The San Francisco Planning Department is updating the Safety and Resilience Element to strengthen its support of racial and social equity, environmental justice, and climate resilience.

The Safety and Resilience Element 2021 Update will provide a comprehensive set of policies for minimizing San Francisco’s contribution to the climate crisis and ensuring local resilience to multiple hazards. It will help protect the assets and people of San Francisco, especially areas and communities that face higher vulnerability to disasters. As the climate crisis worsens and disasters strike, disproportionate burdens are suffered by increasing numbers of vulnerable residents.

The Safety and Resilience Element was last updated in 2012 to strengthen policies for disaster preparedness and long-term resilience, particularly seismic issues. Over the past eight years, there have been advancements in the field across natural, climate-induced, and human-made hazards and approaches to community safety. The experience of disaster is becoming more frequent and intense. Communities of color and other disadvantaged neighborhoods are often hurt first and worst in any disaster, and struggle more to recover. The major events of the past few years—pandemic, social unrest, and wildfire season—have provided additional spotlight to current gaps in the Safety and Resilience Element.

This update will comply with California State Senate Bill 379 (Jackson, 2016) ensuring consistency between the Safety and Resilience Element and the City’s local hazard mitigation plan (2020 Hazards and Climate Resilience Plan). It will also comply with Senate Bill 1000 (Leyva, 2016) directives around environmental justice, Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission Resolutions to incorporate racial and social equity into the General Plan, and be closely coordinated with the City’s Climate Action Plan updates.
Vulnerability to Climate Change

This map depicts climate change vulnerability in San Francisco. It combines climate hazard and community vulnerability data to identify neighborhoods most at risk to the climate crisis.

TOTAL NUMBER OF RISK INDICATORS

- >14 - 23
- >10 - 14
- > 6 - 10
- 0 - 6
- Large Parks

A total of 27 points is the maximum risk score a neighborhood can receive.
Cartographer: Clare Kucera (Summer 2020)

Hazards

The natural hazards that impact San Francisco are grouped by geological, weather-related, biological & toxic, and fire-related to inform the implementation strategies and actions performed by the City.

For more info on this project, contact:
Danielle Ngo
San Francisco Planning Department
danielle.ngo@sfgov.org

Or visit online and sign up for updates:
 sfplanning.org/project/safety-and-resilience-element

#sfgeneralplan