Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Board of Directors Meeting

July 16, 2025

MITIGATE HAZARDS

www.mitigatehazards.com

Project Overview

- Initiated December 2024
- FEMA grant-funded
- Led by County OR3

MITIGATE HAZARDS
mitigatehazards.com

Project Website

mitigatehazards.com/santacruzmjhmp

Project Overview

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF RESPONSE, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

CITY OF CAPITOLA INCORPORATED 1949

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

CITY of WATSONVILLE CALIFORNIA

SANTA CRUZ HARBOR

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY CALIFORNIA 1966

SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT

SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

- **Lead Agency:** County OR3
- **Purpose:** Develop a new **Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP)** to replace the current LHMP
- **FEMA Grant Award:** $250,000 (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)
- **Participating Jurisdictions (11 total):** County, cities, water districts, Resource Conservation District, Port District, Cabrillo College
- **Consultant:** Dynamic Planning + Science (DP+S)
- **Target Submission:** October 2025

Purpose & Benefits

Why Develop a Mitigation Action Plan?

- Establishes a framework to reduce long-term hazard risks to people, property, and critical infrastructure
- Required for eligibility under FEMA grant programs (e.g., HMGP, FMA)
- Functions as a capital improvement roadmap for risk reduction
- Prioritizes protection of critical infrastructure and public assets
- Supports broader community resilience through targeted actions and outreach

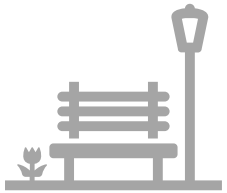
Public & Stakeholder Engagement

Purpose

Identify Unmitigated Risks

Refine Hazard Profiles

Shape Actionable Strategy



Multi-Channel Input

Public Survey

(2) County-Wide Large Group Meetings

(10) Jurisdictional Breakout Meetings

(8) Stakeholder Interviews

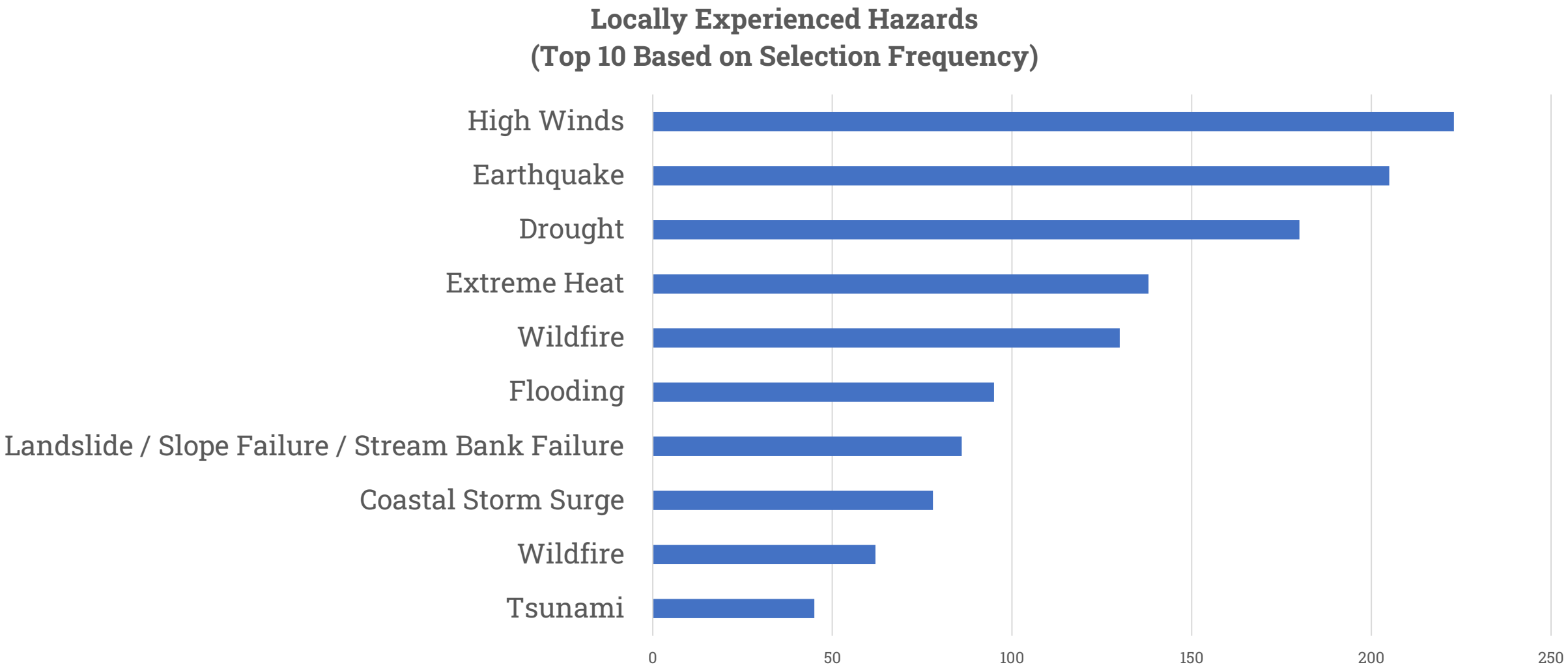
Wide Participation

100+ Key Stakeholders

Representation from All Areas

Significant Survey Response

Preliminary Survey Results (Priority Hazards)



County-Wide Priority Hazards

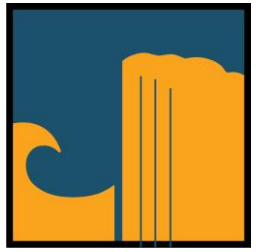
Wildfire

Flood
(incl. Levee Failure)

Earthquake
(incl. Liquefaction)

Severe Weather
(incl. High Wind, Heavy Rain)

Coastal Hazards
(incl. Coastal Storm, Erosion, Wave Run-Up, Surge & Tsunami)



Slope Failure

Dam Failure

Drought

Extreme Temperatures
(incl. Extreme Heat & Cold)

Climate Change
(incl. Sea Level Rise)

Pajaro Valley Priority Hazards

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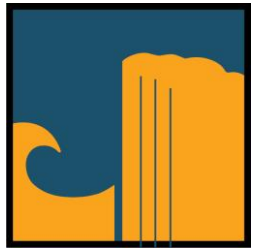

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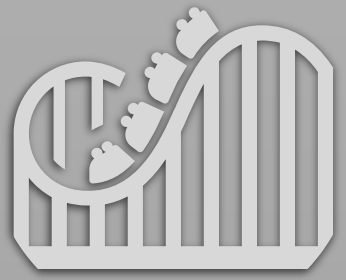
Cross-Cutting Challenges

Infrastructure Vulnerability

Aging / Degraded

Repetitive Damage



Evolving Conditions

Climate Change

Funding Environment

Data & Capacity Gaps

Hazard Mapping

Multi-Jurisdictional Coordination

Implementation Capacity

Planning & Policy Needs

Enhanced Outreach

New / Updated Tools

Upcoming Milestones

- Outreach Events thru Aug
- Public Draft Review in Sept/Oct
- CalOES/FEMA Review in Nov-Jan
- Adoption in Feb/March 2026

Questions?