



PLANNING DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 12, 2016
TO: Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC)
FROM: Stephanie Holtey, Community Planner II
SUBJECT: Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2016 Update

Background

The City is beginning its 5-year update to the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan ("Plan"). The Plan evaluates the community's vulnerability to natural hazards and establishes an action plan to reduce risk over the short- and long-term. The City is inviting public comment and participation in the plan update process.

The Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) serves as a 'community sounding board' and is intended to ensure opportunities for citizens to be involved in all phases of local planning processes. This will be the first of two (2) public meetings regarding the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan update. During this first meeting, staff will review and facilitate a discussion of the existing plan and scope of the update.

Discussion

The City of Central Point has a stand-alone hazard mitigation plan that was adopted in 2011. In addition to providing framework for reducing the negative impacts of future disaster events (i.e. floods, earthquakes severe weather, etc.) on the community, maintaining a current plan is necessary to maintain eligibility for 1) pre- and post-disaster federal funding; and 2) flood insurance discounts through the Community Rating System.

The mission for the Plan is supported by six goal statements as presented below:

Mission Statement: Proactively facilitate and support community-wide policies, practices, and programs that make Central Point more disaster resistant and disaster resilient.

Goal 1: Protect life and safety.

Goal 2: Protect buildings and infrastructure.

Goal 3: Enhance emergency response capability, planning, and post-disaster recovery.

- Goal 4: Seek funding sources for mitigation actions
- Goal 5: Increase public awareness of natural hazards and enhance education and outreach efforts.
- Goal 6: Incorporate mitigation planning into natural resources management and land use planning.

Additionally the plan includes an Action Plan with specific activities and timelines designed to achieve the mission and goals statements listed above. At this time, the Action Plan identifies specific actions relative to floods, earthquakes, severe weather and general/multi-hazards.

Action

The CAC is encouraged to provide input on the existing Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan and the scope of the plan update process with an emphasis on the following:

1. Have you received any informational materials or attended any workshops related to natural hazards within the past 5-years? If so, was the information provided helpful? Do you have any suggestions for future education and outreach efforts (i.e. topics, events, etc.)?
2. Are the Mission and Goal Statements presented in Chapter 4 still relevant (See Attachment "A")? What changes if any should be considered?
3. Are you concerned about any natural hazards that are not addressed in the current plan?
4. Would you support integrating the Central Point Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan into a multi-jurisdictional plan in partnership with Jackson County and other cities in the region?
5. Do you have any additional comments, feedback, interests or concerns relative to natural hazards, mitigation and this planning process?

Attachments

- A. Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan Chapter 4

Web Link

The City's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is available online at:

<http://www.centralpointoregon.gov/floodplain/page/hazard-mitigation-plan>

4.0 MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Overview

The overall purpose of the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan is to reduce the impacts of future natural disasters on Central Point. In other words, the purpose is to make Central Point more disaster resistant and disaster resilient, by reducing the vulnerability to disasters and enhancing the capability of the city and its citizens to respond effectively to and recover quickly from future disasters.

Completely eliminating the risk of future disasters in Central Point is neither technologically possible nor economically feasible. However, substantially reducing the negative impacts of future disasters is achievable with the adoption of this pragmatic Hazard Mitigation Plan and ongoing implementation of risk reducing action items.

Incorporating risk reduction strategies and action items into Central Point's existing programs and decision making processes will facilitate moving Central Point toward a safer and more disaster resistant future. This mitigation plan provides the framework and guidance for both short- and long-term proactive steps that can be taken to:

- Protect life safety,
- Reduce property damage,
- Minimize economic losses and disruption, and
- Shorten the recovery period from future disasters.

In addition, the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan meets the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) mitigation planning requirements so that Central Point remains eligible for pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant funding.

The Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan is based on a four-step framework that is designed to help focus attention and action on successful mitigation strategies: Mission Statement, Goals, Objectives and Action Items.

- **Mission Statement.** The Mission Statement states the purpose and defines the primary function of the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Mission Statement is an action-oriented summary that answers the question "Why develop a hazard mitigation plan?"
- **Goals.** Goals identify priorities and specify how Central Point intends to work toward reducing the risks from natural and human-caused hazards. The Goals represent the guiding principles toward which the community's

efforts are directed. Goals provide focus for the more specific issues, recommendations and actions addressed in Objectives and Action Items.

- **Objectives.** Each Goal has Objectives which specify the directions, methods, processes, or steps necessary to accomplish the plan's Goals. Objectives then lead directly to specific Action Items.
- **Action Items.** Action items are specific well-defined activities or projects that work to reduce risk. That is, the Action Items represent the steps necessary to achieve the Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives.

4.2 Mission Statement

The mission of the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan is to:

Proactively facilitate and support community-wide policies, practices, and programs that make Central Point more disaster resistant and disaster resilient.

The Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan documents Central Point's commitment to promote sound public policies designed to protect citizens, critical facilities, infrastructure, private property and the environment from natural hazards by increasing public awareness; identifying resources for risk assessment, risk reduction and loss reduction; and identifying specific activities to help make Central Point more disaster resistant and disaster resilient.

4.3 Mitigation Plan Goals and Objectives

Mitigation plan goals and objectives guide the direction of future policies and activities aimed at reducing risk and preventing loss from disaster events. The goals and objectives listed here serve as guideposts and checklists as the city, other agencies, businesses and individuals begin implementing mitigation action items within Central Point.

Central Point's mitigation plan goals and objectives are based broadly, on and consistent with, the goals established by the State of Oregon Hazard Mitigation Plan. However, the specific priorities, emphasis and language are Central Point's. These goals were developed with extensive input and priority setting by the Central Point mitigation plan steering committee and the other stakeholders and citizens of Central Point.

Goal 1: Protect Life Safety

Objectives:

- A. Enhance life safety by minimizing the potential for deaths and injuries in future disaster events.
- B. Enhance life safety by improving public awareness of earthquakes and other natural hazards posing life safety risk to the Central Point community.

Goal 2: Protect Central Point Buildings and Infrastructure

Objectives:

- A. Identify buildings and infrastructure at high risk from one or more hazards addressed in the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- B. Conduct risk assessments for critical buildings, facilities and infrastructure at high risk to determine cost effective mitigation actions to eliminate or reduce risk.
- C. Implement mitigation measures for buildings, facilities and infrastructure which pose an unacceptable level of risk.
- D. Ensure that new buildings and infrastructure in Central Point are adequately designed and located to minimize damages in future disaster events.

Goal 3: Enhance Emergency Response Capability, Emergency Planning and Post-Disaster Recovery

Objectives:

- A. Ensure that critical facilities and critical infrastructure are capable of withstanding disaster events with minimal damages and loss of function.
- B. Enhance emergency planning to facilitate effective response and recovery from future disaster events.
- C. Increase collaboration and coordination between Central Point, nearby communities, utilities, businesses and citizens to ensure the availability of adequate emergency and essential services for the Central Point community during and after disaster events.

Goal 4: Seek Funding Sources for Mitigation Actions

Objectives:

- A. Prioritize and fund action items with the specific objective of maximizing mitigation, response and recovery resources.

- B. Explore both public (local, state and federal) and private funding sources for mitigation actions.

Goal 5: Increase Public Awareness of Natural Hazards and Enhance Education and Outreach Efforts

Objectives:

- A. Develop and implement education and outreach programs to increase public awareness of the risks from natural hazards.
- B. Provide information on resources, tools, partnership opportunities and funding sources to assist the community in implementing mitigation activities.
- C. Develop and enhance partnerships with public agencies, non-profit organizations, business, industry and the public by enhancing communications and cooperation to encourage and facilitate mitigation actions.

Goal 6: Incorporate Mitigation Planning into Natural Resource Management and Land Use Planning

Objectives:

- A. Balance natural resource management, land use planning and natural hazard mitigation to protect life, property and the environment.
- B. Preserve, rehabilitate and restore natural systems to enhance habitats and serve natural hazard mitigation functions.

4.4 Critical and Essential Facilities

Many of the high priority action items focus on facilities which are critical or essential for Central Point. Critical facilities are facilities defined as those necessary for emergency response and recovery activities, especially public safety and hospitals. Essential utility services such as electric power, water and wastewater are also extremely important to communities, especially after a disaster. Such utilities are often characterized as “lifeline” utilities because they are so important to a community for life safety (e.g., services to hospitals) and for the economic recovery after a disaster.

Central Point has designated the following facilities as critical or essential:

City Buildings

- City Hall
- Police Station
- Public Works Corporate Yard

Non-City owned Emergency Services Buildings

Fire District #3 Station

Oregon State Police Regional Office

Schools

There are five schools in Central Point. Mae Richardson Elementary is located on West Pine Street at the corner of North Haskell Street near Daisy Creek and its confluence with Griffin Creek. Central Point Elementary was built in 2004 and is located between South 2nd and 4th Street. Jewett Elementary is an older school. It is located at North 10th Street close to East Pine Street near Mingus Creek and Interstate 5. This school has had problems with flooding during heavy rain storms that cause the stream and storm drains to back up into classrooms. The most recent event occurred during the spring 2009 rain storm. Fortunately damages were limited to inundated carpets, which were easily cleaned before class was back in session. Scenic Middle School is located on Scenic Avenue adjacent to Griffin Creek. Crater High School is composed of several buildings that vary in age. It is located between North 3rd Street and Highway 99 near Griffin Creek. Two of the buildings closest to the creek are impacted by the mapped FEMA floodplain.

Key Utility Elements

Water: The City's drinking water is provided by the Medford Water Commission, which obtains water from Big Butte Springs and the Rogue River. The City currently operates two storage reservoirs that hold 3 million gallons total, as well as several miles of transmission mains and distribution lines. A new 3 million gallon reservoir began construction in the summer 2011, thus increasing the city's water storage. Upon completion, however, the one million gallon reservoir is slated to be demolished, leaving a total storage capacity of 5 million gallons. The water system also includes one pressure station, which is used to boost distribution system pressure during peak demand hours. The system connects with the Medford Water Commission master meters, which can provide water in emergency situations; however, water supply from the Medford Water Commission is currently limited to 6.8 million gallons per day by contract.

Wastewater: Rogue Valley Sewer Services provides sanitary sewer services to the City of Central Point and other communities in the valley. Their system in Central Point includes 58.4 miles of city sewer lines that were constructed between 1949 to the present day. System critical facilities include 30 stream crossings, 3 railroad crossings, 4 Interstate crossings and 6 siphons. According to the District Engineer, there are no upgrades needed in preparation of natural disasters. Wastewater is treated at a regional facility located in White City near the banks of the Rogue River.

Stormwater: The City of Central Point stormwater system includes 45.8 miles of storm drain lines, 581 catch basins, 2127 curb inlets, 714 storm manholes, 0

known underground injection control facilities, 2 engineered water quality facilities (concrete sediment/trash and oil separator vaults) and 6 detention facilities. Underground Injection control facilities are drained to the ground. Outfalls drain to the nearest of seven streams and then to the Rogue River or to the north via Bear Creek.

Other Utilities: Electric power (Pacific Power & Light), natural gas (Avista Natural Gas) and telecommunications services (Qwest) within Central Point are provided by investor-owned utilities: Although not owned by the city, these utilities are critical for the functioning of the city.

Key Transportation System Elements

Major transportation routes within and to/from Central Point include:

- Interstate 5 runs generally north-south through Central Point. Interchange no. 33 at East Pine Street provides primary access/egress for Central Point. In addition the Seven Oaks interchange (no. 35) northwest of Central Point, and the North Medford interchange (no. 37) provides access/egress along Highway 99 into town from the north and south.
- The major arterials include: Highway 99/Front Street, East Pine Street, and Biddle Road. Minor arterials include Hamrick Road, West Pine Street, North 10th Street, Scenic Avenue, Freeman Road, Hanley Road, and Twin Creeks Crossing.

4.5 Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan Action Items

The Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives for Central Point, as outlined above, are achieved via implementation of specific mitigation action items. Action items may include refinement of policies, data collection to better characterize hazards or risk, education, outreach or partnership-building activities, as well as specific engineering or construction measures to reduce risk from one or more hazards to specific buildings, facilities, or infrastructure within the Central Point community.

Action items identified and prioritized during the development of the Central Point Hazard Mitigation Plan are summarized in the tables on the following pages. Individual action items may address a single hazard (such as floods, or earthquakes) or they may address two or more hazards concurrently. The first group of action items is for multi-hazard items that address more than one hazard, followed by groups of action items for each of the hazards considered in this plan, which are addressed in more detail in Chapters 6 to 9.

Implementation of the action items presented in this plan are to be conducted by the coordinating organizations in partnership with key stakeholders, such as utilities, property owners, local government, etc. All of the action items presented in this Hazard Mitigation Plan are realistic in terms of implementation capability; however, ease of implementation, cost, and staff time availability vary between the

action items presented in table 4.1. For example, outreach and education efforts may be easily implemented through existing natural resources, public works and community development programs. Other items, such as the Griffin Creek Flood Mitigation Project, Stormwater Master Plan development, and inventory projects need to be implemented as funds and staff time become available. Timelines for completion may need to be adapted to address these implementation challenges.

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**Table 4.1
City of Central Point Mitigation Action Items**

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Life Safety	Protect Buildings & Infrastructure	Public Awareness	Emergency Services	Environment & Land Use	Seek Mitigation Funding
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Items									
Short-Term #1	Identify critical facilities and infrastructure in Central Point that are at risk for one or more natural hazards and implement mitigation measures as resources become available.	Public Works Department	Ongoing	X	X	X	X		
Short-Term #2	Encourage public and private owners of important buildings and infrastructure to undertake risk assessments for their facilities and implement mitigation measures when necessary.	Public Works & Building Department	Ongoing	X	X	X			
Short-Term #3	Increase public awareness of natural hazards by enhancing education and outreach activities, including dissemination of hazard maps and FEMA pamphlets.	Public Works Department	Ongoing	X	X	X			
Short-Term #4	Promote Jackson County Disaster Registry to Central Point residents through website, education/outreach mailings, public meetings, etc.	Public Works Department	Ongoing	X		X	X		
Long-Term #1	Obtain funding and resources to implement high priority mitigation action items	Public Works Department	Ongoing	X	X	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #2	Integrate the Mitigation Plan findings into planning and regulatory documents and programs	Community Development Department	Ongoing	X	X	X	X	X	

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Public Awareness	Life Safety	Protect Property Minimize Losses	Partnerships & Implementation	Emergency Services	Environmental Protection
Flood Mitigation Action Items: Within FEMA-Mapped Floodplains									
Short-term #1	Incorporate identified action items in the approved Hazard Mitigation Plan, including the Griffin Creek Flood Mitigation project components into the Central Point Capital Improvements Plan for Stormwater and Streets.	Central Point Public Works	1-year	X		X	X		
Short-term #2	Explore the feasibility of mitigating low income housing complexes owned and operated by the Housing Authority located just upstream of West Pine Street on the east bank of Griffin Creek through property redevelopment to relocate buildings outside of the regulatory floodway and SFHA.	Central Point Public Works and Community Development, Jackson County Housing Authority	1-2 years	X			X		
Long Term #1	Griffin Creek Flood Mitigation Project including the following: stakeholder buy-in, public involvement, easement acquisition, utility relocation; engineered construction plans, restoration plans, environmental permits; grade control structure removal; West Pine Street crossing upgrade; channel modifications; stream restoration; LOMR acquisition.	Central Point Public Works, School District #6, Pacific Power, Rogue Valley Sewer Services, Rogue River Valley Irrigation District, Oregon State Police, Southern Oregon Labor Temple, and the Jackson County Housing Authority	Ongoing until Completion	X	X	X	X	X	X
Long-term #2	Elevate or acquire highly flood-prone structures not mitigated by the Griffin Creek Mitigation Project (See Flood Mitigation Action Items Long-term #1 and #2 for areas inside FEMA-Mapped Floodplains.)	Central Point Public Works	Ongoing		X	X	X	X	
Long-term #3	Complete an outreach strategy for the community in accordance with CRS procedures to ensure that public involvement and education efforts are effective.	Central Point Public Works	1-5 years	X					

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Public Awareness	Life Safety	Protect Property Minimize Losses	Partnerships & Implementation	Emergency Services	Environmental Protection
Long-term #4	Develop a Flood Warning Program for the City in accordance with CRS guidelines and coordinate this effort with Jackson County Emergency Management's Emergency Action Plan, which the City adopted by Resolution.	Central Point Public Works	3-5 years	X	X		X	X	
Flood Mitigation Action Items: Outside of FEMA-Mapped Floodplains									
Short-term #1	Complete a Stormwater Master Plan for the City that links stormwater drainage problems and solutions with mitigation planning efforts, including: drainage basin mapping, problem area identification, and low impact development implementation prioritization for flow reduction.	Central Point Public Works	2-3 years		X	X			X
Short-term #2	Explore the feasibility of mitigating Jewett Elementary School from future flooding as a result of stormwater drainage problems.	School District #6 Central Point Public Works & Community Development	3-5 years	X	X	X	X	X	X
Long-term #1	Conduct stormwater drainage improvements pursuant to the Stormwater Master Plan recommendations (See Flood Mitigation Action Item, short-term #1 for areas outside of FEMA-Mapped Floodplains.)	Central Point Public Works	Ongoing		X	X			X
Long-term #2	Complete a Benchmark Master Plan that outlines standards for setting and maintaining benchmarks in the city, including the establishment of 3 to 5 National Spatial Reference System benchmarks that are 1 st or 2 nd order with a stability rating of A or B and that are within 1.0 mile of a regulatory floodplain.	Central Point Public Works	1-5 years	X		X	X		
Long-term #3	Review and update flood warning and emergency action plans as new information about Emigrant Dam failure becomes available.	Central Point Public Works and Administration (Emergency Management)	1-5 years	X	X		X	X	

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Public Awareness	Life Safety	Protect Property Minimize Losses	Partnerships & Implementation	Emergency Services	Environmental Protection
Earthquake Mitigation Actions									
Short-term #1	Evaluate the seismic vulnerability of critical city-owned buildings and establish priorities to retrofit or replace vulnerable buildings.	Police Department, Public Works Corporate Yard	1-2 years	X	X	X	X		
Short-term #2	Evaluate the seismic vulnerability of the schools and fire station in Central Point and establish priorities to retrofit or replace vulnerable buildings.	Jewett Elementary	1-2 years	X	X	X	X		
Short-term #3	Evaluate the seismic vulnerability of important components of the Central Point water and waste water systems and establish priorities to retrofit or replace vulnerable components.	Central Point Water System, RVS Wastewater System	3-5 years	X	X	X	X	X	
Short-term #4	Conduct a sidewalk survey of residential, commercial and industrial buildings in Central Point using FEMA's Rapid Visual Screening to identify especially vulnerable buildings, raise awareness, and encourage mitigation actions.	Unreinforced masonry buildings (URM), concrete/steel buildings with URM infill, and other vulnerable building types	5 years	X	X	X			
Short-term #5	Disseminate FEMA pamphlets to educate homeowners and business owners about structural and non-structural retrofitting options and benefits for vulnerable buildings.	Vulnerable buildings identified in the Rapid Visual Screening inventory.	Ongoing	X	X	X			
Long-term #1	Obtain funding and retrofit important public facilities with significant seismic vulnerabilities.	Structures identified as vulnerable pursuant to seismic risk assessments in Short-term actions #1-3	Ongoing	X	X	X	X		X

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Public Awareness	Life Safety	Protect Property Minimize Losses	Partnerships & Implementation	Emergency Services	Environmental Protection
Severe Weather Mitigation Action Items									
Short-Term #1	Formalize the City's Community Forestry program to organize tree management efforts on public and private property.	Parks & Public Works Department	Ongoing	X	X	X		X	X
Short-Term #2	Promote awareness of tree selection, planting, and care to minimize hazards while promoting community forestry goals.	Parks & Public Works Department	Ongoing	X	X	X		X	
Short-Term #3	Ensure that all critical facilities in Central Point have backup power and emergency operations plans to deal with power outages	Public Works	1-2 Years		X	X		X	
Long-Term #1	Consider upgrading lines and poles to improve wind/ice loading, undergrounding critical lines, and adding interconnect switches to allow alternative feed paths and disconnect switches to minimize outage areas	Pacific Power & Light	5 Years		X	X		X	
Long-Term #2	Require new developments to include underground power lines	Community Development	Ongoing		X	X		X	

Hazard	Action Item	Coordinating Organizations	Timeline	Plan Goals Addressed					
				Public Awareness	Life Safety	Protect Property Minimize Losses	Partnerships & Implementation	Emergency Services	Environmental Protection
Other Natural Hazards Mitigation Action Items									
Short-Term #1	None Identified.	N/A	N/A						
Long-Term #1	None identified.	N/A	N/A						