

INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

March 5, 2026



To: City Council

From: City Manager Department

Prepared by: Eric Ceja, Assistant City Manager
Yessica Prieto, Emergency Services Coordinator

Subject: **Adoption of the City of Indian Wells Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Into the Safety Element of the General Plan**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **ADOPTS** a Resolution to Amend the Public Safety Element of the General Plan to incorporate the Indian Wells Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) into the Element; and

FINDS this item qualifies as being Categorically Exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) as this action will not result in a significant environmental impact.

BACKGROUND:

Indian Wells' Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) aims to identify the City's hazards, review, and assess past disaster occurrences, estimate the probability of future events, and set goals to mitigate potential risk to reduce or eliminate long-term risks to people and property from natural and manufactured hazards. The LHMP addresses a range of hazards, including earthquakes, fires, floods, and terrorism.

The City of Indian Wells adopted its FEMA-approved LHMP on February 15, 2024. Adoption of the LHMP ensures the City's continued eligibility for federal and state hazard mitigation grants and cost-sharing programs.

Assembly Bill No. 2140 (AB 2140) encourages local jurisdictions to integrate their LHMPs into the Safety Element of the General Plan. A key benefit of AB 2140 compliance is the potential for the State of California to assume a greater share of eligible disaster recovery costs following a Governor-declared disaster. By incorporating the LHMP into the General Plan, the city may reduce its local cost burden for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts.

The proposed action would adopt a resolution formally incorporating the City's LHMP into the Safety Element of the General Plan, consistent with the provisions of AB 2140.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no Fiscal Impact by adopting the recommended actions. However, adoption may have positive fiscal impact to the City through increased reimbursement for qualified declared emergencies.

CEQA:

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State and local CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. The City acting as Lead Agency, has determined approval of this item qualifies as being Categorically Exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) as this action will not result in a significant environmental impact.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
2. Resolution