

2015 Snohomish County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

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Partner Name: _____

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SAFE GROWTH (Capabilities) GAP ANALYSIS

Expanding into more hazardous areas or redeveloping existing areas already subject to hazards can pose a threat to future community safety. The purpose of the **safe growth audit** is to analyze the impacts of current policies, ordinances, and plans on community safety from hazard risks due to growth and keep the future community safe from natural hazards. Safe growth is a significant factor in community resilience—the capacity to withstand shocks from hazard events. Built on safe growth principles, resilient communities are able to anticipate, weather, and recover from the impacts of natural hazards. Designed to be strong and flexible, they may bend, but they do not break. Their new development is guided away from high-hazard areas, and their vulnerable existing development is relocated to safe areas. Their buildings are constructed or retrofitted to meet hazard code standards. Their natural environment protective systems are maintained and conserved so as to be able to mitigate hazard damage. And their citizens, governments, and businesses are prepared with information about hazard vulnerability and disaster resources. (Godshald, David R. *Safe Growth Audits*).

TOPIC	Yes or No	If yes, please provide details
LAND USE		
Does the future land-use map clearly identify natural hazard areas?		
Do the land-use policies discourage development or redevelopment within natural hazard areas?		
Does the plan provide adequate space for expected future growth in areas located outside natural hazard areas?		
TRANSPORTATION		
Does the transportation plan limit access to hazard areas?		
Is transportation policy used to guide growth to safe locations?		
Are movement systems designed to function under disaster conditions (e.g., evacuation, bicycle plan)?		
ZONING ORDINANCE		
Does the zoning ordinance conform to the comprehensive plan in terms of discouraging development or redevelopment within natural hazard areas?		
Does the ordinance contain natural hazard overlay zones that set conditions for land use within such zones?		
Do rezoning procedures recognize natural hazard areas as limits on zoning changes that allow greater intensity or density of use?		
Does the ordinance prohibit development within, or filling of, wetlands, floodways, and floodplains?		
SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS		
Do the subdivision regulations restrict the subdivision of land within or adjacent to natural hazard areas?		
Do the regulations provide for conservation subdivisions or cluster subdivisions in order to conserve environmental resources?		
Do the regulations allow density transfers where hazard areas exist?		
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT		
Are environmental systems that protect development from hazards identified and mapped?		
Do environmental policies maintain and restore protective ecosystems? (e.g. Salmon recovery and conservation plans; floodplain management plan)		
Do environmental policies provide incentives to development that is located outside protective ecosystems?		
PUBLIC SAFETY		
Are the goals and policies of the comprehensive plan related to those of the FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Plan?		
Is safety explicitly included in the plan's growth and development policies?		



Does the monitoring and implementation section of the plan cover safe growth objectives?		
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND INFRASTRUCTURE POLICIES		
Does the capital improvement program limit expenditures on projects that would encourage development in areas vulnerable to natural hazards?		
Do infrastructure policies limit extension of existing facilities and services that would encourage development in areas vulnerable to natural hazards?		
Does the capital improvement program provide funding for hazard mitigation projects identified in the FEMA Mitigation Plan?		
OTHER PLANS		
Do small area or corridor plans recognize the need to avoid or mitigate natural hazards?		
Does the building code contain provisions to strengthen or elevate construction to withstand hazard forces?		
Do economic development or redevelopment strategies include provisions for mitigating natural hazards?		
Is there an adopted evacuation and shelter plan to deal with emergencies from natural hazards?		