



MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR:

With the nation's largest and most diverse population of nearly forty million people, and the world's fifth largest economy, California must remain vigilant in securing the State from all threats and hazards. The 2021-2024 Homeland Security Strategy provides an overarching framework to guide California and its political subdivisions to build and sustain capabilities and enhance the resiliency and safety of its communities and people.

This Strategy establishes statewide priorities and identifies specific, measurable, and actionable performance metrics to meaningfully advance the State's core capabilities with respect to its homeland security vision. The Strategy was developed with direct stakeholder input from over 300 subject matter experts representing State, local, and federal government, and the non-governmental and private sector, in an approach that emphasizes California's commitment to information sharing, collaboration, and cooperation in its efforts to protect its people and infrastructure.

The objectives contained within the Strategy's ten overarching goals will provide a guide for prioritizing and developing statewide homeland security capabilities over the next four years. In striving to implement the vision and goals of the Homeland Security Strategy, California will enhance public safety and preparedness through strong leadership and meaningful partnerships.

Sincerely,

MARK S. GHILARDUCCI
Director
Governor's Homeland Security Advisor

California Homeland Security Strategy



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the largest and most diverse state in the nation, with an extensive critical infrastructure portfolio, and the fifth largest economy in the world, the State of California faces a myriad of threats and hazards including acts of terrorism, technological hazards, and natural disasters. California remains a potentially attractive target to foreign adversaries, transnational criminal organizations, and violent domestic and international extremists.

The mission to secure and prepare California, its people, and critical infrastructure from all threats and hazards is an ongoing effort that requires constant focus and attention. This 2021-2024 California Homeland Security Strategy (herein referred to as Strategy) is the latest iteration of the State's commitment to this vital mission.

The purpose of the Strategy is (1) to set forth the State's homeland security priorities, (2) to establish performance metrics to measure implementation of the Strategy, and (3) to align and integrate these priorities with statewide funding and evaluation mechanisms. This Strategy outlines measurable actions to enhance capabilities that will guide the State's efforts to achieve the following goals:

1. Enhance Information Collection, Analysis, and Sharing, in Support of Public Safety Operations Across California
2. Protect Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources from All Threats and Hazards
3. Strengthen Security and Preparedness Across Cyberspace
4. Strengthen Communications Capabilities Through Planning, Governance, Technology, and Equipment
5. Enhance Community Preparedness
6. Enhance Multi-Jurisdictional / Inter-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Incident Catastrophic Planning, Response, and Recovery Capabilities
7. Improve Medical and Health Capabilities
8. Enhance Incident Recovery Capabilities
9. Strengthen Food and Agriculture Preparedness
10. Enhance Homeland Security Exercise, Evaluation, and Training Programs

The Strategy was developed by hundreds of key subject matter experts in the fields of emergency management and homeland security across the State through a three-phased development approach. In phase one, stakeholders provided data on statewide capabilities across 24 critical core capability areas (as outlined in the National Preparedness Goal) and identified hundreds of capability gaps. In phase two, stakeholders helped to synthesize the data, develop gap analysis reports, and propose mitigation strategies for closing those gaps. Finally, in phase three, stakeholders met for

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a series of working groups to validate the identified capability gaps and the proposed mitigation strategies and offer feedback on Strategy objectives aimed at closing the capability gaps.

The goals and objectives of this Strategy focus on enhancing capabilities to reduce and mitigate risk by taking a capabilities-based approach in prioritizing homeland security efforts. The Strategy builds on federal, state, and local homeland security strategies, plans, and frameworks, and seeks to ensure an integrated approach to building capabilities across the State.

Implementation and evaluation of the Strategy will occur through a series of working groups assigned to each goal and associated objectives. These working groups will monitor and track progress on the steps taken within the State to achieve the goals and objectives, and report biannually on the status of the Strategy's implementation.

The Strategy is composed of the following five sections:

Section I: Purpose and Principles

Section One identifies the purpose, vision, core values, and guiding principles of the Strategy. It also describes the relationship of the Strategy to other plans and frameworks within the State, and at the federal level.

Section II: Focus and Mission

Section Two establishes the focus and integration of the Strategy with the mission areas and the core capabilities outlined in the National Preparedness Goal (NPG). This section also provides a risk overview and details the threats and hazards faced by the State.

Section III: California Homeland Security Environment

Section Three describes the homeland security environment of the State, the organizational structure of the homeland security enterprise, as well as the mutual resources available for incident planning, response, and recovery across California.

Section IV: Goals and Objectives

Section Four outlines the goals and objectives of the Strategy. Strategy goals outline California's homeland security priorities while objectives establish performance metrics to facilitate evaluation and implementation of the identified goals. Objectives are categorized under the core capabilities to ensure integration with Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding guidance, and FEMA's Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/ State Preparedness Report (SPR) framework.

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Section V: Strategy Implementation and Evaluation

Section Five outlines the plan for Strategy implementation and evaluation. The section also covers how the Strategy aligns with existing funding and risk assessment mechanisms.