



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY COMPLETES DISASTER PLAN FOR REGION *Public Input Sought on Plan*

Earthquakes. Landslides. Fires. These are some of the disasters that can strike the region. Now, communities and cities in the county have an action plan that identifies the risks posed by natural and man-made disasters and identifies ways to minimize their damage.

The County of San Diego has completed a hazard mitigation plan for each of the cities and communities in the region and is working to enact portions of the plan. The plan has been developed during the past two years by the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and representatives from the region's 18 cities. It has been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). San Diego County is one of the first counties in the state to implement such a plan on a regional basis.

The plan uses risk assessments and vulnerability analyses to propose mitigation measures for each of the 18 incorporated cities and the unincorporated County. Input was provided from public outreach and working group meetings, including private-sector agencies, organizations, businesses, and members of public, non-profits, and other interested parties.

"We looked at the hazards most likely to occur in the region and what our goals and objectives should be to lessen damages from these disasters," said OES Director Ron Lane.

The County is now in the process of implementing priority mitigation measures in the plan. These measures focus on ways to help strengthen preparedness for disasters, such as earthquakes, fires and floods, and terrorist attacks. Mitigation measures include ensuring cities have plans to remove dead trees and brush and purchasing emergency generators for critical facilities.

The plan can be downloaded from the OES Website: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/em/resources/mitigation/>. Comments and feedback should be provided to OES by July 21, 2006. Email: OES@sdcounty.ca.gov Phone: (858) 565-3490

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