



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Oakland seeks public input on local hazard prioritization at meeting on March 16

*Oakland, CA* – Every five years, FEMA requires local governments to update their Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). The City of Oakland is currently updating its LHMP for the years 2016-2021. The LHMP will identify projects that could potentially reduce risks in the community from natural hazards (e.g., wildfire, floods or earthquakes) and is designed to reduce the loss of life and property. To be most effective, a Hazard Mitigation Plan is prepared before a disaster occurs by identifying the hazards a community faces, assessing vulnerabilities to the hazards and identifying specific actions that can be taken to reduce the risk.

Oakland residents and business owners are invited to share their priorities on reducing the effects of natural hazards and risks at a community meeting on **Wednesday, March 16**. The meeting will be held at the 81st Avenue Branch Library, 1021 81st Avenue, from 6 to 8 p.m. The breadth of the natural and human-caused hazards being discussed range from earthquakes and landslides to sea-level rise and hazardous materials release.

To provide a broader context to meeting participants, City staff will be joined by representatives from the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), who will speak about regional resilience projects underway.

Participants will engage in a mapping exercise to help identify community resources that need protection from natural hazards, followed by a group discussion on priorities the City should consider for implementation in the next five years to reduce the risk from natural hazards.

The City is scheduling additional community meetings in April.

- Monday, April 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Faith Presbyterian Church, 430 49th Street
- Monday, April 25, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
West Oakland Senior Center, 1724 Adeline Street

For those unable to attend a community meeting, feedback may be provided by:

- Taking the online survey at <http://speakupoakland.org/surveys>
- Emailing your comments to [dreiff@oaklandnet.com](mailto:dreiff@oaklandnet.com)
- Attending one of the public hearings at the Oakland Planning Commission and Oakland City Council

(more)

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The 2016-2021 LHMP will describe the natural hazards and risks, identify the top priorities for addressing each hazard and detail the work being done now and work expected to be done over the next five years. Once the plan is adopted by the Oakland City Council, the City of Oakland can prioritize projects and continue to be eligible to obtain FEMA pre- and post-disaster grants. The plan will also make Oakland a more disaster-resistant and resilient community.

To learn more about the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan program and proposals as well as details on future meetings, visit [www.oaklandnet.com/lhmp](http://www.oaklandnet.com/lhmp).

The LHMP is the latest resiliency effort underway at the City of Oakland and compliments the following ongoing programs:

- In late 2014, Oakland was named one of the first 32 inaugural cities for the global 100 Resilient Cities Initiative pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation. Efforts through this initiative are aimed at positioning our city to better survive, adapt and grow amidst shocks like earthquakes, fires and sea level rise, and daily stressors such as crime, violence, poverty and environmental degradation.
- The Oakland Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP), adopted by the City Council in December 2012, identifies and prioritizes actions the City can take to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions associated with Oakland. With the plan, the City of Oakland continues its legacy of leadership on energy, climate and sustainability issues.
- For more than 25 years, the Oakland Fire Department's free CORE (Citizens of Oakland Responding to Emergencies) program has taught self-reliance skills to residents and business owners and helped neighbors establish response teams to take care of their neighborhoods in the wake of a major disaster until professional emergency personnel arrive.

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