

Appendix H Successful Programs and Projects

County Organization

- Establishment of the Office of Response, Recovery, and Resiliency (OR3).

Wildfire Mitigation

- Implementation and use of a reverse 911 community notification and warning system
- Comprehensive mutual aid system for fire protection
- Routine and frequent training by local and state fire jurisdictions
- Annual Residential Defensible space education and enforcement programs
- Collaborative and cross jurisdiction Vegetation management programs including fuel reduction and shaded fuel break programs
- Preparation of a countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)
- Implementation of new county building codes addressing WUI related issues including building materials, construction requirements, water system/supply and code enforcement
- Promotion of built-in fire extinguishing alarms and water systems
- Public Works Dept. roadside drainage ditch inspection and clearing, culvert inspection, cleaning, and debris removal programs
- “Large Woody Material Management Program” for streams in Dept. of Public Works and Environmental Health Dept.
- Fire protection and prevention is a very high priority issue, and the County has addressed this by maintaining our agreement with CAL Fire to run the County Fire program and improving interoperability of communication systems.
- The 2013 fire and building code has been adopted by all County Fire agencies and the County’s General Plan has been reviewed for consistency with the updated codes.
- County Fire continues to provide public education about fire prevention in public schools businesses and homes through events and annual inspections.

Flood and Coastal Erosion Mitigation

- Multi-year sediment study downstream from burned wildfire areas initiated by Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Real-time flood control gauge installed by Flood control and Water Conservation District off Ormsby Rd. in the heart of the burn area
- Avenues (32nd to 37th) Drainage Project (phases 1 & 2)
- Mission Dr. drainage improvements
- Winkle Ave/Prather Lane Park drainage
- Thurber Lane drainage project
- 14th Ave. to Bonita Lagoon drainage
- Venice Dr. drainage improvements
- Soquel Dr.-Bargetto Bridge replacement
- East cliff Dr. emergency crib wall repair
- Repetitive loss properties foundation raising program

- Updated how we define substantial damage/substantial improvement in flood plain management to reflect current structure valuation
- Participation in the Community Rating System to improve flood plain management and reduce insurance costs
- Updating the Safety Element of the General Plan, the Geologic Hazards Ordinance, and the Flood Plain Ordinance

Earthquake Mitigation

- “Brace for the Quake” program – seismic retrofits for 1,524 housing units

Drought

- The Board of Supervisors has adopted a number of water conservation measures, including water efficient landscaping, prohibition on inefficient use of water, an update of the requirement for the retrofit of water efficient toilets and showerheads upon property transfer, and measures to encourage drought planning among small water systems
- The County participates in regional collaborations and partnerships such as the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, Sustainable Groundwater Management, and the Water Conservation Coalition of Santa Cruz County.

Climate Change

- Adoption of Climate Action Strategy in February 2013 addressing greenhouse gas emissions reduction and adaptation to climate change.
- Updating the Public Safety Element of the General Plan, the Geologic Hazards Ordinance, and the Flood Plain Ordinance to require assessment of sea level rise in the hazard avoidance and mitigation analysis for projects.