

Madera General Plan Update
Health and Safety Policies
DRAFT 7-15-08

Goal:

The City shall seek to maintain minimally acceptable levels of risk of injury, death, and property damage resulting from reasonably foreseeable safety hazards in Madera.

Issue Addressed: Release and Transport of Hazardous Materials

Policy HS-1: The City of Madera shall work to identify and eliminate any potential hazardous waste releases from all potential and identified sources .

Policy HS-2: The City shall regulate the storage of hazardous and waste materials consistent with state and federal law.

Policy HS-3: The City shall seek to ensure that all industrial facilities are constructed and operated in accordance with the most current safety and environmental protection standards.

Policy HS-4: The City shall require industries which store and process hazardous or toxic materials to provide a buffer zone between the installation that houses such substances and the property boundaries of the facility, sufficient to protect the public. .

Policy HS-5: The City shall coordinate with the California Highway Patrol, the Madera County Department of Environmental Health Services, the Madera County Sheriff's Department, and all other appropriate local, state and federal agencies in hazardous materials route planning, notifications and incident response, to ensure high level first response to hazardous material incidents (Madera Vision 2025 Strategies 421 and 422).

Policy HS-6: The City shall not permit above ground tanks without considering the potential hazards that would result from the release of stored liquids caused by possible rupture or collapse, and may request applicants to have an emergency response plan for said event, based on substance toxicity.

Policy HS-7: The City shall coordinate with other agencies on efforts to remediate contamination to the former Oberti salt ponds located in the southern portion of Madera.

Policy HS-8: The City shall seek to avoid and minimize exposure of sensitive land uses to potentially hazardous emissions along the Avenue 12 corridor, between the identified industrial zone and the intersection of Highway 99.

Issue Addressed: Drainage and Flooding

Policy HS-9: The City shall not permit new development projects to result in new or increased flooding impacts on adjoining parcels in either upstream or downstream areas.

- Policy HS-10: The City shall give priority to the appropriate designation of land uses in areas subject to flooding to reduce risks to life and property. Construction of new flood control projects shall have a lower priority, unless land use controls are not sufficient to reduce hazards to life and property to acceptable levels.
- Policy HS-11: The City shall require any development on land subject to a 100-year flood event, based on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or on other updated mapping acceptable to the City, to conform to NFIP standards. .
- Policy HS-12: The City shall require that Vehicular access to the buildable area of all parcels shall be at or above the 10-year flood elevation. Bridges or similar structures may be used to provide access over inundated areas, subject to City approval and applicable local, state and federal regulations.
- Policy HS-13: The City shall discourage the number of crossings of natural streams in order to reduce potential flooding, degradation, hydrological changes and property access problems.
- Policy HS-14: Parcels shall not be created on which the presence of easements, floodplain, marsh or riparian habitat, or other features would leave insufficient land to build and operate structures. This policy shall not apply to open space lots specifically created for dedication to the City or another appropriate party for habitat protection, flood control, drainage, or wetland maintenance.
- Policy HS-15: New and modified bridge structures shall not cause an increase in water surface elevations of the 100-year floodplain exceeding one foot, unless analysis clearly indicates that the physical and/or economic use of upstream or downstream property will not be adversely affected.
- Policy HS-16: The City shall require all new urban development projects to incorporate runoff control measures to minimize peak flows of runoff and/or assist in financing or otherwise implementing comprehensive drainage plans. All such control measures will consider potential affects to adjacent property owners.
- Policy HS-17: The City recognizes that agricultural open space serves as a valuable resource. Maintaining areas subject to flooding in agricultural or open space uses provides both agricultural value as well as minimizing the potential negative impacts of flooding to structures such as homes and businesses.
- Policy HS-18: Development proposals shall be reviewed with reference to the dam failure inundation maps in order to determine evacuation routes.
- Policy HS-19: The City shall continue to cooperate with Madera County and other agencies in pre-disaster planning activities for potential dam breach and similar potential disasters.

Issue Addressed: Geologic and Seismic Hazards

- Policy HS-20: The City shall support efforts by federal, state, and other local organizations to investigate local seismic and geological hazards and support those programs that effectively mitigate these hazards.

Policy HS-21: The City shall seek to ensure through appropriate land use designations and permitting, that new structures are protected from damage caused by geologic and/or soil conditions.

Policy HS-22: City shall not accept dedication of roads in areas subject to liquefaction, subsidence, or settlement that in the opinion of the Public Works Department would require an excessive degree of maintenance and repair costs.

Action Item: Adopt an all hazards(natural and manmade)disaster plan, in coordination with Madera County and local special districts (school and irrigation), that identifies hazards that may occur as the result of an earthquake of major magnitude. The plan should be sufficiently broad in scope to include the designation of evacuation routes, staging areas, shelters, PODs (points of distribution), and protocols for coordinating all local government and volunteer agencies in assisting local residents in the event of a major earthquake, large-scale fire or explosion, or hazardous chemical spill or release of hazardous airborne gas (Madera Vision 2025 Strategies 421 and 422).

Issue Addressed: Railroad Crossings

Policy HS-23: The City shall initiate, and collaborate in safety and design improvements at existing railroad-at-grade crossings . This may include construction of grade-separated crossings and other appropriate safety features (Madera Vision 2025 Strategy 121 and Action 121.3).

Policy HS-24: The City shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that railroad crossings in Madera are made as safe as possible (Madera Vision 2025 Strategy 121).

Policy HS-25: The City shall require new development that affects railroad crossings and rights-of-way to pay its fair share for any improvements considered necessary to reduce impacts associated with rail safety.

Issue Addressed: Fire

Policy HS-26: The City shall ensure the safety and protection of Madera and its community members by providing adequate first response capabilities to emergencies and by maintaining sufficient resources to expand protection as the community grows. (Vision 2025, Strategy 421)

Policy HS-27: The City shall continue to maintain and update emergency service plans, including the Madera City Fire Department Emergency Operations Plan and the Hazardous Material Spills Emergency Response Plan i .

Action Item: Continue to collaborate and assist the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), which provides fire service pursuant to a cooperative fire protection agreement.

Action Item: The City shall continue to cooperate with Madera County and other agencies in pre-disaster planning, training and exercise activities.

Issue Addressed: Evacuation Route

A properly planned and designed roadway system within the city will facilitate the efficient movement of police and fire fighting equipment and the safe evacuation of residents. Please refer to the Circulation Element for policies related to the city's overall circulation system.

Issue Addressed: Police

Policy HS-28: The City shall ensure the safety and protection of Madera and its community members by providing optimum first response to emergencies and ensure that sufficient resources are available to expand protection as the community grows. (Vision 2025, Strategy 421)

Action Item: Collaborate with existing agencies to review existing interoperable communication and prepare a and prepare a communications plan as needed.

Policy HS-29: The City shall improve community safety through coordinated regional emergency, law-enforcement and protective services system. (Vision 2025, Strategy 421)

Policy HS-30: The City will seek to improve communications between community residents and the police through regular meetings and a visible community –policing program. (Vision 2025, Strategy 427)

Policy HS-31: The City shall encourage the design of neighborhoods and buildings in a manner that discourages crime and provides security and safety for people and property.

Policy HS-32: The City shall encourage the use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in the design of development projects and buildings. These basic principles include: (Vision 2025 – reference to Crime Prevention)

Natural Surveillance

A design concept directed primarily at keeping intruders easily observable. Promoted by features that maximize visibility of people, parking areas and building entrances: doors and windows that look out on to streets and parking areas; pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and streets; front porches; adequate nighttime lighting.

Territorial Reinforcement

Physical design can create or extend a sphere of influence. Users then develop a sense of territorial control while potential offenders, perceiving this control, are discouraged. This experience is promoted by features that define property lines and distinguish private spaces from public spaces by using landscape plantings, pavement designs, gateway treatments, and 'CPTED' fences.

Natural Access Control

A design concept directed primarily at decreasing crime opportunity by denying access to crime targets and creating in offenders a perception of risk. This is

gained by designing streets, sidewalks, building entrances and neighborhood gateways to clearly indicate public routes and discouraging general access to private areas through structural and design elements.

Target Hardening

Accomplished by features that prohibit entry or access: window locks, dead bolts for doors, interior door hinges.

Policy HS-33: In considering the potential impact of hazardous facilities on the public and/or adjacent or nearby properties, the City shall consider the hazards posed by reasonably foreseeable events. Evaluation of potential events include facilities that could create hazardous physical effects at offsite locations resulting in death, significant injury, or significant property damage. For the purpose of implementing this policy the City considers an event to be "reasonably foreseeable" when the probability of the event occurring is greater than of one in one million ($1 * 10^{-6}$) per year.