

# 7. Safety Element

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Safety hazards can occur as a result of the actions of nature or works of man. The intent of the Safety Element is to identify the potential hazards in the community that must be considered when planning the location, type, and intensity of development. The primary objective of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential for loss of life, injuries, and property damage which could result from a natural or man caused disaster.

This element briefly summarizes the hazardous conditions that are directly relative to the City of Portola. Background, goals, policies and implementation strategies are provided.

## Authority

The Safety Element is mandated by the California Government Code (Section 65302(g)). The statute requires that a safety element be adopted for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence, liquefaction, and other seismic hazards and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding; and wildland and urban fires. The safety element shall include mapping of known seismic and other geologic hazards. It shall also address evacuation routes, military installations, peakload water supply requirements, and minimum road widths and clearances around structures, as those items relate to identified fire and geologic hazards.

Specific topics addressed in this Element include:

- Seismic and Geologic Hazards
- Flood Hazards
- Dam Failure Inundation
- Wildland and Urban Fire Protection
- Severe Weather, Winter Storms, and Extreme Cold/Heat
- Hazardous Materials
- Peak Load Water
- Emergency Evacuation Routes

## Relationship to Other Elements

The mandated Safety Element relates to the subjects addressed in the Land Use Element, Conservation and Open Space Element, Public Services and Facilities Element, and Air Quality Element.

## Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Incorporated

Section 322 of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA) specifically addresses mitigation planning at the state and local levels. The DMA identifies new requirements that allow Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to be used for planning activities and increases the amount of HMGP funds available to states that have developed a comprehensive, enhanced mitigation plan prior to a disaster. States and communities must have an approved mitigation plan in place prior to receiving post-disaster HMGP funds.

On August 14, 2013, the City of Portola City Council adopted the City of Portola Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). This plan was approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on June 23, 2014. The LHMP was prepared with input and assistance from Plumas County and City residents, responsible officials, consultants, and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

The City of Portola recognizes the consequences of disasters and the need to reduce the impacts of natural hazards. The emphasis of the LHMP is on the assessment and avoidance of identified risks, implementing loss reduction measures for existing exposures, and ensuring critical services and facilities survive a disaster. Hazard mitigation strategies and measures avoid losses by limiting new exposures in identified hazard areas, altering the hazard by eliminating or reducing the frequency of occurrence, and averting the hazard by redirecting the impact by means of a structure or adapt to the hazard by modifying structures or standards.

The current LHMP, which was adopted by the City of Portola on August 14, 2013, and approved by FEMA on June 23, 2014, and any subsequent amendments, is hereby incorporated by reference into the Safety Element of the City of Portola General Plan and is given retroactive effect to June 23, 2014.

## SEISMIC AND GEOLOGIC HAZARDS

The City of Portola is located in an area of potentially moderate seismic activity. The nearest active faults are the Mohawk Valley fault, located about 8.5 miles to the west, and the Honey Lake fault, located 21 miles to the east. The Mohawk Valley fault (MCE 7.0) is characterized as being less than 130,000 years old and the Honey Lake Fault (MCE 7.8) is less than 15,000 years old.

### Earthquakes

An earthquake is a sudden motion or trembling caused by a release of stress accumulated within or along the edge of the earth's tectonic plates. Earthquakes usually occur without warning and, after just a few seconds, can cause massive damage and extensive casualties. The effects of an earthquake can be felt far beyond the site of

its origin. The most common effect of earthquakes is ground motion or the vibration or shaking of the ground during an earthquake. The severity of ground motion generally increases with the amount of energy released and decreases with distance from the fault or hypocenter of the earthquake.

In addition to ground motion, several secondary hazards can occur from earthquakes: surface faulting/rupture, liquefaction, and lateral spreading. The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (SHMA) of 1997 established zones of required site-specific geotechnical investigations to identify seismic hazards and formulate mitigation measures prior to permitting developments designed for human occupancy. Portola is not within, nor is it in, an area slated for the development of a Seismic Hazard Zone Map.

### Surface Rupture

Surface rupture occurs when the ground surface 'breaks' due to fault movement during an earthquake. Not all earthquakes result in surface rupture; however, the location of surface rupture generally can be assumed to be along an active major fault trace. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (APEFZA) was passed in 1972 to attempt to mitigate the hazard of surface rupture to structures for human occupancy. The State has not designated any special study zones for Portola or the immediate surrounding areas indicating the potential for surface rupture would be considered low.

### Ground Shaking

Seismic waves radiating away from the hypocenter, like ripples in a pond, and travelling rapidly through the earth's crust produce shaking as these waves reach the ground surface. Strength and duration of shaking is a function of the size (magnitude) and location of the earthquake and on the characteristics of the site such as proximity to bedrock and stiffness and thickness of overlying alluvium. Soil deposits filter seismic waves by attenuating the motion at some frequencies while amplifying motion at others. This 'filtering' is what causes the dramatic variations in the levels of ground shaking observed within relatively small areas. Ground shaking is a general term that refers to all aspects of motion of the earth's surface resulting from an earthquake and is usually considered the most important of all seismic hazards because all the other hazards are triggered by ground shaking.

Ground shaking is what typically triggers the most structural responses. The amount of damage that ensues is a function of the design of the structure and materials from which it is built. Typically structures with larger open areas, such as schools, can experience the most significant damage. Unreinforced masonry structures are also at significant risk.

### Liquefaction and Lateral Spreading

Some of the most infamous events associated with earthquake damage deal with liquefaction, the point during a seismic event when soils lose their strength and begin to

act as fluids, and lateral spreading. Liquefaction can cause severe damage to structures, bridges, roadways, and buried utilities.

Cal EMA indicates that Portola is not in a liquefaction prone area. However, for areas of limited subsurface data, it has also been recommended that the California Geological Society generate liquefaction zone maps which would require investigation if the area contains late Holocene age deposits along current river channels and within their historical floodplains, where the M7.5 weighted peak acceleration is greater than 0.1g, and the anticipated depth to saturated soil is less than 40 feet. Portola generally presents all three of the required conditions particularly within the floodplain deposits of the Middle Fork of the Feather River. In addition, the California Division of Mines and Geology has concluded that the Pleistocene Lake Mohawk sediments that underlie much of the Portola area and along the Middle Fork of the Feather River may be susceptible to seismically induced liquefaction. Lateral spreading develops on gentles slopes and adjacent to rivers and channels as the saturated stream sediments liquefy during a seismic event and can no longer support the adjacent slopes.

### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes mitigation strategies to address potential Seismic and Geologic hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the policies and mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

#### 7.1.1 Seismic and Geologic Safety Goals

Goal SG-1.	Minimize injury and property damage due to seismic activity and geologic hazards.
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#### Policies: Seismic and Geologic Safety

- SG-P-1.** Mitigate the potential impacts of geologic hazards by locating new development in such a way to avoid areas of hazard, including steep slopes and areas of unstable soils.
- SG-P-2.** Comply with California State seismic and building standards in the design and siting of essential facilities, including police and fire stations, school facilities, hospitals, hazardous material manufacture and storage facilities, bridges, and large public assembly halls.
- SG-P-3.** Create and adopt slope development standards to be used in the planning process for any area identified as having significant

slope.

- SG-P-4.** Avoid seismic-induced settlement of uncompacted fills.
- SG-P-5.** Encourage retrofitting of structures, particularly older buildings, to withstand earthquake shaking.
- SG-P-6.** Conduct regular inspection and analysis of Gulling Street bridge for evidence of potential soil liquefaction and settlement.

Implementation: Seismic and Geologic Safety

- SG-I-1.** Confirm compliance with applicable codes and regulations relative to the location of new development in areas of hazards, including steep slopes and areas of unstable soils through the plan review process.
- SG-I-2.** Require the submittal of soils reports with new development proposals that are located on fill dirt or on a slope and in accordance with the California Building Code and employ the services of a professional Registered Geotechnical Engineer or Certified Engineering Geologist to evaluate proposed development within the City, including hillside development and to evaluate proposed slope stabilization measures.
- SG-I-3.** Comply with the California Building Code (CBC) and International Building Code (IBC) for new development and major renovations to existing buildings.
- SG-I-4.** Require revegetation to control erosion and mitigate the appearance of disturbed slopes.

## FLOOD HAZARDS

Floods are the most prevalent hazard in the United States and are considered the natural events when people and property can be most adversely affected. Due to their frequency and proximity to occupied structures and residences, floods present the highest distress rate of any natural hazard. Flooding of the Middle Fork of the Feather River typically occurs as excess water from rainfall and snowmelt runoff into streams and tributaries to the river, collect, and cause the rivers' water to overflow the riverbanks and flow onto the adjacent floodplain. Rainfall intensity, snow pack, topography and ground cover all impact the extent and magnitude of flooding observed. Burn areas can also exacerbate flooding conditions due to increased runoff and debris-laden flows. Due to its physical setting straddling the Middle Fork of the Feather River, and being confined in a river canyon, the City of Portola is at significant risk for flood damage, especially in low

lying areas along the river.

FEMA flood insurance rate maps (2005) show the areas of the City that are subject to 100-year and 500-year floods. Flooding potential exists along both sides of the middle Fork of the Feather River. Two unnamed, minor tributaries which pass through Portola from the south also contribute to potential flood risk, as well as the "Portola Tributary" (name assigned by FEMA, it is nameless on the USGS Quadrangle) to the north. The areas along the Middle Fork of the Feather River and the Portola Tributary are designated as FEMA flood Zone AE (areas subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event determined by detailed methods with Base Flood Elevations shown).

## Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes mitigation strategies to address potential flood hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the policies and mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

### 7.2.1 Flood Safety Goals

Goal F-1. Minimize the potential for loss of life and property due to flooding.

#### Policies: Flood Safety

- F-P-1.** Adopt Floodplain Management Ordinance to guide floodplain management in the City of Portola. Continue to ensure that the Floodplain Management Ordinance is current with State standards.
- F-P-2.** Encourage appropriate development within the Middle Fork of the Feather River floodplain and its unnamed tributaries to minimize risks associated with flooding.
- F-P-3.** Pursue regional partnerships for floodplain management within the Middle Fork of the Feather River watershed.
- F-P-4.** Combine flood control, recreation, water quality, and open space functions, where feasible.
- F-P-5.** Encourage mitigation of any existing structures subject to the 100-year flood by retrofitting with adequate protection from flood hazards.
- F-P-6.** Require the submittal master hydrology studies with new

development proposals to evaluate the impact of new development on the floodplain, as well as mitigation measures for reducing stormwater outflows.

**F-P-7.** Protect fisheries and allow for adequate water passage to ensure the survival of downstream riparian ecosystems.

**F-P-8.** Encourage the retention of natural stream courses and adjacent habitat.

#### Implementation: Flood Safety

**F-I-1.** Enforce compliance with the City of Portola Flood Management Ordinance.

**F-I-2.** Provide flood warning and forecasting information to City residents.

**F-I-3.** Encourage the use of Low Impact Development (LID) strategies with new development and redevelopment. This may include, but is not limited to bio-swales, limit impervious surfaces, pervious paving materials, and on-site retention.

**F-I-6.** Discourage the diversion, filling, and/or piping of natural water courses.

**F-I-7.** Encourage the discharge of runoff into pervious areas within or adjacent to natural water courses.

**F-I-8.** Comply with FEMA requirements for grading and finish floor elevations above the 100-year floodplain to minimize the potential for flooding.

**F-I-9.** Require a Drainage Plan when new development would increase drainage on existing development, as required through environmental review, or as condition of the approval for urban residential subdivisions over ten acres in area. Require the Drainage Plan to provide mitigation to insure that the cumulative rate of peak runoff is maintained at pre-development levels.

## DAM FAILURE INUNDATION

The City of Portola lies approximately 8 miles downstream of Lake Davis, which is the reservoir created by the Grizzly Valley Dam. Lake Davis was built to provide recreation, create a water supply to the City of Portola, and to improve fish habitat. The Grizzly Valley Dam was completed in 1966 and the maximum surface elevation is 5,777 ft with a

maximum storage volume of 125,000 acre-feet (normal storage of 83,000 acre-feet). If the dam were to fail catastrophically the flood surge would travel south down the Grizzly Valley Creek channel and reach the Middle Fork of the Feather River approximately 2.25 miles east of Portola. Because the Feather River flows to the west, structures along the Feather River at the eastern boundary of the City of Portola could be affected by the flood surge.

## Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes mitigation strategies to address potential dam failure inundation hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the policies and mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

### 7.3.1 Dam Failure Safety Goals

Goal DF-1. Minimize injury and property damage due to dam failure inundation.
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Policies: Dam Failure Safety

**DF-P-1.** Coordinate and evaluate recommendations provided by the California Department of Water Resources' Division of Safety of Dams.

Implementation: Dam Failure Safety

**DF-I-1.** Enforce the policies and implementation measures for Flood Safety as described in this Element.

## WILDLAND FIRE

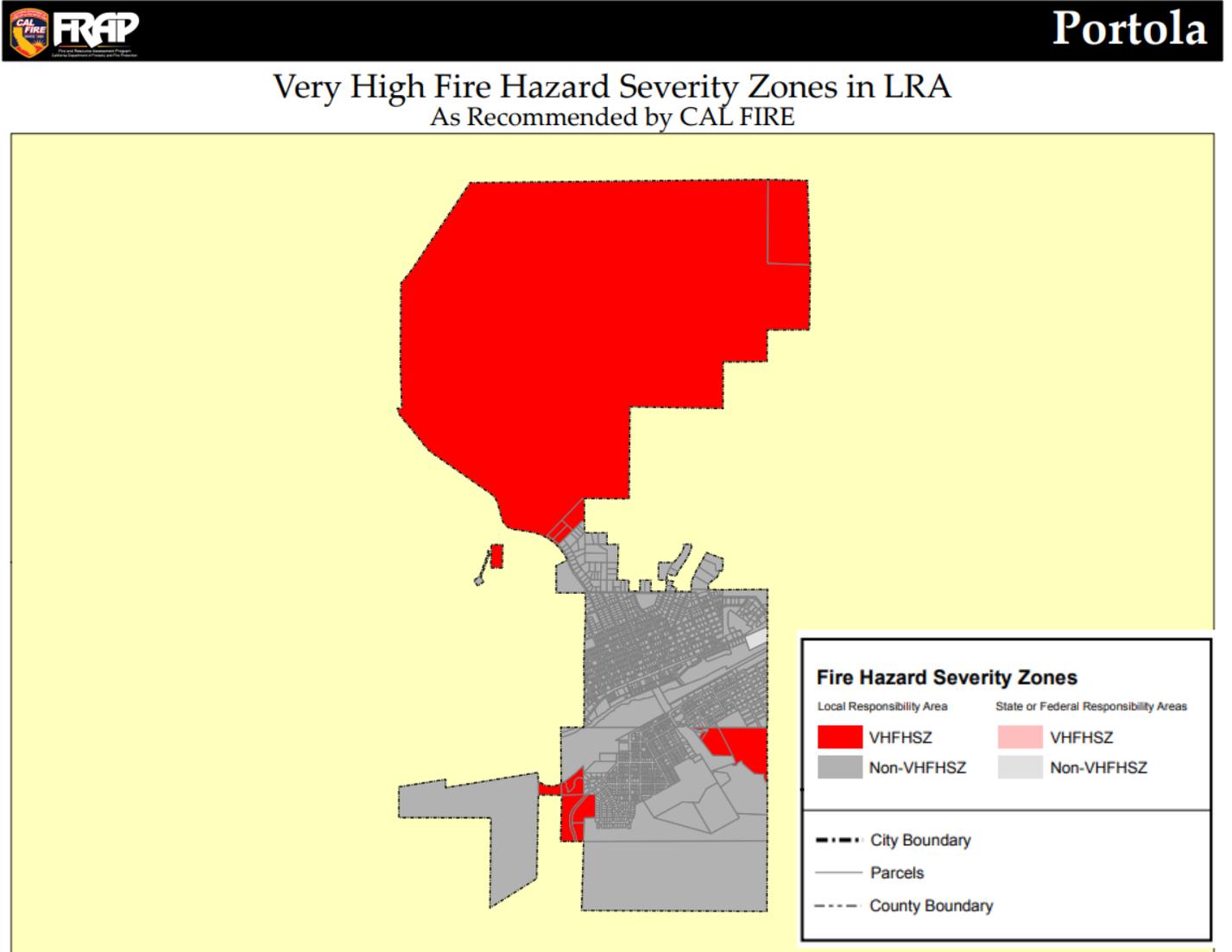
Wildfire is an uncontrolled fire that spreads through forests, and across mountains and deserts. The City of Portola is surrounded by woodlands with moderate to very high fuel loads. Vegetation type, fuel moisture values, and fuel density around a community affect the potential fire behavior. Areas with dense, continuous, vegetative fuels carry a higher hazard potential than communities situated in areas of irrigated, sparse, or non-continuous fuels. In addition to local weather conditions, slope, aspect, and topographic features also impact fire behavior.

### Fire Hazard Severity Zones

From June to September 2008 CAL FIRE recommended maps for Local Responsibility Areas, including Portola, for Fire Hazard Severity Zones, including Very High Fire Hazards

Severity Zones. The “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA As Recommended by CAL FIRE” map, and any updates, is incorporated into this Safety Element.

FIGURE 7-1  
PORTOLA VHFHSZ MAP



*Historical Data on Wildfires*

Portola has an active history of fire ignitions within the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), a five-mile buffer around the City. In 1988, a lightning-caused fire burned 783 acres directly south of the Portola High School, within the City limits. The LHMP includes a figure that detail fuel loads and fire and ignition history.

Ignition risks fall into two general categories: lightning and human caused. Human

caused ignitions that have occurred within the WUI come from a variety of sources: equipment use, debris burning, playing with fire, arson, and campfires. As shown in the LHMP (Figure 15), next to lightning strikes, campfires and playing with fire present the greatest occurrences of ignition in the WUI. Historical burn areas are also indicated in Figure 15. Contrary to the proximity of ignition and burn, no post fire debris flows have impacted the City of Portola.

Additional data and tools related to wildfire hazard areas may be available from the United States Geological Survey and are located here: <https://www.usgs.gov/products/data-and-tools/real-time-data/wildfire>. There is a Fire Danger Forecast Viewer, maps of current fire locations, and map interfaces.

### General Location and Distribution of Land Uses in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones

There are 4 areas designated as VHFHSZ within the City, as shown in Figure 7-1: 1) Teanna Ranch (north), 2) water tank, 3) east of hospital, and 4) County Road A-15 Area.

**Teanna Ranch:** This is +/- 2,0000 ranch zoned a mix of Low Density Residential (LDR; 1 unit per acre) and Open Space (OS). The ranch is currently under the Williamson Act and is under the same ownership. Any future development would be required to comply with City of Portola regulations regarding hazards.

**Water Tank:** This area is in Plumas County, and is not within Portola City limits, but is owned by the City of Portola. There is a City water tank located on the property. The property is zoned for utilities and there is no development potential on the site. The City regularly masticates and thins the site so that it remains fire safe in accordance with the City's Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

**East of Hospital:** This property is adjacent to Eastern Plumas Health Care (EPHC/Hospital) and is owned by EPHC. It is undeveloped and zoned a mix of Business Professional/Light Industrial (BP/LI). Any future development would be required to comply with City of Portola regulations regarding hazards.

**County Road A-15 Area:** County Road A-15 traverses land that is zoned a mix of LDR and MDR, partially developed with single family residences. Any future development would be required to comply with City of Portola regulations regarding hazards.

### *Land Use Requirements*

Through the adoption of the California Building Code, the City of Portola requires that new development meets Title 14, CCR, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Articles 1-5, commencing with Section 1270 (SRA Fire Safe Regulations) and Title 14, CCR, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 3, Article 3 (commencing with Section 1299.01 (Fire Hazard Reduction Area Buildings and Structures Regulations) for VHFHSZs.

There are two projects approved by the City of Portola (Woodbridge at Portola and Portola 192) that are anticipated for development in the City. These projects have been required to include fire safe design into the approved mitigation measures. Additionally, approved mitigation strategies include fuel modification around homes and the subdivisions and visible home and street addressing and signage. Any future development would be required to comply with City of Portola regulations. Policy WF-P-3 (in this Safety Element) requires new development to provide a Fire Safe Plan, including the provision of adequate emergency water flow, emergency vehicle access, and evacuation routes.

There have not been development proposals within any VHFHSZ, but future development would be required to include approved mitigation measures related to fire safe design, fuel modification around homes and the subdivision, defensible space and adequate access. These mitigation strategies would be similar to what has been required of past projects and would be in accordance with City, County, State, and federal requirements.

Through the City's adopted zoning map, the City has ensured that any new essential public facilities will be located outside of VHFHSZs.

The LHMP and CWPP include policies and/or mitigation strategies that identify contemporary fire safe standards in terms of road standards and vegetation hazards. The City has taken steps to ensure that its facilities, including roads, trails, parks, public utilities, and public buildings, are properly masticated and thinned to reduce fire hazards and promote a Firewise Community. Activities include ongoing ladder fuel reduction.

Any new development will be required to comply with mitigation strategies in the LHMP and CWPP. Also, in accordance with the Portola Municipal Code, the City's Code Compliance Officer regularly surveys the City to ensure adequate vegetation clearance and issues notices of violation for properties that do not meet requirements.

The LHMP and CWPP will include policies to evaluate redevelopment should a wildfire impact the City of Portola.

The CWPP addresses long-term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects and vegetation clearance on public and private roads. The City includes long-term maintenance procedures with any fire hazard reduction project it undertakes, and regularly performs maintenance on City-owned facilities.

As required by the City of Portola General Plan Public Facilities and Services Element, new development is required to provide for adequate fire protection, water supply, fire flow as determined by the City of Portola.

## Access

There have not been development proposals within any VHFHSZ, but future development

would be required to include approved mitigation measures related to fire safe design, fuel modification around homes and the subdivision, and adequate access. These mitigation measures would be similar to what has been required of past projects and would be in accordance with City, County, State, and federal requirements. Furthermore, any future access would be approved in accordance with the California Building Code and Fire Code.

The City's Evacuation Plan and Plumas County's Emergency Operations Plan include specific standards for evacuation of residential areas. These documents are incorporated into this Safety Element by reference. All areas of the city have adequate access and evacuation routes.

The City maintains information on its website about hazards, defensible space, and evacuation routes. In addition, policies and mitigation strategies are included in the LHMP that promote public outreach about defensible space and evacuation routes. Policies include methods of outreach that will reach all communities within the City, including the at-risk populations, by focusing on schools, the hospital, and social service centers that vulnerable and at-risk populations.

### Local, State, and Federal Agencies Responsible for Fire Protection

The City contracts with Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District (EPRFPD) for emergency medical and fire response calls. EPRFPD has two paid employees and +/- 20 volunteers. EPRFPD requires level Firefighter I training standards for volunteers and holds weekly 2-hour training sessions. There are 6 fire stations in the EPRFPD service area, with 2 stations in Portola (North Side Fire Hall and South Side Fire Hall)

The City of Portola is part of a Local Fire Service Mutual Aid and Rescue Plan that is effective throughout Plumas County, and provides for mutual aid fire protection or the provision of other emergency services. The following organizations are included in the Mutual Aid Agreement:

- Beckwourth Fire Protection District
- Bucks Lake Volunteer Fire Department
- C-Road Community Services District
- Chester Public Utilities District
- Crescent Mills Fire Protection District
- Gold Mountain Community Services District
- Graeagle Fire Protection District
- Greenhorn Creek Community Services District
- Hamilton Branch Fire Protection District
- Indian Valley Community Services District
- La Porte Fire Protection District
- Long Valley Community Services District
- Meadow Valley Fire Protection District

- Peninsula Fire Protection District
- Plumas-Eureka Community Services District
- Prattville-Almanor Fire Protection District
- Quincy Fire Protection District
- Sierra Valley Fire Protection District
- Plumas County Office of Emergency Services
- Plumas County Fire Safe Council
- West Almanor Community Services District

In addition, The U.S. Forest Service provides services in Federal Responsibility Areas and through Mutual Aid Agreement and CAL FIRE provides fire prevention and special projects staffing

### *City of Portola Facilities and Equipment*

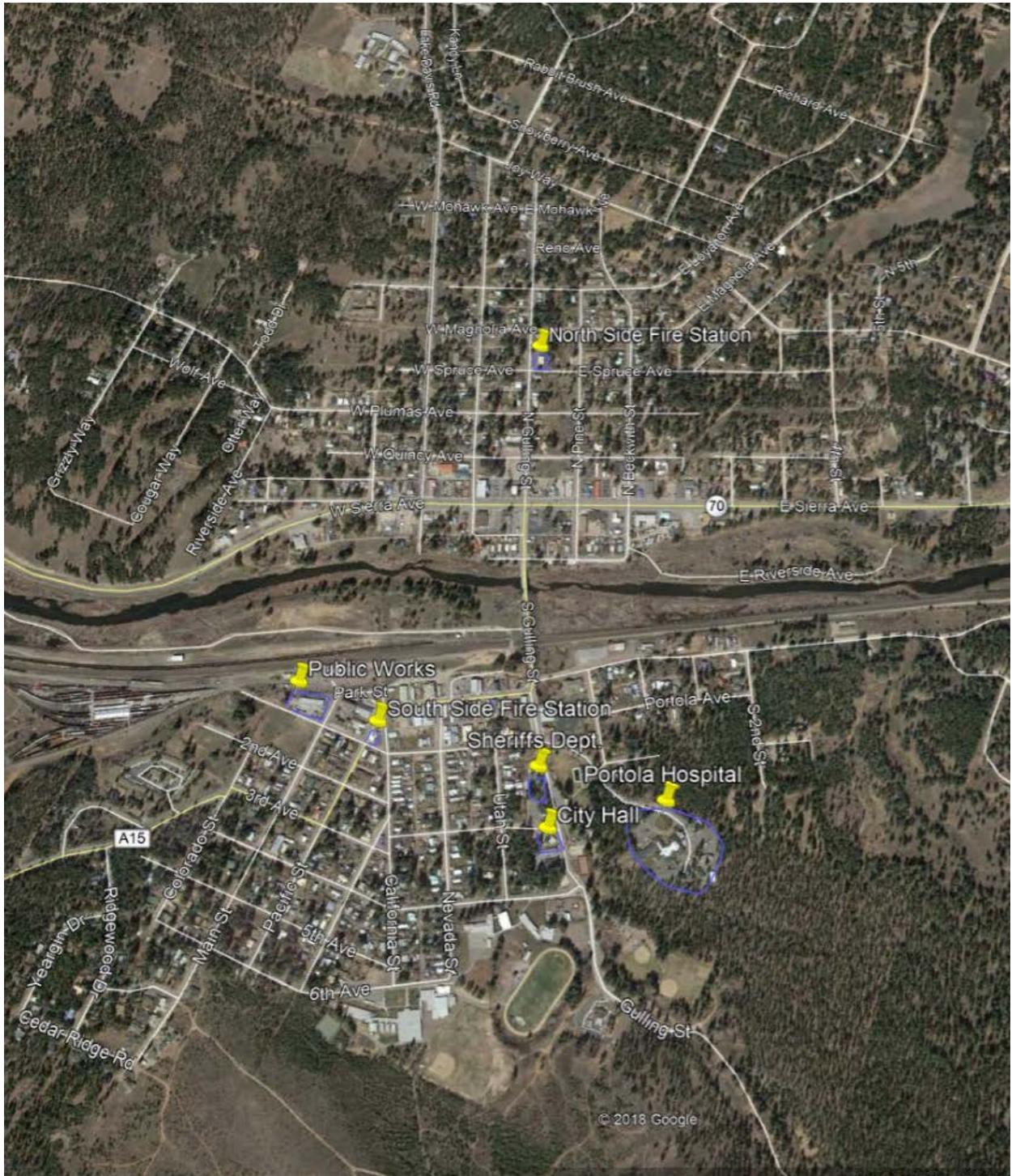
The City of Portola owns two fire stations- North Side Fire Hall and South Side Fire Hall. The North Side Fire Hall is north the Middle Fork Feather River at the intersection of Gulling Street and Plumas Street and the South Side Fire Hall is south of the river at the intersection of First Avenue and Pacific Street.

Under contract, EPRFPD provides services and volunteers are always on call. The City's water reserves are represented by three water storage tanks that provide a combined emergency water supply of 1.75 million gallons. Portola has not identified any opportunities for service improvements and reports adequate capacity to serve current and future development in the City. There are no areas that are difficult to serve; the City maintains an Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating of 5. This reflects a relatively high standard of training, personnel, equipment, response times, and fire suppression water availability for a small rural community.

The following equipment is housed at two Portola fire stations:

- Engine (South Side)
- Rescue (South Side)
- Engine (North Side)
- Tender (North Side)
- Medical response (North Side)
- Wildland Fire (North Side)

FIGURE 7-2  
EXISTING EMERGENCY SERVICE FACILITIES IN CITY LIMITS



## Assessment and Projection of Future Emergency Service Needs

The Public Services and Facilities Element of the General Plan include goals, policies, and implementation measures to address future emergency service needs.

### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes mitigation strategies to address wildland fire hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the policies and mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

### Other Documents Related to Fire Protection

Other documents related to fire protection, as listed below, are incorporated into this Safety Element by reference. These documents include policies and mitigation strategies and identify services that address wildland fire hazards which are further described in the following documents:

- City of Portola Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- City of Portola Emergency Evacuation Plan
- Plumas County Emergency Operations Plan
- Incident Command Structure
- City of Portola General Plan; Land Use Element, Public Facilities and Services Element

#### 7.4.1 Wildland Fire Safety Goals

Goal WF-1.	Protect against injury, loss of life, and damage to property and the environment due to wildland fire.
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#### Policies: Wildland Fire Safety

**WF-P-1.** Work collectively with the Plumas National Forest, the California Department of Forestry, and Plumas County volunteer fire departments and fire protection districts to establish, review, and update (as necessary) a cooperative fire fighting agreement in areas prone to wildland fires, and to enhance the benefit to the City of tools such as air tankers and helicopters.

**WF-P-2.** Work collectively with the Plumas National Forest, the California Department of Forestry, and Plumas County volunteer fire

departments and fire protection districts to establish, review, and update (as necessary) cooperative participation in establishing fuel breaks and prescribed burns.

- WF-P-3.** Require new development to provide a Fire Safe Plan, including the provision of adequate emergency water flow, emergency vehicle access and evacuation routes.
- WF-P-4.** The City shall adopt minimum roadway clearance and turning radii standards to ensure adequate emergency vehicle access within new developments.
- WF-P-5.** The City shall encourage fuel reduction throughout the community and include requirements for fuel breaks around new developments. New developments within high and very high fire hazard areas shall establish a plan to treat existing vegetation in compliance with California's "Guidelines for Defensible Space".
- WF-P-6.** Encourage the formation of an entity for maintaining fuel modifications and enforcing Fire Safe Plan provisions.
- WF-P-7.** Encourage existing non-conforming development to comply with contemporary fire safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazards.
- WF-P-8.** Ensure that redevelopment activities undertaken after a major disaster event, reconstruct building, infrastructure improvement, and other community assets to the most up-to-date local, State, and federal codes.

Implementation: Wildland Fire Safety

- WF-I-1.** Adopt California PRC 4290 and PRC 4291 legislation.
- WF-I-2.** Adopt and complete steps to meet FEMA's Fire-Adapted Communities requirements and become a 'Fire Wise Community.'
- WF-I-3.** Annually review funding opportunities that can provide existing non-conforming development to comply with contemporary fire safe standards, especially for road rehabilitation in accordance with contemporary fire safe standards and for vegetative hazards.

## SEVERE WEATHER, WINTER STORMS, AND EXTREME COLD/HEAT

Severe weather encompasses several phenomena, including: thunderstorms, lightning, hail, wet and dry microbursts, tornadoes, windstorms. Winter storms and extreme

cold/heat also occur in Portola. These are all addressed in the LHMP

#### *Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes policies and mitigation strategies to address severe weather, winter storms, and extreme cold hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the policies and mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials hazards relate to spills, accidents, releases, or unauthorized dumping of hazardous materials, hazardous wastes, oil, toxic chemicals, pesticides, and radioactive materials on land, in water, or in the air. The Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for overall emergency response, pre-emergency planning, and coordination. Plumas County OES is responsible to update and coordinate emergency response agencies through the Plumas County Emergency Operations Plan.

#### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/Plumas County Hazardous Materials Response Plan

The LHMP and the Plumas County Hazardous Materials Response Plan, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes policies and mitigation strategies to address hazardous materials hazards which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

## PEAK LOAD WATER

The City of Portola utilizes the Lake Davis Water Treatment Plant for municipal water supply in the City. As this water is supplied directly from Lake Davis, there is ample available supply for peak load water demands. However, in the event of an emergency peak load water demand, the City of Portola may bypass the available storage units and run untreated water straight through the water system to provide emergency water.

#### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The LHMP, which is incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, includes policies and mitigation strategies to address potential emergency peak load water concerns which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP.

## EMERGENCY EVACUATION ROUTES

In accordance with the City of Portola's adopted "Citywide Emergency Evacuation Plan", the following evacuation routes are provided:

- Residents on the south side of Gulling Street bridge will travel west, utilizing County Road A-15, exiting the City to Highway 89. In the event that County Road A-15 is impassable, traffic will be routed over one northbound lane of the Gulling Street bridge.
- Residents on the north side of the City (north of the Middle Fork of the Feather River) will travel to the nearest north/south collector street and proceed to Highway 70.

Primary roadways within the City for emergency access include, Highway 70, Gulling Street, County Road A-15, Third Avenue, and West Street.

### Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Emergency Evacuation Plan

The LHMP and Emergency Evacuation Plan, which are incorporated into this Safety Element by reference, include policies and mitigation strategies to address potential emergency evacuation routes which are further described in that document. This element includes the goal of implementing the mitigation strategies contained in the LHMP and Emergency Evacuation Plan.