HMPC #2 Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Thursday, December 20, 2018 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: City of Tracy Fire Administration Building – Upstairs Conference Room
835 Central Avenue
Tracy, CA 95376

Project No.: SA18170410

Written By: Juliana Prosperi (Wood, Project Manager)
Jeff Brislawn (Wood, Senior Emergency Management Associate)

Present:
Karin Schnaider (City of Tracy, Finance Director)
Maricela Saldivar (City of Tracy, Public Works)
Jayne Pramod (City of Tracy, Parks and Recreation)
Kim Dunniway (City of Tracy, Human Resources)
Tony Shengman (City of Tracy, Police Department)
Kevin Jorgensen (City of Tracy, Development Services)
Danis Isho (City of Tracy, Development Services)
Pat Vargas (City of Tracy, Fire Department)
Grace Strmiska (City of Tracy, City Manager Office, Public Information)
Anne Bell (City of Tracy, Finance Department)
Ripon Bhatia (City of Tracy, Utilities Department)
Leticia Ramirez (City of Tracy, Chief Administrative Office, Assistant City Attorney)
Ryan Hardester (City of Tracy, Information Technology)
Dan Summa (City of Tracy, City Manager Office, Public Information)

Subject: City of Tracy Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee Meeting #2

AGENDA TOPICS
This document is a record of attendance and a summary of the topics discussed at the above meeting including the following:

1. Introductions
2. Review of the Planning Process
3. Review of Identified Hazards
4. Vulnerability Assessment Overview by Hazard
5. Capabilities Assessment
6. Developing Goals for the Mitigation Plan
7. Update on Community Outreach
8. Schedule and Next Steps
9. Questions and Answers
1. Introductions

Ms. Prosperi initiated the meeting and asked that Ms. Schnaider and Mr. Brislawn introduce themselves and describe their project role. She then asked the group to introduce themselves and the department or agency they represent. The HMPC participants listed in the beginning of this meeting summary were present for the second meeting. The conference call line was open for stakeholder participation, but no stakeholders joined the call. Participants are also listed on the sign-in sheet (See Attachment A).

2. Review of Planning Process

Ms. Prosperi provided a brief overview of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and California legislation related to climate adaptation, local hazard mitigation planning, and General Plan safety element requirements. She then reviewed the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 9-Step planning process and noted the team recently completed the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) (or Step 5). She highlighted the launch of the City’s LHMP webpage and the circulation of the online public survey. Ms. Prosperi also highlighted which City departments have been participating in the LHMP, as well as the stakeholders that attended the recent Stakeholder Workshop in November.

3. Review of Identified Hazards

Ms. Prosperi reviewed the seven natural hazards that will be evaluated in the LHMP, in addition to one human-caused hazard (hazardous materials). She explained that the natural and human-caused hazards evaluated include those that have occurred historically or have the potential to cause significant human or property loss in the future. She then reviewed the hazards dismissed from a detailed analysis based on a lack of past occurrences in the region or minimal past or anticipated impacts. She noted that while human-health hazards were raised as a potential concern from a participant in the Stakeholder Workshop, feedback from County participants indicated it was addressed in state and county plans. Ms. Prosperi added that this hazard is not required to be addressed by FEMA.

Mr. Brislawn introduced the terminology used in the hazard profiles, and defined geographic extent, past occurrences, magnitude, frequency of future occurrences, and significance levels.

Mr. Bhatia asked about thresholds associated with the hazard profile measures: geographic extent, magnitude, and past occurrences. He asked whether the thresholds were based specific numerical thresholds. Mr. Brislawn explained that some of the profile information is determined based on spatial data, past occurrences, and FEMA models. He stated that frequency is typically based on existing events and determined by dividing the number of events observed by the number of years on record and multiplying by 100. This provides the percent chance of the event happening in any given year. In some cases, such as an earthquake, the frequency is based on best available science and probabilistic modeling. Significance level is a qualitative measurement and it is measured in general terms, frequency criteria, and resulting property and economic damage.
Ms. Prosperi discussed climate change and that it will be summarized within each hazard profile.

4. Vulnerability Assessment Overview by Hazard

Flooding (100-year, 200-year, 500-year)

Mr. Brislawn led the discussion on each hazard profile. He explained that 200 properties were at risk within the floodplain, but the extent is limited and mostly in the northern portion of the City. He noted that the parcel analysis was completed to determine what # of parcels/properties were in the 100-year floodplain. The dots on the maps are where there are existing parcels developed in the 100-year. It’s a mix of residential, commercial and agricultural properties.

Mr. Jorgensen asked whether the analysis considers the fact that development since 1970s was built one-foot above the base flood elevation (BFE), as outlined in the Tracy Municipal Code (Chapter 9.52, Floodplain Regulations). Mr. Brislawn explained that the analysis did not account for the structures that were constructed after the City joined the NFIP in 1980. Mr. Jorgensen added that some of the development in that area was likely elevated to or above BFE and thus some of the properties should be mitigated to the 100-year event. Mr. Brislawn said they could look at the date of construction in the parcel database to refine the analysis further and account for structures that have been mitigated.

The HMPC noted that substantial city funds went into developing a $30 million-dollar sports facility called Legacy Fields Sports Complex. The new sports complex is located in the 100-year floodplain; permanent structures include concessionaires and bathroom facilities that should have been constructed in accordance with the local floodplain regulations. The first phase of the facility was recently constructed in 2016; it consists of approximately 72 acres within an approximate 200-acre park.

Mr. Bhatia noted that the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is outside the 100-floodplain, but near it in the northern portion of the City’s Sphere of Influence. Mr. Jorgensen added that all the new development is developed in conformance with the Floodplain Regulations.

Mr. Brislawn explained that the area around the floodplains are protected by numerous levees and inquired with the HMPC on the status of the levee accreditation process. He asked if the levees have been upgraded and whether they will provide accreditation. Mr. Jorgensen answered that they do not have accreditation. He added that the 100-year and 200-year floodplain are similar, and it is the City’s understanding that the area to the north of the floodplain near the Delta accommodates potential sheet flow during a 100-year flood event. He added that the elevation change towards the City is substantial enough that the majority of the City is well protected from floodplain hazards.
Localized Flooding

Mr. Brislawn discussed localized flood hazards in the City. He showed a map displaying the locations of where local drainage problems have been reported. Ms. Salvidar explained that the old part of the City, near 20th street, used to flood. She said she thought it was due to debris clogs. Ms. Prosperi asked the HMPC whether they had information on how these flooding and drainage problems were addressed and whether it was due to maintenance issues (e.g. clogged storm drains) or because the system was under capacity. Ms. Salvidar can clarify what infrastructure is new by sorting by date in the GIS data set. Ms. Prosperi said they received the GIS data yesterday, but have not evaluated the proposed basins, new storm lines and whether there are any patterns.

Dam Failure

Mr. Brislawn noted that there were 402 properties within the dam inundation areas based on failure of four dams. He said given some of the larger dams are far away they may have advance notice if failure occurred, and the impacts may be less severe. He did note that dam inundation would flood the City’s WWTP. The HMPC discussed ownership of a few of the dams. A private company operates the Maria Dam (Studley Corp), the closest high hazard dam to the City. Bethany Forebay is owned and operated by PG&E.

Earthquakes

Mr. Brislawn summarized seismic hazards. The HMPC discussed the extent of damage they recalled from the Loma Prieta earthquake. Several HMPC participants noted the damage mostly affected city administrative and fire facilities. The Fire Administration building was closed down for 15 years, but has since been retrofitted. The old administration building is no longer in service.

Mr. Shengman inquired whether there were retrofit requirements for Tracy Sutter Community Hospital. Ms. Prosperi explained that several laws went into effect in the late 1990s that became part of the California Health and Safety Code. She said California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) monitors the construction, renovation, and seismic safety of hospitals and other facilities. She noted that she recalls most hospitals were being retrofitted to higher structural performance categories (SPC) from 2000 to 2010.

All general acute care hospitals and facilities are assigned a SPC. SPC ratings range from 1 to 5 with SPC-1 assigned to buildings that may be at risk of collapse during a strong earthquake and SPC 5 assigned to buildings reasonably capable of providing services to the public following a strong earthquake. According to the SPC ratings, Tracy Sutter Community Hospital is comprised of 13 buildings: 8 have a SPC-4 rating, 3 have a SPC-5 rating, and 2 have a SPC-2 rating.
Mr. Brislawn asked the HMPC if there a retrofit program for unreinforced masonry constructed buildings or if a specific inventory existed. Mr. Jorgensen explained that most of these buildings have been demolished for public safety or other reasons; he added that maybe only 15 remain within the City limits. Mr. Jorgensen noted that the City voluntarily retrofitted the Grand Theatre, originally built in 1922, for public safety reasons.

**Hazus-MH Model Results**

Mr. Brislawn reviewed the results of the Hazus-MH model. The HMPC explained that most of Tracy was built in past 40 years, which means the new construction has been built to later California Building Code (CBC) requirements. Mr. Jorgensen asked whether the model can it take this into consideration. Mr. Brislawn noted that the model defaults to code requirements (i.e., from low to high), and usually defaults to high in California. He said he will check if the default uses the lower code, and we see if it can be replaced with consideration of higher building construction requirement. In summary, the HMPC agreed they do not have a large inventory or old buildings, most development occurred in past 40 years.

**Wildland Fire**

Mr. Brislawn discussed wildfire hazards. He noted that approximately 12,242 properties within the City’s planning area are at risk. He added that much of the proposed Tracy Hills Specific Plan development is within a fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ). The HMPC explained that this development has a 30-year construction plan. Mr. Jorgensen added that building permits have been pulled, but nothing has been constructed.

Mr. Vargas stated that most wildfire fire hazards are smoke related, as there are few trees and primarily grass within the FHSZs. He stated they mostly have grassland fires resulting in short-term impacts. Mr. Vargas explained that there is a Co-Generation Plant in the FHSZ. He also stated there is a Reinforced Concrete Water Tank in the same area. Mr. Jorgensen and Mr. Vargas both added that two reservoirs are proposed at the Tracy Hills Specific Plan, and they will be developed as it is built out. Mr. Vargas added that there were mitigation measures proposed for the development. Ms. Prosperi reviewed these measures and they include a 100-foot firebreak, fire department easement access, and compliance with CBC Chapter 7A Building and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure.

Mr. Vargas added that there are numerous wildfires along the Interstate 580 corridor every year. These wildfires impact traffic but result in mostly smoke. He added that the Camp Fire in Butte County resulted in severe air quality impacts for several weeks. He noted that there was a substantial inversion layer. Ms. Schnaider stated that the San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Management District (SJVAQMD) issued health advisories during this time. The HMPC noted that the city hall was closed for a few hours and there were also some school closures due to the smoke and air quality concerns.
Ms. Prosperi asked the group about mutual aid agreements with other agencies. Mr. Vargas explained they have MUAs with Contra Costa County, and several others.

**Drought**

Mr. Brislawn discussed drought hazards. He stated some droughts can result in FEMA disaster declarations, but more common are USDA agricultural damage declarations. He asked the HMPC about the City’s water supplies and current capabilities to address water shortages. Mr. Bhatia explained the City relies on both groundwater and surface water supply deliveries. Mr. Vargas added that the Tracy Hills Specific Plan developers obtained their own water rights.

Ms. Schnaider noted that water usage goes down when there are water conservation efforts in effect, she said the City received awards for water conservation. Mr. Bhatia said that the drought conditions are ongoing and water conservation efforts are still in effect, and that consumption rates have not changed. Ms. Schnaider noted there is an additional 20% water use reduction by 2040, as the 2020 thresholds were achieved early.

**Extreme Heat**

Mr. Brislawn asked the HMPC whether there have been any extreme heat impacts to people or infrastructure. Mr. Isho asked if the cooling center has back-up generators in the event of the power outage. Ms. Schnaider said very few buildings have back-up, other than the IT building, Fire Stations, and Emergency Operation Center (EOC). She then added that the Transit Station does not have back-up generators, but maybe the Senior Center has them. Mr. Brislawn indicated that there is mitigation funding for back-up generators.

Ms. Dunninway asked the group whether extreme heat affects the street integrity and whether it can result in resurfacing needs. Mr. Isho stated it may shorten the lifespan of the streets and would look to see if they had records of damage from extreme heat events.

**Severe Weather**

The HMPC discussed general severe weather hazards. Ms. Salvidar explained that recently lighting hit a transformer pad and there was a power outage for several hours. 1,700 customers lost power from 3-8 PM. Mr. Brislawn asked whether there were other impacts from lighting. The HMPC agreed the police station was susceptible to damage because that is where the communication tower is located, but back up is provided by San Joaquin County.

**Tornadoes and High Wind**

The HMPC briefly discussed wind and tornado hazards. The group stated there have been some tornadoes that caused property damage in past, but overall the City has had minor impacts. Ms.
Salvidar added there are frequently downed trees in Downtown Tracy from high wind events and some have led to power outages. She noted that high winds with some damage occur annually.

Hazardous Materials

The HMPC discussed the various hazard material facilities, including gas pipelines, powerlines, and chemical facilities in the City’s planning area. They agreed there were highly variable significance levels associated with possible hazard events with these facilities, but several capabilities in place designed to mitigate the hazards, including Hazardous Material Area Plans, Hazardous Material Business Plans, and Risk Management Plans.

The following key hazardous material facilities and infrastructure were noted by the HMPC and the group agreed these should be shown on a map, or briefly discussed in the LHMP:

- Chevron, Philips 66, Kinder Morgan, and PG&E gas lines traversing the City;
  - Chevron gas line along Grant Line Road
  - Kinder Morgan gas line on Byron Road
  - Philips 66 runs through Tracy Hills (may be shown in Tracy Hills Specific Plan EIR)
  - PG&E 36-Inch Gas Line
- Water Tank in FHSZ near Tracy Hills Specific Plan; and
- WWTP near 100-year floodplain.

In summary, the HMPC agreed to update the hazard summary table. The following adjustments were made: decrease significance of drought to medium and increase significance of severe weather to medium.

5. Capabilities Assessment

The HMPC reviewed highlights of the City’s mitigation capabilities. They discussed the City’s training tower and facilities with shared with the Fire Department. The Fire and Police departments are looking to expand facilities and augment staffing. They briefly reviewed water and utility infrastructure capital improvement projects outlined in the 2013 Citywide Public Facilities Master Plan, 2013 Public Safety Master Plan, and 2012 Citywide Storm Drainage Master Plan. Ms. Schnaider noted that most grant applications have match requirements, but they can get other grants to fund the rest, if not covered by development impact fees for additional infrastructure improvements.
6. Developing Goals for the Mitigation Plan

The remainder of the meeting focused on the development of broad mitigation goal statements. Ms. Prosperi stated these goals are an important element of the LHMP Mitigation Strategy. She stated like the General Plan, they serve as the long-term blueprint for reducing potential losses identified in the risk assessment. The mitigation strategy is comprised of three components: goals, actions, and an implementation plan. She reminded the group that the HIRA described the vulnerability of the planning area and the City’s capabilities to counter these hazards. Ms. Prosperi noted that when formulating goals, they should provide direction on what loss reduction activities can be undertaken to make the planning area more disaster resistant. Mr. Brislawn and Ms. Prosperi reviewed the City’s General Plan Safety Element goals, San Joaquin County LHMP goals, and California Enhanced State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan goals a starting point.

They emphasized the goals should be non-specific, future-oriented, and timeless. The HMPC was then provided three sticky notes and asked to write a mitigation goal on each note. They were also provided a list of generic goal statements as additional guidance. Once done, the HMPC placed the draft goals on two large flip charts; Mr. Brislawn and Ms. Prosperi arranged them by general themes. The LHMP draft goals generally focused on loss of life and property prevention, emergency response coordination, public education, funding opportunities, and community health and welfare planning. Mr. Brislawn and Ms. Prosperi will refine these into goal statements for future HMPC review with the intent to finalize the goals at the next HMPC meeting. Below is a summary of the proposed goal organized by theme:

Prevention of Loss of Life and Property
- Minimize risk and vulnerability from natural hazards
- Significantly reduce loss of life and property
- Provide protection for existing buildings from hazards
- Provide protection from critical lifeline utilities from hazard impacts
- Protection of life, property, and infrastructure through the integration of shared resources
- Minimize destruction of property and loss of life due to hazards by identifying appropriate mitigation actions

Emergency Response Improvements and Coordination; Community Resilience
- Increase service levels to meet increasing demands
- Minimize interruption of essential services and activities that serve the community
- Develop better coordination with OES/FEMA for disaster planning and relief
- Ensure critical structures and infrastructure are operational during emergency situations
- Provide resilient services that allow for a better feeling of confidence in the City
- Increase our resources by allowing better use of GIS and other technologies
- Enhance service providers understanding of their role to better serve the community
Education and Awareness

- Educate residents and City staff on the use of emergency application and procedures
- Increase public outreach and exposure of mitigation plan
- Increase awareness on hazards and vulnerabilities
- Develop a community education plan to ensure readiness and adaptation for a variety of natural and man-made disasters
- Increase community awareness of mitigation measures to high-risk hazards
- Providing training and education for community-wide awareness of potential hazards and resources
- Increase communities’ awareness of vulnerability to hazards
- Increase training at HM facility sites (Training/EOC) to prepare and protect community
- Bring awareness to the community for possible hazards and develop plans
- Increase public awareness of hazards and promote preparation and planning to address hazards

Grant Funding Opportunities

- Ensure City complies with FEMA requirements for hazard grant/funding for emergencies
- Maintain FEMA eligibility and position City for grant funding
- Establish FEMA eligibility and position City for grant funding

Community Planning/Health and Welfare/Other

- Put plans and and processes in place regarding use of various available resources/facilities during natural hazards
- Integrate hazard mitigation planning in City policies and planning
- Reduce/minimize risk to the community by addressing health, welfare and safety issues resulting from natural and man-made hazards
- Provide clear and concise plan to reassure the vulnerable that they will be cared for in troubled times

7. Community Outreach Strategy

Mr. Summa and Ms. Strmiska, both part of the PIO team, stated they will launch the webpage this week. They added that the Mayor Team will also broadcast it. Ms. Prosperi added that the online public survey is live. Ms. Schnaider also stated they will set-up a booth at four Farmer’s Market events. At each event two iPads will be available for the public to complete the online survey and also flyers with the background on the plan, and GIS maps. She said they will produce large-scale hazard maps, and possibly a sign on a transit bus with a QR code scannable link to the survey. Ms. Prosperi asked that the volunteers at each event take photographs and send her the flyers and event advertisements to include in the public planning process section of the LHMP. Flyers and notifications will be shared on NextDoor, Facebook, and Instagram social media platforms. Lastly, Mr. Summa stated News 10 will be pitching a newsflash that the City is currently preparing the LHMP.
The Community Outreach Strategy was circulated among the HMPC during the end of the meeting. Ms. Ramirez mentioned that she did not think there were any Disadvantaged Communities (DUCs) within the City’s planning area. Ms. Prosperi noted they used the EPA CalEnviroScreen tool to check census tract data for DUCs and recalled one census tract in the central portion of the City. Ms. Ramirez stated she recently reviewed a Municipal Service Review (MSR) that included recent census data. She stated she will provide an excerpt of the MSR and findings to Ms. Prosperi to ensure the sources are consistent with the City’s planning documents.

8. Schedule and Next Steps
HMPC Meeting #3 is scheduled for February 12th at 1:00 PM. A public workshop is scheduled for the same evening at 7:00 PM. Ms. Schnaider asked that the HMPC attend the meeting, but the public workshop is optional; she and the PIO team will attend and facilitate the public workshop.

Ms. Prosperi stated her team will aim to get the HIRA chapter to the City by January 14th. Ms. Prosperi and Ms. Schnaider agreed to schedule an internal review call by February 4th.

9. Questions and Answers
There were no additional questions from the team. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Submit HMPC Meeting #2 Minutes (Wood)</td>
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<td>4 January 2019</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>City Attorney Office to provide DUCs data (City)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Submit HIRA Chapter from LHMP (Wood)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Internal Meeting to review HIRA with City (City)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Provide Photos and Documentation of Outreach (City)</td>
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