

County of Los Angeles All-Hazard Mitigation Plan

County Mission

The following mission statement—which was unanimously endorsed by every Los Angeles County department head, and approved by the board in conjunction with the other plan revisions—was developed through the collaborative process.

“To enrich lives through effective and caring service.”

The mission statement clearly defines the noblest purpose of public service—to enrich lives—and how the County of Los Angeles, a public service organization, intends to meet that goal—through effective and caring service. With adoption of the mission statement and the plan revisions, the county’s strategic plan appropriately focuses on current programmatic and organizational issues and concerns.

Los Angeles County General Plan

Goals and Policies for Flood and Inundation Hazards

Goal S 2: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to flood and inundation hazards.

Policy S 2.1: Discourage development in the County’s Flood Hazard Zones.

Policy S 2.2: Discourage development from locating in dam and reservoir inundation routes.

Policy S 2.3: Discourage development from locating downslope from aqueducts.

Policy S 2.4: Consider climate change implications in planning for flood and inundation hazards.

Policy S 2.5: Ensure that developments located within the County’s Flood Hazard Zones are sited and designed to avoid isolation from essential services and facilities in the event of flooding.

Policy S 2.6: Ensure that the mitigation of flood related property damage and loss does not impact biological and other resources.

Policy S 2.7: Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.

Policy S 2.8: Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals and fire stations, outside of Flood Hazard Zones, where feasible.

2015 Los Angeles County Floodplain Management Plan

MISSION STATEMENT

A mission statement focuses the range of objectives and actions to be considered. The mission statement for the 2015 floodplain management plan is as follows:

Protect life, property, the economy and the environment of Los Angeles County by identifying and communicating risks and sustainable actions to reduce flood hazards.

GOALS

The effectiveness of a mitigation strategy is assessed by determining how well its goals are achieved. The Steering Committee established the following updated goals for the 2015 floodplain management plan:

1. Protect life, safety, property and economy.
2. Work with local citizens and watershed management groups so that residents understand the flood hazard of the region based on best available data and science.
3. Increase resilience of infrastructure and critical facilities.
4. Account for flood risk in land use and planning.
5. Preserve, enhance or restore the natural environment's floodplain functions.
6. Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound mitigation projects.

OBJECTIVES

The following objectives were selected that meet multiple goals:

1. Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.
2. Utilize best available data, science, and technologies to improve understanding of the location and potential impacts of flood hazards.
3. Provide state, county and local agencies and stakeholders with updated information about flood hazards, vulnerabilities, and mitigation measures.
4. Create a public outreach strategy.
5. Discourage new development in known flood hazard areas or ensure that, if development occurs in those areas, it is done in a way to minimize flood risk.
6. Consider open space land uses within known flood hazard areas.
7. Provide the highest degree of flood hazard protection at the least cost by working with environmentally friendly natural systems and by using prevention as the first priority.
8. Retrofit, purchase and relocate structures in known flood hazard areas, especially those known to be repetitively damaged.
9. Provide flood protection by maintaining flood control systems.
10. Sustain reliable local emergency operations and facilities during and after a flood event.
11. Consider climate change implications in planning for flood and inundation hazards.