

# Napa County's Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update

Napa County staff and key stakeholders have been working over the last year to develop an update to the hazard mitigation plan that was created in 2013. The goal of the planning effort is to revisit natural hazard information and update to account for changes in population and occurrences of natural disaster in the planning area. This effort is two-fold; first, it assists in reduction of repetitive damages to community infrastructure, and secondly, the county will maintain eligibility for grants under Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance program. A public draft of the Plan is now available for review on <http://mitigatehazards.com/napa-county-mjhmp/documents/>.



Figure 1. Stakeholder meeting to update MJHMP, 2019.

## **SIDEBAR:**

*Participating Jurisdictions:* Napa County, City of American Canyon, Town of Yountville, City of Calistoga, City of St. Helena, Napa County Office of Education, Napa Valley College, Napa County Flood Control and Water Resources District, Howell Mountain Mutual Water Company

*Stakeholders:* Napa Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), Napa County Emergency Management, Napa County Public Health, Napa Sanitation, Napa State Hospital Fire Department, Pacific Union College, Napa County Sheriff's Department, American Canyon Fire Protection District, Napa County Resource Conservation District, City of Napa, and NRCS.

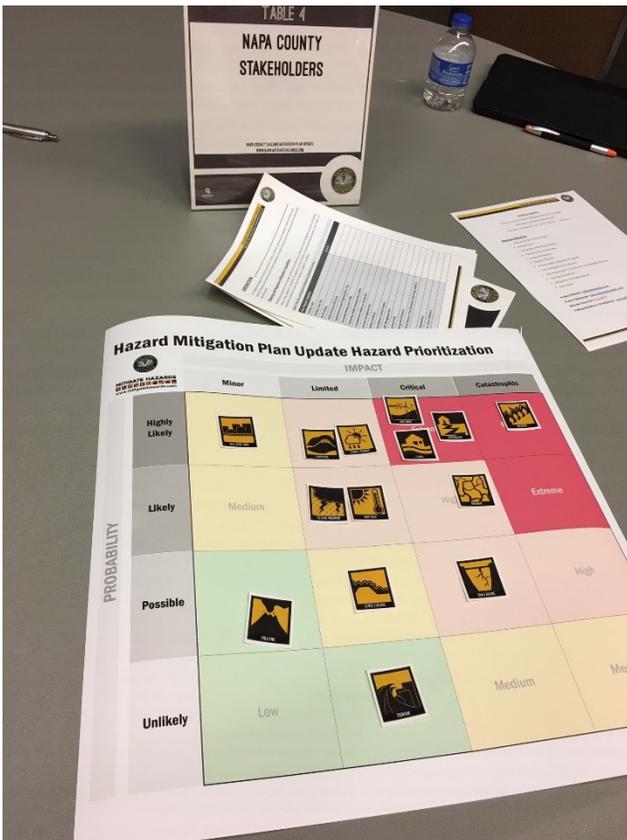


*Figure 2. Tubbs Fire, 2017.*

The County’s hazard mitigation plan provides a formal explanation of prevalent hazards within the county and how hazards may affect communities differently. Most importantly, the mitigation strategy presented in the Plan responds to the known vulnerabilities within each community and provides prescriptions or actions to achieve the greatest reduction of natural hazard risk. The end result of this planning effort could result in saved lives, reduced injuries, reduced property damage, and protection for the environment in the event of a natural hazard within the county.

“This will plan will assist the county to receive grant funding for fuel reduction projects or flood control infrastructure and other mitigation measures to reduce damages from natural hazards,” said Ethan Mobley, Owner of Dynamic Planning + Science, the consultant hired by Napa County.

Starting in October of 2018, county staff hired consultant Dynamic Planning + Science to initiate the planning effort by mapping hazards across the region and worked to identify people, critical facilities, and property values within each hazard area. This step was the first in a series of tasks to understand the vulnerabilities within the county and update the planning efforts conducted in 2013.



The planning effort includes analysis of natural hazards within unincorporated county areas and the incorporated areas of American Canyon, Calistoga, St. Helena, and Yountville. In addition, the planning effort is assisting the Napa County Flood Control and Water Resources District, Napa County Office of Education, Napa Valley College, and Howell Mountain Mutual Water Company to understand vulnerabilities for the communities they service.

Based on the outcomes of the new vulnerability assessment, the county has revisited mitigation strategies and created new mitigation actions to reduce community vulnerabilities. Mitigation actions range from increased public education and awareness efforts to actual structural projects to reduce impacts of hazards. Structural projects could range from flood control infrastructure and bridge replacements to utility upgrades intended to lessen the impacts of natural hazard events.

The County is asking the public to review the newly-developed plan for input by April 10<sup>th</sup>. To review the

draft plan, please visit <http://mitigatehazards.com/napa-county-mjhmp/documents/>.