**County of Sonoma**

**Agenda Item Number:** 4

**Summary Report**

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Clerk of the Board

575 Administration Drive

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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**To:** Board of Directors, Sonoma County Water Agency

**Board Agenda Date:** October 9, 2018

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**Department or Agency Name(s):** Sonoma County Water Agency

**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Joan Hultberg / 547-1902

**Supervisory District(s):** All

**Title:** 2018 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

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**Recommended Actions:**

Adopt a Resolution approving the Sonoma County Water Agency 2018 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which will help prepare for natural and other disasters by identifying physical vulnerabilities and developing strategies to alleviate their impacts. The preparation, approval, and adoption of the Plan are required in order to obtain Federal Emergency Management Agency funds.

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**Executive Summary:**

On March 27, 2017, Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) was awarded a $150,000 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant through the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to prepare an update to the single jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan). The Plan, required to be updated every five years, is a part of Sonoma Water’s efforts to be prepared for natural and other disasters by identifying physical vulnerabilities and developing strategies to alleviate their impacts. CalOES and FEMA have tentatively approved the 2018 Plan, pending adoption by this Board of Directors. Once adopted by the Board and formally approved by FEMA, the Plan will continue to guide Sonoma Water priorities for mitigating potential threats to infrastructure. The preparation, approval, and adoption of the Plan are required in order to obtain FEMA funds.

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**Discussion:**

In 2004 Sonoma Water embarked on an effort to assess how its water supply transmission system would perform during and following certain natural disaster events. At that time the Board authorized the Water Agency to hire MMI Engineering to conduct a two phase natural hazard analysis of the transmission system. The results of the analysis indicated that the primary natural hazard risk to the transmission system is a major earthquake occurring along the Rodgers Creek Fault and that there are several areas of the transmission system that may be vulnerable to damage in the event of a major earthquake.

Sonoma Water staff and MMI Engineering worked together to identify and prioritize the areas of vulnerability and developed a Capital Projects Plan for reliability projects. In 2007, Sonoma Water with
the help of MMI Engineering prepared a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for its water transmission system and identified the highest priority reliability projects as mitigation actions to pursue. In 2008, the Plan was adopted by Sonoma Water’s Board of Directors and approved by FEMA.

In 2011-2012 the Plan was updated. This update process included an assessment of progress towards the goals and objectives laid out in the 2008 Plan, and the creation of a new list of priority projects intended to increase system resiliency to damage from natural disasters. In 2012 the Plan was adopted by Sonoma Water’s Board of Directors and approved by FEMA.

To date, the adoption of the 2008 and 2012 Plans have been very successful, resulting in the award of $5.23 million for three reliability projects: 1) replacement of the Santa Rosa aqueduct crossing at the Rodgers Creek Fault; 2) the installation of 14 isolation valves throughout the water transmission system; and 3) a flood mitigation project at the Penngrove Lift Station. Sonoma Water has an additional $8.75 million in mitigation grant funds pending successful environmental review of three other aqueduct crossings at the Russian River, Mark West Creek, and Santa Rosa Creek. More generally, these grant funds will be used to pay for projects that improve the resiliency of the Water Agency’s facilities and infrastructure to withstand the effects of a seismic event.

An adopted and approved Plan is required by the FEMA in order to be eligible to apply for federal hazard mitigation grant funds. The Federal Emergency Management Agency provides two funding mechanisms for projects or actions intended to limit the adverse effects of natural disasters, as follows: 1) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, and 2) Hazard Mitigation Grants Program. These programs are designed to identify and mitigate threats to local infrastructure by natural hazards, including climate change.

To continue to be eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency funding, the Plan must be updated every five years. In March of 2017, Sonoma Water was awarded a $150,000 FEMA grant through CalOES to prepare an update to the single jurisdictional Plan. This grant funding allowed Sonoma Water to further assess natural hazard related vulnerabilities for the water transmission system, the Geyserville, Penngrove, and Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup sanitation zones, and the flood protection infrastructure. Natural hazards that pose the most significant vulnerabilities to these systems are seismic, flood, fire, and geologic threats, including landslides and corrosive soils, and drought. The draft 2018 Plan was substantially completed prior to the October 2017 wildfires. However, after the fires the technical and management staff revisited the fire related aspects of the Plan in order to ensure that applicable fire related vulnerabilities and mitigation actions are adequately addressed.

The updated draft Plan contains some projects included in the existing Plan, in addition to new projects identified from the vulnerability analysis conducted in 2017. The goal listed in the Plan for the water supply system is to increase reliability of water supply to the public, including during and after a natural disaster. New or modified projects that were identified under this goal and stemmed from the October 2017 fires include the following:

1. Conduct an assessment of vegetation around Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino for potential vegetation management projects that will protect water quality and storage from a fire.
2. Develop a design or operational strategy to maintain communications and auxiliary power at all water supply tanks and booster stations in the event of fire damage. Develop a design for additional infrastructure for redundancy and reliability of communication system.
3. Assess vulnerability of Russian River supply upstream of the Water Agency’s diversion facilities to contamination from earthquake and non-earthquake induced landslides, wildland fire, and resulting post-fire erosion, especially to Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino water supply sources.

4. Develop and implement an operational and design strategy to mitigate against potential fire damage to Mirabel and Wohler facilities. Include consideration of removing debris, trees, or other fire-hazard materials; installing fire resilient building materials; and modifying treatment processes to accommodate water quality changes.

5. Develop and implement design and operation plans to mitigate liquefaction and/or fire related damage to electric power lines feeding collectors and pump stations.

Sonoma Water met with technical and management staff, presented at the Water Advisory Committee & Technical Advisory Committee meetings, Flood Zones 1A, 2A, and 3A advisory board meetings, and sent out newsletters to sanitation zone customers. Sections that have been significantly revised or added to the 2018 Plan include 4.2 “Sanitation System and Vulnerability Assessment”, 4.3 “Flood Protection Infrastructure and Vulnerability Assessment”, Section 5 “Mitigation Strategy: Goals, Objectives, and Actions”, and the corresponding hazard maps/figures. The focus of the 2018 Plan is to update information related to natural hazards, provide a status of mitigation projects underway, include additional priority hazard mitigation projects, describe the public outreach program, and update the hazard maps. The Draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is available for review on the Sonoma County Water Agency’s website http://www.scwa.ca.gov/secureourwater/

The draft Plan was posted on Sonoma Water’s website for the public review comment period, and several copies were placed at regional libraries throughout Sonoma County. Sonoma Water also directly notified several agencies and interested parties of the public comment period, and supplied a link to the Plan. The public comment period ran from April 24 - May 25, 2018. Only one comment was received, and Sonoma Water forwarded the comment to the appropriate public agency, as the comment was not within Sonoma Water’s jurisdiction.

The County of Sonoma has its own Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was approved by FEMA on May 4, 2017, and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 25, 2017. The County’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is separate from Sonoma Water’s Plan because the County and Sonoma Water are distinct legal entities, with separate jurisdictions. FEMA requires that each jurisdiction have its own Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, or be officially adopted into a broader multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. As such, the County’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan focuses on hazards and risks to its jurisdictional area, and proposes mitigation actions that the County has the purview to undertake. Concurrently, the purpose of Sonoma Water’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is to focus on the hazards and risks to the infrastructure and resources within its jurisdictional area, and propose actions that it has the authority to implement. In this way these two Local Hazard Mitigation Plans complement and support one another, enhancing natural hazard awareness and resiliency county wide.

**Prior Board Actions:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/20/2017</td>
<td>Authorized receipt of $150,000 grant from FEMA to update Sonoma Water’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/11/2012</td>
<td>Approved resolution to formally adopt the 2012 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/08/2008</td>
<td>Approved resolution to formally adopt the 2008 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan</td>
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### Strategic Plan Alignment

**Goal 1: Safe, Healthy, and Caring Community**

Our Organization, **Goal 3:** Continue to improve emergency preparation and response to natural disasters.

### Fiscal Summary

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<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>FY 18-19 Adopted</th>
<th>FY 19-20 Projected</th>
<th>FY 20-21 Projected</th>
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<tr>
<td>Budgeted Expenses</td>
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<td>Additional Appropriation Requested</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
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### Funding Sources

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<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>FY 18-19 Adopted</th>
<th>FY 19-20 Projected</th>
<th>FY 20-21 Projected</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund/WA GF</td>
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<td>State/Federal</td>
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<td>Use of Fund Balance</td>
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<td>Contingencies</td>
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<td><strong>Total Sources</strong></td>
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### Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

No fiscal impact with this item. Should the Plan be adopted by this Board, Sonoma Water will be eligible to apply for funding for implementation of mitigation actions identified in the Plan.

### Staffing Impacts

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Position Title (Payroll Classification)</th>
<th>Monthly Salary Range (A – I Step)</th>
<th>Additions (Number)</th>
<th>Deletions (Number)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>N/A</td>
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### Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

N/A

### Attachments:

Resolution

### Related Items “On File” with the Clerk of the Board:

- Final Draft 2018 Sonoma County Water Agency Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
Resolution Of The Board Of Directors Of The Sonoma County Water Agency, State Of California, To Formally Adopt 2018 Sonoma County Water Agency Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency recognizes the need to be prepared in the event of a natural disaster; and

Whereas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency requires a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan be adopted in order to qualify for Federal Disaster Relief Funds; and

Whereas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency requires that the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan be updated and adopted every 5 years in order to qualify for Federal Disaster Relief Funds; and

Whereas, the adoption of the 2018 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Sonoma County Water Agency will qualify the Sonoma County Water Agency for Pre-Disaster and Hazard Mitigation Grant Funds; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Directors hereby finds, determines, certifies, and declares as follows:

1. All of the above recitals are true and correct
2. The 2018 Sonoma County Water Agency Local Hazard Mitigation Plan meets the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.
3. The 2018 Sonoma County Water Agency Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted

Supervisors:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Zane: Hopkins: Gore:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.

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