CHAPTER VI

SAFETY

Adopted in entirety by Resolution 2002-56 on October 28, 2002
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PURPOSE

The Safety Element, pursuant to Government Code § 65302(g), deals with the protection of the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of earthquakes, landslides, slope instability, subsidence, flood, fire and other geologic hazards. Maps identifying earthquake hazards, unstable soil hazards, landslide hazards, and flood zones are included in this chapter.

The geology, topography, and soils of Lafayette pose numerous constraints on any future development. This element guides land use planning and policy decisions in order to achieve an acceptable level of public protection.

LANDSLIDES AND UNSTABLE SLOPES

Much of Lafayette is comprised of ridges with steep slopes. Grading and construction on steep, unstable slopes can result in damage to improvements and risk to human health. Slope failure and landsliding can be caused by a number of factors. Construction in areas with active landslides can result in failure of buildings, roads, utility lines, and other improvements. Improper construction on steep slopes or in areas with weak soils can create new landslides, which could threaten lives and property. Many of the parcels with development potential in the City occur in hilly areas with known landslides and slopes highly susceptible to landsliding.

A number of creeks in Lafayette have experienced significant downcutting of the streambed, which has resulted in steep and frequently unstable slopes. During heavy rains or when stream flows are high, these banks become saturated and may slide into the stream potentially damaging property, damming of the stream channel, and sedimentation of the aquatic environment.

The following goals and policies address the hazards of constructing residences or other improvements on unstable slopes.

Goal S-1 **Minimize risks to Lafayette residents and property from landslides and other geologic hazards.**

Maps VI-1 and VI-2 show the liquefaction and landslide hazard in the City.

Policy S-1.1 Slope and Soil Stability. Consider slope and soil stability when reviewing future projects. Development proposals in areas with landslide hazards shall be

reviewed by an engineering geologist to determine whether the proposed development is feasible, and to define the required construction standards and mitigation measures.

Program S-1.1.1: Require submittal and review of a site-specific geotechnical report for proposed development in areas identified on Map VI-1 as "Liquefaction potential possibly present" or on Map VI-2 as "Area of known slides and ground highly susceptible to sliding." Development shall be supervised and certified by a geotechnical engineer, and where necessary, by an engineering geologist.

Program S-1.1.2: Require financial protection for public agencies and individuals as a condition of development approval where geological conditions indicate a potential for ongoing maintenance costs related to the geological conditions.

The financial protection would ensure that developers will have the resources to carry out such maintenance on properties where geological analysis identifies a risk of high ongoing maintenance costs. This program would also serve to limit the City's liability. Examples include bonds, liens, or other suitable security to ensure that landscaped slopes in areas with unstable soils are maintained to prevent hazardous soil movement. A soils report prepared by a qualified soils engineer would be required to establish standards for City protection.

Program S-1.1.3: Require repair, stabilization, or avoidance of landslides, of areas of soil creep, and of possible debris flow as a condition of project approval.

Program S-1.1.4: Require professional inspection of foundation and excavation, earthwork and other geotechnical aspects of site development during construction on those sites identified as being prone to moderate levels of slope instability.

Policy S-1.2 Density and Location of Buildings: Limit building in areas with significant risk potential. Intensity of development shall be minimal in areas of high risk. Consider potential seismic or geologic hazards when determining building density and in siting dwellings.

Program S-1.2.1: Carefully review applications for development in hilly areas and along creekbanks.

Program S-1.2.2: Seek to identify and map areas, which are deemed unbuildable due to risks of unstable soils.

Policy S-1.3 Roadways and Roadway Improvements: Prohibit new roadways or roadway modifications that would create unstable geological conditions. (An example would be cuts and fills in areas with unstable soils.)

Policy S-1.4 Creekbank Protection: Prohibit structures of any kind that might be impacted by creekbank slippage and erosion.

Program S-1.4.1: Enforce the *Creek Setback Ordinance*, which requires setbacks from creeks proportional to the depth of the channel.

See the Open Space and Conservation Chapter for additional policies on creekbank protection.

SEISMIC HAZARDS

Lafayette is located in one of the most seismically active areas of the nation. The western edge of the continental plates runs along the California shoreline, and the resulting stresses have produced a complex network of faults where most earthquake activity occurs. Major fault systems in the region include the San Andreas, Franklin, Hayward, Calaveras, and Concord fault zones. There have been a number of earthquakes in recent geologic time which have resulted in damage in Lafayette.

While a number of faults have been mapped in Lafayette, none of these faults meet the requisite criteria to be identified as active or potentially active – defined as having recorded earth movement or displacement within the past 10,000 years. However, this does not mean that future seismic activity along identified faults in Lafayette is impossible. Seismic activity along these faults, either induced by a major earthquake on one of the large, active faults in the nearby area or an independent movement along these local faults, could generate significant damage to structures and result in injury to residents. *Refer to Map VI-3: Earthquake Hazard.*

Seismic Effects on Structures and Public Facilities

The land use pattern that has evolved in Lafayette has, in general, avoided high-risk areas. The varying levels of seismic and geologic risk within the Lafayette Planning Area are illustrated by Map VI-3 *Earthquake Hazard*.

A major earthquake would be expected to cause considerable damage to transportation systems. Roads, bridges and highway overpass are susceptible to damage or failure in the event of a major earthquake. Landslides would be intensified as a result of ground shaking, and could affect portions of the roadway system located in landslide potential areas identified in *Map VI-1: Liquefaction Potential.* Seismic damage could also occur to the treated water and sewage pipelines, gas pipelines, and to telephone and power lines, which traverse the Planning Area.

Effective planning and preparation can significantly reduce the risks and harmful effects of earthquakes and other natural disasters.

The Unreinforced Masonry Law passed by the State Legislature in 1986 (SB 547), requires all cities and counties to identify potentially hazardous unreinforced masonry buildings. The County carries out building inspection services for Lafayette and they have completed an inspection and reinforcement program to mitigate hazards associated with the seismic effects on most structures.

The seismic status of structures by their seismic classification is summarized below:

a) Emergency buildings (police and fire stations) have been constructed recently and have been built with earthquake damage mitigating features. There is no hospital located in Lafayette. The two convalescent homes in the City are of recent construction and are built to modern seismic standards designed to withstand low to medium earthquakes.

b) Many of the high priority buildings (buildings occupied by the City, schools, and limited care facilities) are of recent construction. Many are steel or wood-frame buildings which are the least susceptible to earthquake damage.

c) The majority of high-use buildings (commercial and office buildings, apartment buildings of 50 or more units and churches) are of recent construction and were designed to withstand low to medium intensity earthquakes.

d) Duplexes and the majority of housing in Lafayette have been built with one- to two-story wood-frame construction, which has a high survivability in the event of an earthquake.

e) There are six unreinforced masonry buildings Downtown on Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

f) Bridges across Highway 24 could be vulnerable in the event of a major earthquake.

g) The East Bay Municipal Utility District's (EBMUD) high pressure water lines run through the city and could break during a seismic event, causing flooding and landslides.

h) There are two reservoirs in the City operated by EBMUD.

Goal S-2 Minimize risks to Lafayette residents and property from earthquakes.

Policy S-2.1 Seismic Hazards: New development, including subdivisions, new construction, and remodels or expansions of existing structures, shall minimize exposure to seismic hazards through site planning and building design.

Program S-2.1.1: Comply with the provisions of the State *Alquist-Priolo Act*, as appropriate.

The Alquist Priolo Act was adopted by the State legislature which established Special Studies Zones throughout California. Geologic investigations must be prepared prior to certain types of new development in these zones. There are, at present, no Special Studies Zones in the Lafayette Planning Area.

Program S-2.1.2: Strengthen existing structures against seismic events to applicable nationally-recognized standards. Give priority to emergency buildings, schools, theaters, meeting halls, apartment complexes and major transportation facilities.

There are no high priority buildings such as schools, theaters, or hospitals located on an active fault in Lafayette.

Program S-2.1.3: Provide information to the public on ways to reinforce buildings to reduce damage from earthquakes and what to do in the event of an earthquake.

Program S-2.1.4: Require, as conditions of approval, measures to mitigate potential seismic hazards for structures.

Program S-2.1.5: Require geotechnical reports by a state registered geologist for development proposals on sites located in known or suspected seismically or geologically hazardous areas and for all critical structures.

Policy S-2.2 Areas of Significant Risk Potential: Locate construction of high density residential and other critical, high-occupancy or essential services buildings outside high risk zones.

Program S-2.2.1: Require that development in areas identified by *Map VI-3: Earthquake Hazard* be supervised and certified by a geotechnical engineer and, where necessary, by an engineering geologist.

Program S-2.2.2: Establish setbacks from active or potentially active fault lines or traces for structures intended for human occupancy.

Although there are no active fault lines or traces identified in the Planning Area, new information about faults may be discovered in the future. Under the Alquist-Priolo Act Special Studies Zone Act construction of new facilities within 50 feet of designated active faults is prohibited. (Designation of newly discovered faults under this Act may occur in the future.) Setback areas should be established where deemed necessary by geologists or soils engineers. Parking lots and landscaped areas are examples of uses that could be located in these setbacks.

FLOOD HAZARDS

Lafayette is drained by a series of creeks. Areas adjacent to these creeks are subject to flooding during storms with intense or prolonged amounts of rainfall. The estimated extent of flooding resulting from a 100-year storm (i.e., a storm that has a probability of occurring on the average once every 100 years) is indicated by *Map VI-4: Flood Zones*. Except for the most northerly portions of the City, all of Lafayette eventually drains to Las Trampas Creek, which runs east to Walnut Creek and north to Suisun Bay. Potential flood hazards affecting existing development are found along Las Trampas Creek, the EBMUD high-pressure water lines, and within the inundation zones below Lafayette and Leland Reservoirs. These reservoirs are operated and managed by the East Bay Municipal Utility District – a regional public water agency.

It is the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (CCCFCWCD) responsibility under State law to develop a coordinated flood control program for the County and to review development projects in Lafayette for their impact on flood risk. The City will continue to work closely with the District to reduce flood risk. Refer to the Open Space and Conservation Chapter for discussion of creek corridors.

Goal S-3 Reduce flood hazards.

Policy S-3.1 Reduce Flood Hazards: Reduce flood risk by maintaining effective flood drainage systems and regulating construction.

Program S-3.1.1: Condition new development to maintain post development peak runoff rate and average volume similar to the predevelopment condition, to the maximum extent feasible. Consider use of alternative drainage systems that utilize on-site infiltration or slow runoff during peak periods. Where this is not feasible, the increase must be mitigated. Include clear and comprehensive

mitigation measures as part of project approvals with financial and other measures to ensure their implementation.

Program S-3.1.2: Require runoff rate/volume analysis and flow-duration analysis of projects where deemed necessary by City staff and/or required by provisions of the NPDES municipal stormwater permit.

Program S-3.1.3: Require analysis of the cumulative effects of development upon runoff, discharge into natural watercourses, and increased volumes and velocities in watercourses and their impacts on downstream properties. Include clear and comprehensive mitigation measures as part of project approvals with financial and other measures to ensure their implementation.

Program S-3.1.4: Maintain a file of inundation maps and drainage plans for existing and new water storage tanks in the City.

Policy S-3.2 Flood Protection Standard: In the review of flood control for proposed new development, establish as a standard the flood recurrence intervals used by the Contra Costa County Flood Control District (e.g. the 100-year flood event). *(Reso. 2009-021, 2009)*

Program S-3.2.1: Utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) to reduce risk of flooding, to identify 100 Year Flood Events, to calculate flow rates within identified stream channels, and to review development proposals.

Program S-3.2.2: Participate in the National Flood Insurance program.

Policy S-3.3 Storm Drainage System: Maintain unobstructed water flow in the storm drainage system.

Program S-3.3.1: Enforce measures to minimize the volume and velocity of surface runoff, soil erosion, and sedimentation both during and after construction through implementation of the Grading Ordinance.

Program S-3.3.2: Carry out annual inspection of the drainage systems in Lafayette.

Program S-3.3.3: Require siltation/detention ponds to be incorporated into the design and construction of development projects, where deemed necessary.

Refer to Program S-3.1.1 for other measures, including detention ponds, aimed at reducing peak runoff.

Program S-3.3.4: All drainage or creek work done within the CCCFCWCD right-of-way must be done under permit from the District.

Policy S-3.4 Finance the Storm Drain System: Explore all available sources of funding to ensure that adequate funding exists to finance improvements to storm drainage facilities.

Program S-3.4.1: Cooperate with the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and other jurisdictions to pursue all available sources of funding to finance improvements to storm drainage facilities.

Program S-3.4.2: Enforce the Storm Drainage Impact Fee Ordinance requiring development to cover the costs of drainage facilities needed as a result of new development.

Program S-3.4.3: Periodically assess the need to establish improvement districts and other financing mechanisms to fund necessary storm drainage and watercourse improvements to minimize flood hazards and creek erosion.

Policy S-3.5 Building Location: Consider potential flood hazards when siting a building. Intensity of development shall be the lowest in areas of high risk.

FIRE HAZARDS

The combination of vegetation, topography, climate and population density creates a significant potential for fire hazards in Lafayette. There are two categories of fire hazards in the community – wildland fires, which occur in open chaparral, grassland and forest areas, and urban fires that damage buildings in urbanized areas.

Contra Costa County Fire Protection District provides fire protection in Lafayette. The District maintains three stations in Lafayette. There is a new station planned on Pleasant Hill Road, just outside of the city limits, which will provide additional protection to the Reliez Valley area.

Goal S-4 Minimize risks to Lafayette residents and property from fire hazards.

Policy S-4.1 Adequate Fire Protection: Enforce regulations and standards which contribute to adequate fire protection.

Program S-4.1.1: Improve access and response time of emergency response vehicles.

Program S-4.1.2: Ensure that new traffic signals include an EMTRC system which allows emergency vehicles to change the signal.

Program S-4.1.3: Encourage the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District including paramedic services to improve its response time for Lafayette, particularly in the urban wild land fire interface zones. The location of fire stations should strive for a five-minute response time. *(Reso. 2009-021, 2009)*

Program S-4.1.4 Restrict parking on narrow roads to allow access by emergency vehicles and to facilitate evacuation.

Program S-4.1.5: Require development that includes private access roads or fire roads to provide access rights and keys to all gates to the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

Program S-4.1.6: Work with East Bay Municipal Utility District and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District to ensure that there exists sufficient water flow in fire hydrants throughout Lafayette.

The current standard adopted by the City is a minimum of 1,000 gallons per minute with 20 pounds per square inch residual pressure for residential areas. The commercial areas shall conform to the fire flow requirements as set forth by the California Fire Code.

Policy S-4.2 Reducing Fire Risk From Development: Take measures to reduce fire risks from new and existing development as well as natural fire hazards.

Program S-4.2.1: Work with the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District to evaluate development proposals, enforce the fire code, and improve fire prevention measures and protection services.

Program S-4.2.2: Implement the City's land use regulations for building materials with emphasis on fire-retardant roofs and exterior vegetation control.

Program S-4.2.3: Encourage the East Bay Regional Parks District and the East Bay Municipal Utilities District to undertake vegetation management programs to reduce fire hazards on their properties.

Program S-4.2.4: Adopt and utilize the *Fire Hazard Severity Scale* for the classification of fire hazards in wild land areas.[1]

Program S-4.2.5: Permit new development only where there is adequate fire flow and adequate emergency vehicular access.

Program S-4.2.6: Establish buffer areas for buildings in high fire risk areas. Buffers can include site planning techniques, vegetation management plans and defensible space.

Defensible space refers to a buffer area around buildings which is cleared of highly combustible vegetation and which is readily accessible by fire fighting equipment.

Program S-4.2.7: Enforce the Fire Safety Ordinance requiring sprinkler systems for new residential development more than 1.5 miles from a fire station, beyond the 3-minute response time, and other applicable triggers. *(Reso. 2009-021, 2009)*

Program S-4.2.8: Require development proposals on sites beyond the five-minute response time area or where insufficient fire flow exists to implement fire risk reduction measures recommended by the City and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

Program S-4.2.9: For structures within or adjacent to hazardous areas, require a greater degree of fire resistance in roof coverings and exterior building materials

1 This scale was developed by the U.S. Forest Service and the State Department of Forestry. It is useful for identifying areas with a high risk of wildfire due to flammable vegetation, rugged terrain and other factors.

than what is specified in the UFC, as determined by the Chief Building Official and upon making of findings specified in Health and Safety Code §13143.4.

Policy S-4.3 Development and Mitigation Fees: Maintain development and mitigation fees at a level to adequately finance fire protection costs.

Program S-4.3.1: Periodically assess fees for fire protection to ensure that existing and new development pay its fair share of the cost of fire protection facilities, personnel and maintenance.

Policy S-4.4 Mutual Aid Agreements: Participate in mutual aid agreements with the County and State fire fighting agencies.

Policy S-4.5 Vegetation Management Plan: Require development in a high fire risk area to have an approved vegetation management plan that includes native, drought-tolerant, and fire resistant species.

Program S-4.5.1: All new development within mapped high fire hazard zones established by the Contra Costa County Fire District shall be required to develop and implement a Vegetation Management Plan. The Plan shall be part of the development application and approved by the Contra Costa County Fire District and the City. The Plan shall be developed by an arborist or vegetation management specialist. The City shall ensure that the actions recommended in the Plan are implemented in the future and should amend the Municipal Code to allow the City the right to conduct actions recommended in the Plan at the property owner's expense, if those actions are not performed in a timely fashion by the property owner. The Contra Costa County Fire District shall have the right to review properties to judge whether actions recommended in the Vegetation Management Plan are being properly implemented in a timely fashion.

Program S-4.5.2: Establish a high fire risk overlay zoning district in high fire risk areas where a Vegetation Management Plan is required.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

There exist potential public safety hazards in the Lafayette Planning Area associated with the storage and transportation of hazardous materials. A large quantity of hazardous materials are transported on highways where the potential for accidental release of this material into the environment presents a potentially significant public health risk.

The storage and transportation of hazardous materials is clearly a regional problem, and local jurisdictions have only limited authority. The policies and programs in this section incorporate and build on relevant portions of the State law and County regulations.

Radioactive materials are distinguished from other hazardous materials and specific Federal and State regulations have been developed for these substances. The use and storage of radioactive materials in Lafayette is limited to medical facilities, since there are no other primary users of radioactive materials such as research laboratories, nuclear power plants or military facilities

located within the Planning Area. The principal potential danger to Lafayette residents from these materials is related to the possibility of a truck accident where containers holding radioactive materials would be ruptured on State Route 24.

Goal S-5 Reduce the hazards of the storage, transportation and disposal of hazardous materials.

Policy S-5.1 Storage of Hazardous Materials: Strictly enforce the regulations governing the storage of chemical, biological and other hazardous materials as set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5.

Policy S-5.2 Transport of Hazardous Materials: Develop, in cooperation with the County and neighboring cities, regulations prohibiting through-transport by truck of hazardous materials on the local street systems and require that this activity be limited to State highways.

Program S-5.2.1: Consider establishing and enforcing a *Local Hazardous Material Route Plan*, installing signage and publicizing routes for hazardous materials transport in the Lafayette Planning Area. Adopt an ordinance designating specific routes within the Planning Area for transport of hazardous materials.

Policy S-5.3 Transportation, Storage and Disposal Facilities: Provide measures to protect the public from the hazards associated with the Transportation, Storage and Disposal ("TSD") of hazardous wastes.

Program S-5.3.1: Refer land use and transportation decisions and other programs involving hazardous materials regulations to the appropriate agencies.

Program S-5.3.2: Support the establishment of a household hazardous waste disposal program.

Program S-5.3.3: Maintain the Hazardous Materials and Waste Ordinance.

Program S-5.3.4: Require as a condition of City development project approvals, that the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District be notified of all hazardous substances that are transported, stored, treated or could be released accidentally into the environment.

Program S-5.3.5: Support thorough environmental review for Hazardous Waste Transportation, Storage and Disposal (TSD) Facilities proposed in the Lafayette Planning Area and throughout Contra Costa County, since the potentially significant, widespread and long-term impacts on public health and safety of these facilities do not respect jurisdictional boundaries.

ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD HAZARDS

The potential adverse health effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF's) from electric transmission lines, substations and appliances have been documented in many studies[2]. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concluded in a recent report, *Evaluation of Potential Carcinogenicity of Electromagnetic Fields*, that there is a causal relationship between certain forms of cancer and exposure to 60 Hz magnetic fields from power lines and perhaps other sources in the home.

There is no consensus in the scientific community, however, regarding the degree of risk presented by EMF's. We do not know what levels of exposure to EMF's are safe. The approach taken to this potential health hazard is one of prudent avoidance – establishing reasonable regulation before electrical transmission lines are built and discouraging development from encroaching in or near electrical transmission line right-of-ways. It is also necessary to obtain updated information on EMF radiation levels of existing and proposed electrical transmission facilities and relate those to the latest standards that are emerging from ongoing research.

Goal S-6 Minimize community exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Policy S-6.1 Consider EMF's in land use decisions: Consider information regarding EMF radiation from existing and new electrical transmission lines and substations in making land use decisions.

Program S-6.1.1: Request that PG&E provide information on renovations to existing and construction of proposed new electrical transmission lines, substations, and distribution lines. Request that information on the EMF radiation levels for proposed new facilities be provided.

Program S-6.1.2: Require that all new electrical transmission projects have an EMF mitigation plan as a part of the project's environmental review pursuant to CEQA.

Program S-6.1.3: Request from PG&E an inventory and full public disclosure of existing electrical transmission lines and of existing and proposed electrical transmission projects with the anticipated EMF levels in the Lafayette Planning Area.

There are 60 kV, 130 kV and 240 kV transmission lines and substations within the Lafayette Planning Area.

Policy S-6.2 Siting of Schools and other Sensitive Uses: Minimize and reduce EMF radiation levels near sensitive uses such as schools, hospitals, and playgrounds in planning for electrical transmission facilities repair and new construction.

2 Refer to Electromagnetic Fields and Land Use Controls, The Planning Advisory Service Report # 435, December, 1999, Chicago, Illinois.

POLICE SERVICES

The Police Department provides for public safety through the protection of life and property and preserving the peace. Lafayette contracts its police services from the County Sheriff's Department.

Goal S-7 Maintain effective police services.

Policy S-7.1 Demand for Police Services: Review development proposals for their demand on police services and require mitigating measures, if necessary, to maintain the community's standard for police services. Levy police impact fees for capital facilities and equipment, if warranted.

Policy S-7.2 Interjurisdictional Cooperation: Work with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department and neighboring jurisdictions to improve police service in Lafayette.

Policy S-7.3 Response Time Standards: Strive to maintain a three-minute response time for all life-threatening calls and those involving criminal misconduct, and a seven-minute response time for the majority of non-emergency calls.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

It is not possible to eliminate the risks associated with geologic, seismic, fire and other hazards of the natural and built environments. However, the City can help reduce those risks through effective planning and preparation. An Emergency Operations Plan has been prepared to achieve the goals of emergency preparedness and response: save lives, reduce injury, protect property and restore essential services. The Plan provides for the distribution of vital resources (medical supplies, food, water, shelter, equipment and services) and for the coordination of essential services (City, County, State, federal, private and not-for-profit). The Plan has been prepared in conformity with the State Emergency Management System (SEMS) and responsibility for its implementation rests with the City Manager and Police Chief.

Goal S-8 Provide adequate response and support services in the event of a major emergency or natural disaster.

Policy S-8.1 Emergency Operations Plan: Periodically review the Emergency Operations Plan to assure that it meets current needs in the event of a major disaster.

Program S-8.1.1: Conduct regular training programs for personnel involved in implementing the Emergency Operations Plan.

Program S-8.1.2: Revise, as appropriate, the City's Emergency Operations Plan. Revise the plan to conform to the California Emergency Management System (SEMS).

Program S-8.1.3: Maintain designated emergency evacuation routes in a passable condition at all times, as feasible.

Policy S-8.2 Cooperate with the County's Emergency Preparedness Plan: Cooperate with Contra Costa County's Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Program S-8.2.1: Revise the City's Emergency Operations Plan to ensure that it complies with the County's Plan.

Policy S-8.3 Emergency Operations Center: Ensure that Lafayette has an adequate and well-equipped Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Program S-8.3.1: Identify specific facilities, such as City offices, schools, fire stations, police buildings, and lifelines such as telephone, electric, water, and sewer service critical to effective emergency and disaster response. Evaluate their abilities to operate efficiently immediately after a disaster. Designate alternative facilities for post-disaster assistance in the event that the primary facilities have become unusable.

Policy S-8.4 Public Education: Make information available to residents on methods to reduce the dangers from natural hazards, fire, and crime, and encourage neighborhood groups to become involved in prevention and emergency response programs.

Policy S-8.5 Evacuation Routes: Identify and publicize evacuation routes to be used in emergencies.

Evacuation routes can be roadways or trails that allow for orderly removal of people and possessions from an endangered area. California law requires that each city discuss and map its emergency evacuation routes in the Safety Element of the General Plan.

At this time, the City of Lafayette has not adopted an evacuation routes plan of streets and trails. A study of evacuation routes will need to recognize that the City's streets are generally narrow and winding, yet provide emergency access (including evacuation) for Lafayette, Moraga and portions of Orinda and unincorporated Contra Costa County.

Program S-8.5.1: Maintain an emergency evacuation routes system. Consider establishing evacuation route standards, such as road widths.

Program S-8.5.2: Encourage the use of trails as evacuation routes in the Emergency Operations Plan.

Program S-8.5.3: Maintain designated evacuation routes in a passable condition at all times, as feasible.

Program S-8.5.4: Publicize the City's evacuation routes and other aspects of its Emergency Operations Plan.

Goal S-9 Maintain an effective medical emergency response system.

Policy S-9.1 Emergency Medical Service: Work to improve emergency medical response service in Lafayette.

Program S-9.1.1: Periodically monitor the response time for emergency medical response service in Lafayette and coordinate with providers to maintain adequate service.