



**Date:** February 9, 2011  
**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Danielle Hutchings, Earthquake and Hazards Program Coordinator  
**Subject:** Adoption of Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area

### Executive Summary

116 cities, counties, and special districts have participated in the update of the multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan led by ABAG in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Planning for this update began in 2007 and included numerous regional and sub-regional workshops, issue-specific forums, and public outreach campaigns. Regional priorities for mitigation were developed as a result of these meetings and adopted by the Executive Board on September 17, 2009. Individual jurisdictions have the opportunity to adapt these strategies to their own priorities. All of the plan information is available at <http://quake.abag.ca.gov/mitigation>.

The plan recognizes the regional nature of natural hazards and seeks to develop a regional vision and approach for mitigating against their effects. By taking advantage of economies of scale and providing a base level of information and data for jurisdictions to take advantage of in the development of their annexes, we have created consistency across the region and increased participation rates of local jurisdictions. An approved LHMP allows jurisdictions to be eligible for various mitigation grants from CalEMA and FEMA and to have the required 6.25% local match waived for Public Assistance money after a disaster.

The goal of the MJ-LHMP is to *maintain and enhance a disaster-resistant region by reducing the potential loss of life, property damage, and environmental degradation from natural disasters, while accelerating economic recovery from those disasters.*

The MJ-LHMP identifies major hazards that affect the Bay Area. These include hazards related to *earthquakes (surface faulting, ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides and tsunamis) and weather (flooding, landslides, wildfires and drought)*. Several of these weather-related hazards are influenced by climate change. Other hazards relate to man-made conditions, including releases of hazardous materials, dam failures, energy shortages, and weapons of mass destruction. These other hazards are only addressed as they relate to earthquake and weather-related hazards. The only one of these additional hazards that is readily mapped and analyzed is dam failure.

The plan is organized into eight commitment areas, which are related to the services supplied either directly, or indirectly, by local governments, rather than by hazard. The commitment areas are *infrastructure, health, housing, economy (private business), government services, education, environment, and land use.*

### Recommended Action

Following comment from the Executive Board and members of the public, staff respectfully asks for the Executive Board to pass the attached resolution adopting the multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) for the Bay Area, *Taming Natural Disasters*.

### Next Steps

- ◆ FEMA has approved *Taming Natural Disasters*, pending adoption by the Executive Board.
- ◆ Approval of *Taming Natural Disasters* allows participating cities, counties and special districts to adopt, and adapt with local annexes, this multi-jurisdictional plan as their Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Upon approval by FEMA, the annex will be adopted by resolution into the Safety Element of the city or county General Plan by November 2011. Special districts will adopt the plan by resolution of their governing body.
- ◆ ABAG will also develop an annex to this plan to be adopted by the Executive Board, pending approval by FEMA.

### Attachments

Resolution adopting multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area