County of Santa Clara
Safety Element Update

# Listening Session
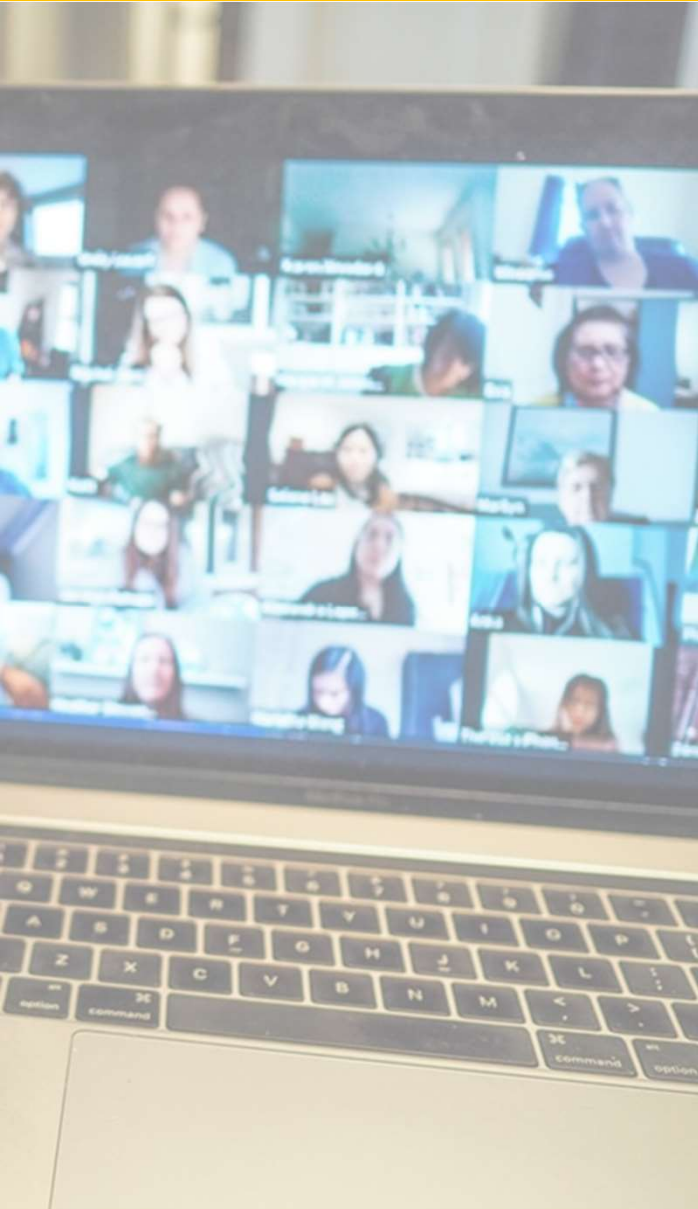
Presenters
**Hoi Poon**, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action

January 3, 2023

# Welcome



## Purpose

- **Context:** Introduce the Safety Element Update to community members

- **Discussion:**

- What are data gaps? Are there additional strategies to consider?

- How would SVCYA like to be involved in the implementation?

- What is the best way to keep SVCYA informed?

## Agenda

- Overview of the Safety Element Update Team
- Overview of Related County Planning Efforts
- What is a Safety Element?
- Why update the Safety Element?
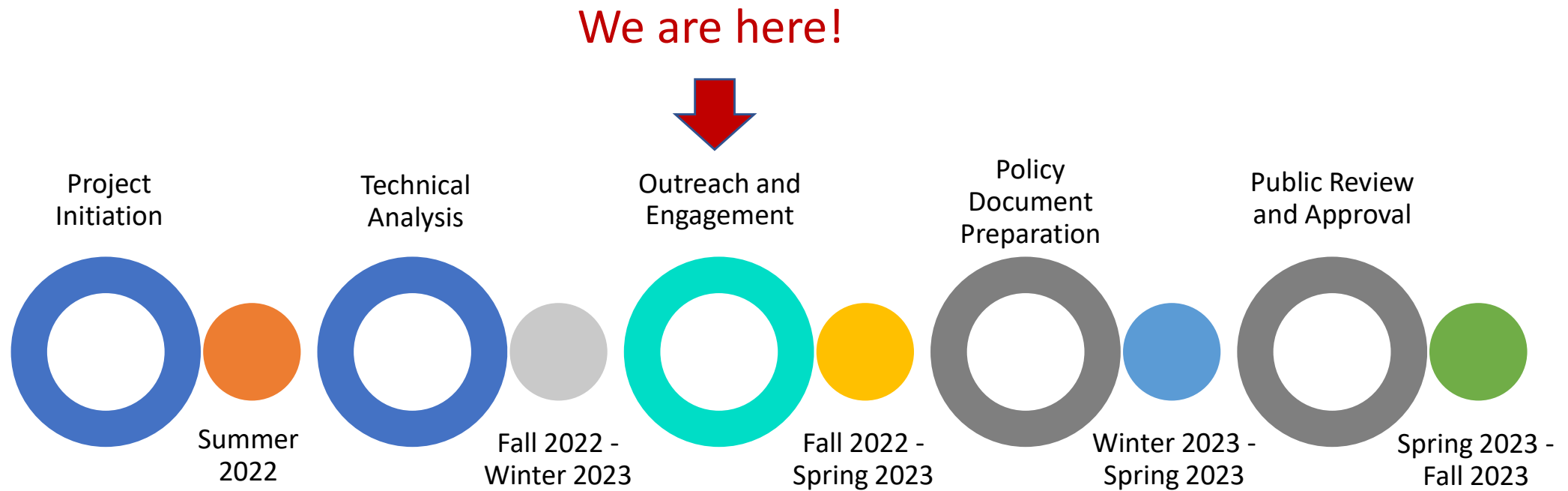- Role of stakeholders and public feedback

# Polling Questions

# Anticipated Schedule

We are here!

**Project Initiation**

Summer 2022

**Technical Analysis**

Fall 2022 - Winter 2023

**Outreach and Engagement**

Fall 2022 - Spring 2023

**Policy Document Preparation**

Winter 2023 - Spring 2023

**Public Review and Approval**

Spring 2023 - Fall 2023

# County Planning Efforts Underway

## Safety Element

Provides goals, policies, and actions to address hazards that may affect unincorporated Santa Clara County

## Housing Element

Addresses the housing needs of the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County
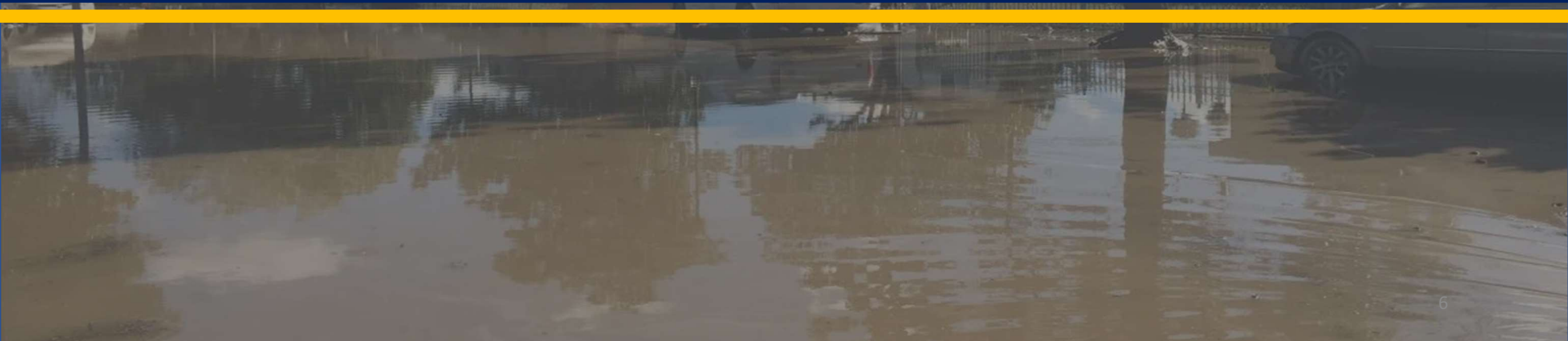
## MJHMP

Identifies key hazards of concern and potential actions and projects to reduce vulnerabilities to those hazards

## CWPP

Outlines a mitigation and preparedness plan to reduce wildfire risks in Santa Clara County (includes Cities, Towns, and Special Districts)

# Basics of the Safety Element

# What is a Safety Element?

- **Mandatory** chapter of the General Plan

- Addresses the **safety needs of the unincorporated areas**

- **Required Components**
  - ✓ Background and Technical Information
  - ✓ Maps of hazards
  - ✓ Goals and policies
  - ✓ **Safety Element Implementation actions and programs**

- Safety Element Update **requires** frequent update to meet legislative mandate

Land Use

Housing

Circulation

Open Space

Conservation

Noise

Safety

Environmental Justice*

Air Quality**

\* Required if Disadvantaged Communities are located in the Jurisdiction
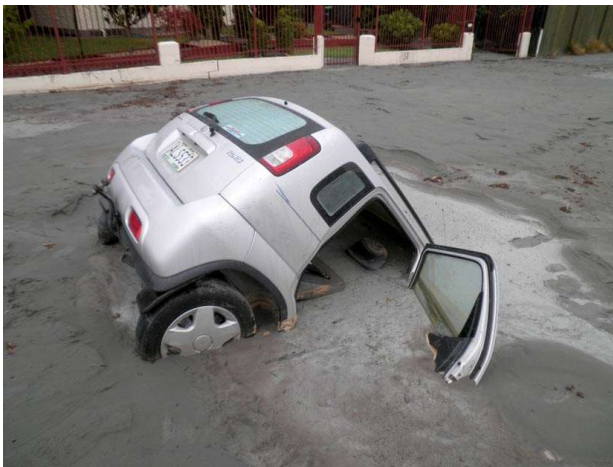\*\* Required in certain locations within California

Govt Code 65302 (g) (1) - Protection of the Community
From Unreasonable Risks Associated With:

## Geologic/Seismic Hazards

- ✓ Seismically Induced Surface Rupture
- ✓ Ground Shaking
- ✓ Liquefaction
- ✓ Ground Failure
- ✓ Subsidence

# What is in a Safety Element?

Govt Code 65302 (g) (1) - Protection of the Community
From Unreasonable Risks Associated With:
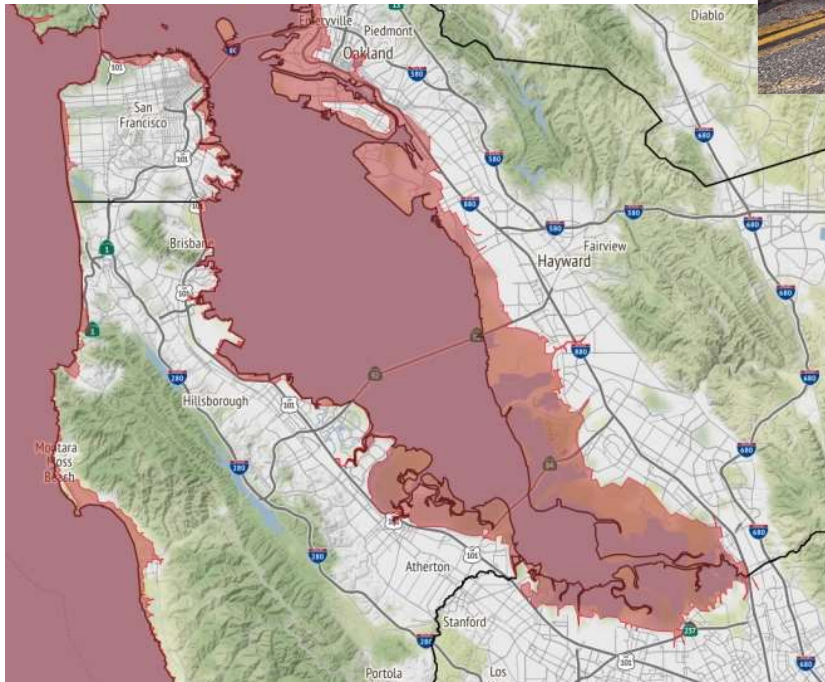
Source: Valley Water

Silicon Valley 2.0 – Climate Hazard Fact Sheet:
Sea Level Rise in Santa Clara County

**Flooding**
**Dam Inundation**
**Sea Level Rise**
**Tsunami/Seiche**
**Slope Instability**
  ✓ Mudslides
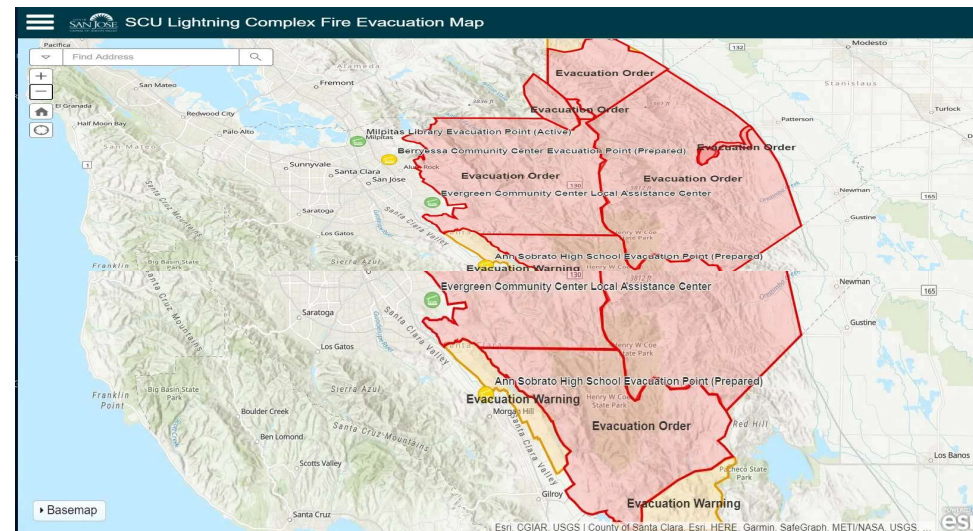  ✓ Landslides

Source: Valley Water

# What is in a Safety Element?

Govt Code 65302 (g) (1) - Protection of the Community From Unreasonable Risks Associated With:

## Wildland and Urban Fires

- ✓ Evacuation Routes
- ✓ Peakload Water Supply Requirements
- ✓ Minimum Road Widths
- ✓ Clearances Around Structures

# Why Update the Safety Element?

**New State Requirements for Safety Elements**

Evacuation Analysis (SB 99)

Housing Element Update (SB 1035)

Climate Adaptation (SB 379)

Wildfire Hazards (SB 1241)
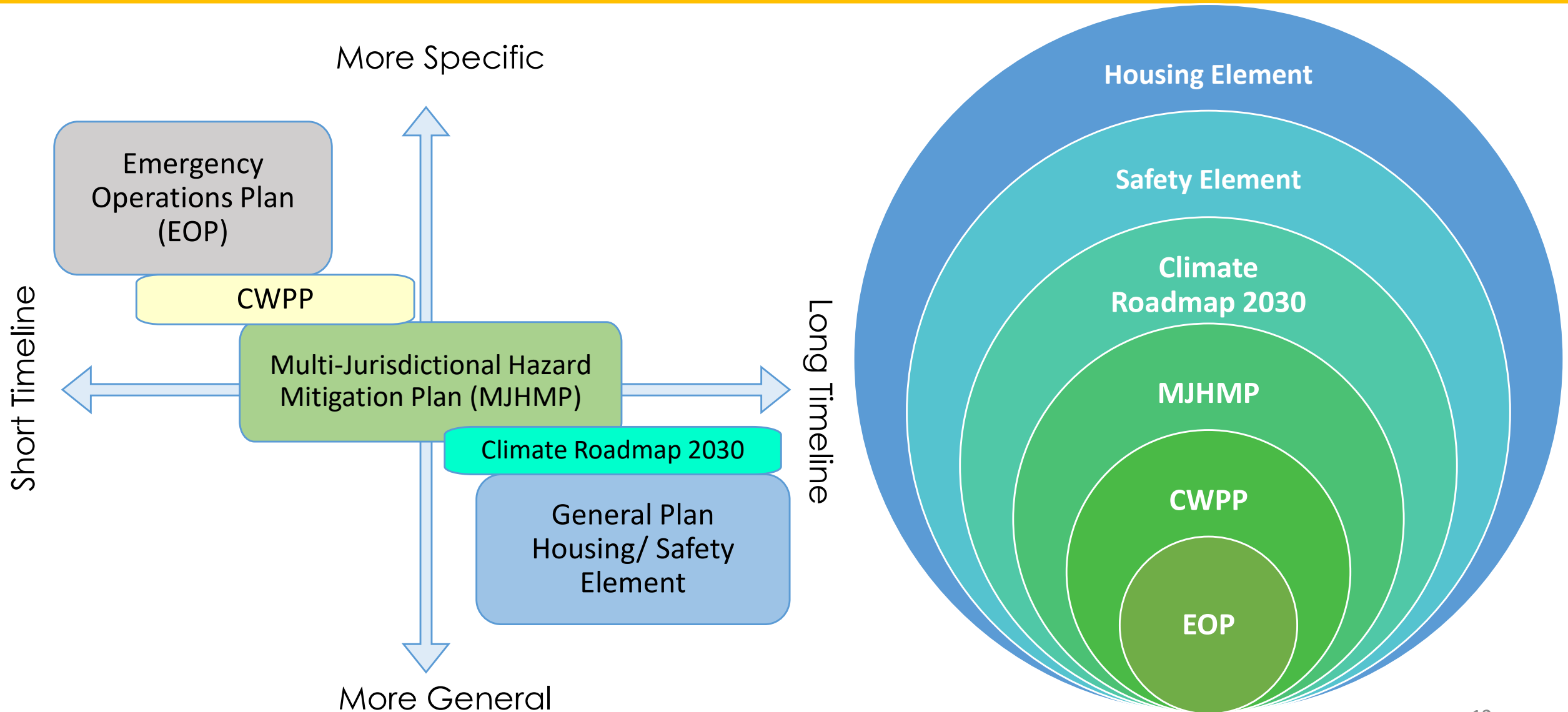
Safety Element Update
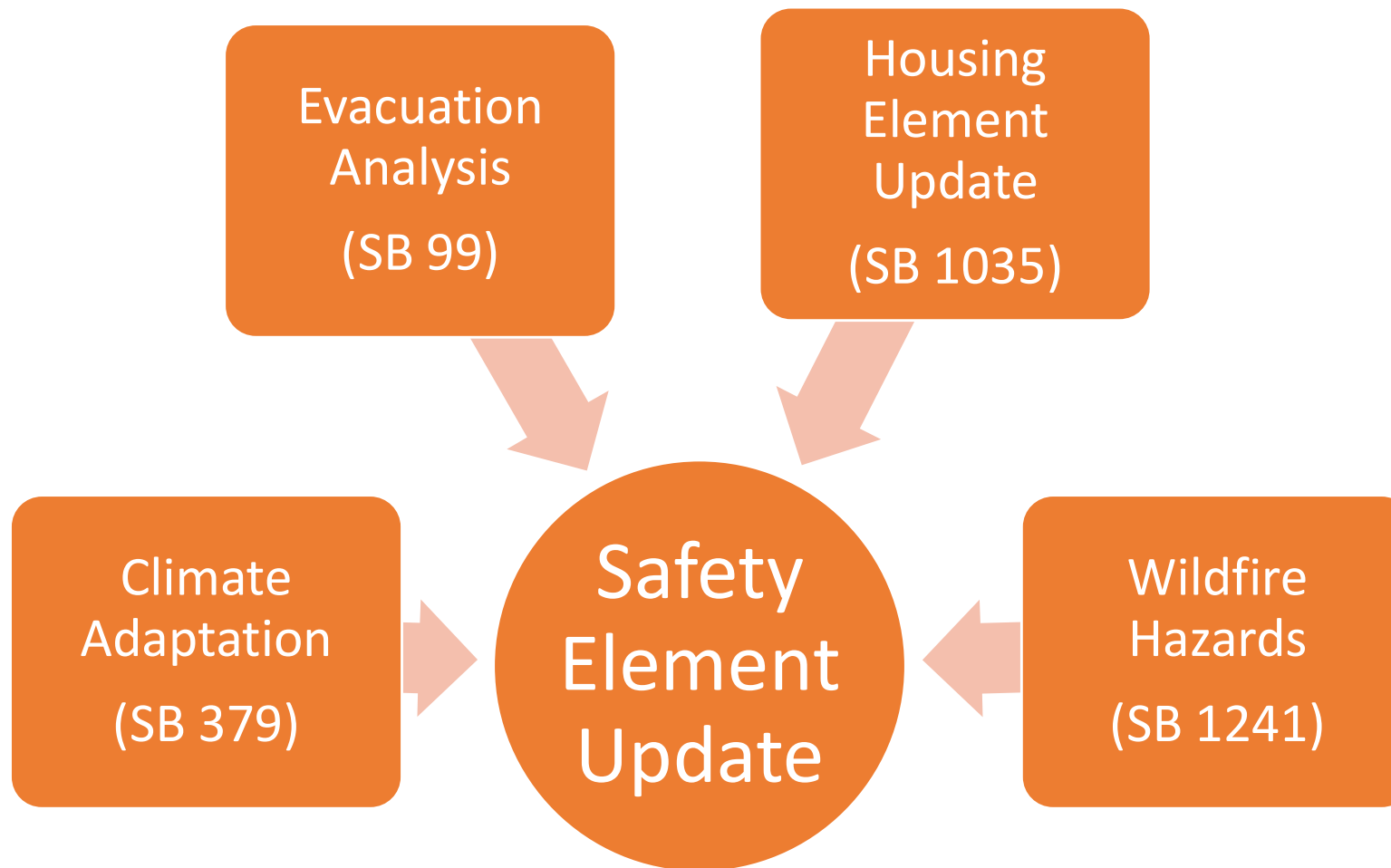
**SB 1035**
Integrates the Housing and Safety Elements

**AB 2140**
Provides financial benefits to jurisdictions that have integrated the MJHMP into the Safety Element

**SB 1241**
Compliance includes oversight by Cal Fire

# Plan Integration Opportunities



More Specific

Short Timeline ← → Long Timeline

More General

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- CWPP
- Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP)
- Climate Roadmap 2030
- General Plan Housing/ Safety Element

Concentric circles (outer to inner):
- Housing Element
- Safety Element
- Climate Roadmap 2030
- MJHMP
- CWPP
- EOP

# Extreme Heat Events

Change in Annual Average Temperature (Unincorporated Santa Clara County)

| Annual Average Temperature | Historic Annual Average Temperature (1961 - 1990) | Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) | | High Emissions (RCP 8.5) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid-Century | End-Century | Mid-Century | End-Century | |
| Maximum | 68.6 | 72.1 | 73.5 | 73.1 | 76.2 | |
| Minimum | 46.0 | 49.4 | 50.7 | 50.3 | 53.9 | |

F = degrees Fahrenheit

Change in Number of Extreme Heat Days: Santa Clara County (92.7 °F)

| Number of Extreme Heat Days* | Historic Annual Average Extreme Heat Days (1961 - 1990) | Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) | | High Emissions (RCP 8.5) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid-Century | End-Century | Mid-Century | End-Century |
| | 4 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 31 |

Change in Number of Extreme Heat Days: Santa Clara County (85°F)

| Number of Extreme Heat Days* | Historic Annual Average Extreme Heat Days (1961 - 1990) | Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) | | High Emissions (RCP 8.5) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid-Century | End-Century | Mid-Century | End-Century |
| | 29 | 58 | 71 | 69 | 102 |

13

# Extreme Heat Events: Strategies

- Notify residents through public service announcements a couple of days in advance of a severe weather event

- Expand number of publicly operated cooling centers based on the need of vulnerable populations.

- Implement a tree-planting program to increase shaded areas in the County

- Implement programs to increase access to funding and services for weatherizing homes and providing air-conditioning units in homes.

- Develop a program to incentivize and guide installation of cool/green roofs.

- Explore and implement a cool pavement program to reduce heat impacts.

- Implement a program to provide and maintain adequate shade for passengers at transit stops or stations.
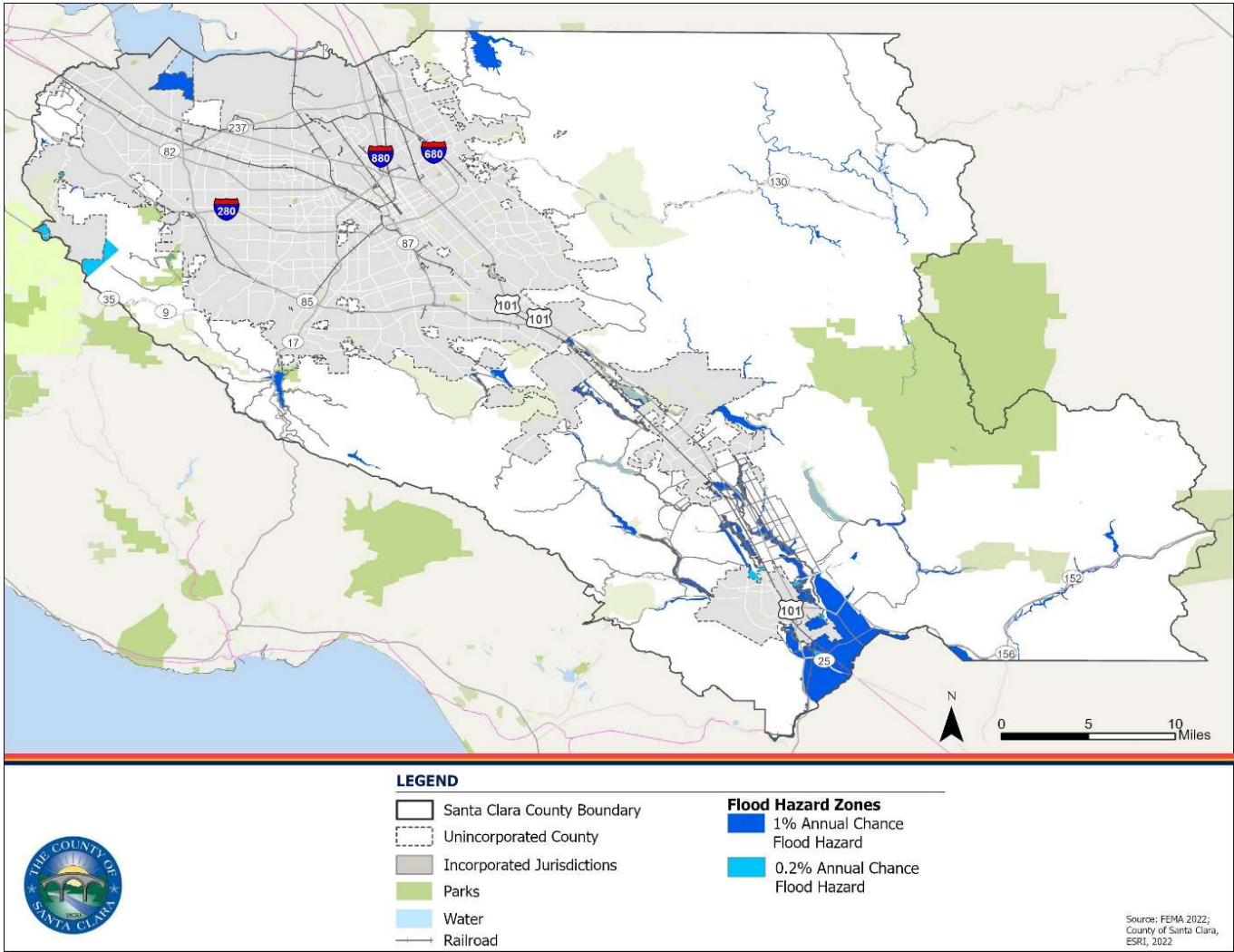
# Flooding

## Change in Annual Average Precipitation (Unincorporated Santa Clara County)

| Average Annual Precipitation (Inches) | Historic Annual Average Precipitation (1961 - 1990) | Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) | | High Emissions (RCP 8.5) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid-Century | End-Century | Mid-Century | End-Century |
| | 23.9 | 26.1 | 26.1 | 26.4 | 29.3 |

## Change in Maximum 1-Day Precipitation: Santa Clara County

| Maximum 1-Day Precipitation (Inches) | Historic Maximum 1-Day Precipitation (1961 - 1990) | Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) | | High Emissions (RCP 8.5) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid-Century | End-Century | Mid-Century | End-Century |
| | 1.750 | 1.876 | 1.936 | 1.954 | 2.124 |



LEGEND

Santa Clara County Boundary
Unincorporated County
Incorporated Jurisdictions
Parks
Water
Railroad

Flood Hazard Zones
1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard

Source: FEMA 2022; County of Santa Clara, ESRI, 2022

# Flooding: Strategies

- Provide residents, schools, and public and recreational facilities with storm evacuation procedures and shelter-in-place guidelines to grow community resilience.

- Implement a public outreach program to increase the public awareness of flooding to mitigate those challenges on their property.

- Revise applicable building codes to require flood-resistant design.

- Encourage the use of porous surfaces on new and significantly retrofitted residential, school, and public facility developments to reduce runoff.

- Conduct frequent cleanings of storm drain intakes, especially before and during the rainy season.

- Explore habitat restoration and wetland enhancements that also provide flood protection.

- Promote open space uses in developing watersheds to control increases in runoff.

# Outreach and Engagement

Fall 2022 - Winter 2023

Fall 2022 - Spring 2023
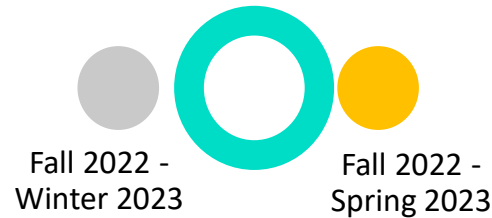
- Regularly updated information

- Opportunity to send feedback directly to County staff via email

- Planning2@pln.sccgov.org

**Website**

- Community Based Organization Led Workshops – December/January

- Opportunity to learn about project and provide direct feedback.

**Workshops**

- Online survey available in February/March 2023

- Opportunity to share insights about community concerns.

**Online Survey**

- Board of Supervisors/ Planning Commission Meetings

- Opportunity to provide comments/feedback

**Meetings**

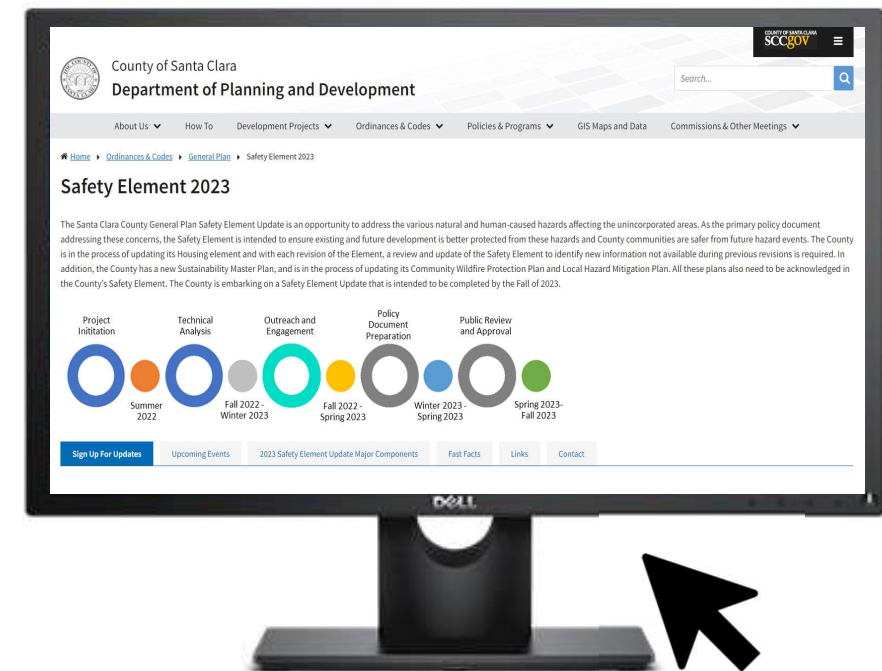http://www.sccgov.org/safety-element

# Stay Involved

Contact us via:

Planning2@pln.sccgov.org

Scan Me:



Santa Clara County Safety Element Website



http://www.sccgov.org/safety-element