



February 27, 2019

To: City Managers and County Administrators  
City and County Planning Departments  
City and County Emergency Services Departments

Subject: Local Hazard Mitigation Plans

The recent catastrophic fires in California demonstrate the tragic consequences that can result from disaster events. Disasters can and have caused significant loss of life, damaged buildings and infrastructure, and disrupted the economic, social, and environmental well-being of our communities. The effects of climate change will only increase the severity and frequency of these events.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is reaching out to our city and county partners as a reminder of the importance of Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs). Hazard mitigation is an integral part of emergency readiness, and plays a significant role in buying down the risk and impact of disasters. LHMPs demonstrate your ongoing commitment to reduce disaster impacts and preserve the safety and well-being of your residents and your communities.

As you may know, federal mitigation dollars are contingent upon the completion, adoption, and maintenance of an LHMP at least every five (5) years. In other words, to receive mitigation funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), local jurisdictions must have a plan in place before a disaster strikes.

We appreciate the efforts of those jurisdictions that already have an approved and adopted LHMP. For those seeking to develop or update their LHMP, Cal OES has a number of tools available to you including training, guidelines, and technical assistance. Please visit our [Hazard Mitigation Planning website](#) for more information.



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Cal OES also has open funding opportunities to assist in the development of your plans. Interested agencies are invited to submit a Notice of Interest (NOI) for eligible Hazard Mitigation projects and planning activities. **The deadline to submit a NOI is March 15, 2019.** For more information on this and other Hazard Mitigation Assistance, please refer to our [404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#).

Thank you in advance for your commitment to a safe and resilient California. We stand ready to assist. Questions regarding LHMPs can be directed to the [Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Planning Division](#). Questions related to mitigation funding can be sent to our [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#) email.

Sincerely,



MARK S. GHILARDUCCI  
Director



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