrans are generally aware that the City is located in "earthquake country," there is still much that can be done to improve readiness and response when disaster strikes. The Environmental Hazards Element takes a pro-active approach to emergency preparedness, emphasizing mitigation and reduced exposure to hazards as well as response and recovery. This Element is closely coordinated with the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), a federally mandated plan to reduce exposure to hazards and ensure eligibility for federal disaster preparedness and relief funds.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

7-1

Background



COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS

Climate Change

SB 379 requires policy updates based on a vulnerability assessment

Assessment identified increased vulnerability to :

- Wildfire
- Extreme heat
- Drought
- Bayshore flooding
- Intense precipitation

New policies focus adaptation efforts on vulnerable populations and support critical infrastructure improvements.

Evacuation Planning

AB 747, SB 99, AB 1409 require emergency evacuation analyses

Analysis identified:

- Evacuation routes, capacity, safety, viability
- Neighborhoods with a single egress route
- Need for effective communication
- Need for active route management

New policies include development of communication tools to reach vulnerable populations and improved emergency traffic management, as well as focusing the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan on local issues (expected in 2026)

General Plan Compliance and CEQA Review



2035 General Plan

General Plan

Consistent with the City's intent

- Chapter 1, Section F: "...intended to be a dynamic document and must be periodically updated to respond to changing community needs."
- Chapter 11, Section C: "...policies should be evaluated to ensure that they are still relevant."

California Environmental Quality Act

City Council certified a Supplemental EIR (SCH#2022010214) on December 5, 2022, to amend and adopt:

- Environmental Hazards Element
- Housing Element
- Environmental Justice Element



CEQA

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution amending the Environmental Hazards Element of the 2035 General Plan to comply with the requirements of State law.