# **MONO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN**

SAFETY ELEMENT

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## I. INTRODUCTION

State Planning law (Government Code § 65302 (g)) requires the Safety Element of a General Plan provide "for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, slope instability leading to mud slides and landslides, liquefaction, and other seismic and geologic hazards known to the legislative body, flooding, and wildland and urban fires." In addition, the General Plan Guidelines state that the aim of the Safety Element is to "reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, and economic and social dislocation resulting from fires, floods, earthquakes, landslides and other hazards."

This Element outlines goals, policies and implementation measures designed to reduce the risk from locally significant natural hazards to an acceptable level. Successful implementation of this Element should reduce the loss of life, injuries, major damage to property, and the economic and social dislocation which may result from public safety hazards. Maps of known natural hazard areas are included in the **Master Environmental Assessment (MEA)**, and the General Plan map at <a href="https://monomammoth.maps.arcgis.com/home/">https://monomammoth.maps.arcgis.com/home/</a>, and the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) at <a href="https://www.monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning\_division/page/9617/mono\_county\_mjhmp\_final\_052919\_w-appdx.pdf">https://www.monocounty\_mjhmp\_final\_052919\_w-appdx.pdf</a>.

#### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ELEMENTS AND PLANS

Issues and policies presented in this Element are closely linked to the Land Use, Conservation and Open Space, <u>Housing</u>, and Circulation elements of the Mono County General Plan.

This Element outlines goals, policies and action items designed to reduce the risk from locally significant hazards to an acceptable level. A number of other planning documents also address hazards in the county. A complete list of those documents is included in the Safety section of the Mono County Master Environmental Assessment.

# MONO COUNTY MASTER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (MEA)

The MEA contains background information on hazards in the county including maps of known hazard areas are included in the MEA and is complemented by additional information and maps in the 2015 Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan/Regional Transportation Plan Update at

(https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan-eir).

## **CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

Section 65302 of the California Government Code requires every general plan safety element to include a vulnerability assessment identifying the risks that climate change poses and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts. The Mono County Vulnerability Assessment was completed in 2018 and includes the technical basis for informing policies that address changing vulnerabilities as a result of climate change included in this element. A copy of the assessment is available by request from the Community Development Department.

## MONO COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (LMJHMP)

The Mono County Multi-Jurisdictional Local—Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJLHMP) is a multi-jurisdictional hazard plan that addresses the unincorporated areas of Mono County as well as the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the county's only incorporated area. It also considers areas outside the county that either may impact areas within the county; e.g., Rock Creek Lake in Inyo County, or that are accessed from the county; e.g., Reds Meadow in Madera County. The LMJHMP is a

planning document intended to identify hazards and provide mitigation so impacts to people and property from identified hazards can be minimized. The MJHMP is incorporated by reference and cross-referenced when applicable.

## **FIRE PLANS**

The Mono County California Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) outlines fire hazards in Mono County, analyzes existing local preparedness and firefighting capabilities, and contains suggested solutions to address identified hazards. In addition, local fire protection districts, in some cases, have <u>local community wildfire protection plans (CWPP) or other</u> fire protection planning documents. The CWPP and local fire district plans are integrated into the Mono County MJHMP.

# **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (EOP)**

The Mono County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) addresses specific emergency procedures for a variety of events, including natural hazard events, terrorism, airplane crashes, bioterrorism, etc. The EOP is available by request from the Mono County Sheriff's office, which is also the Mono County Office of Emergency Services. The Town of Mammoth Lakes also has an Emergency Operations Plan.

#### MONO COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

The Mono County Land Development Regulations in the Land Use Element contain regulations that specifically address flood and fire hazards; i.e., Chapter 21, Floodplain Regulations, and Chapter 22, Fire Safe Regulations.

#### AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLANS

The Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for the County airports address safety issues at Bryant Field in Bridgeport and at Lee Vining Airport. Mammoth Yosemite Airport, which is owned and operated by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, also has an Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. Those plans focus primarily on safety issues related to land use in the area surrounding the airports.

## FEDERAL AGENCY DOCUMENTS

The majority of the land in Mono County is public land. The various state and federal agencies responsible for the management of those lands have land management plans and specific hazard management plans such as fire safety plans that address hazard prevention on public lands. In addition, federal agencies responsible for certain hazards, such as the US Geological Survey, have documents that focus on specific hazards in the county such as volcanic hazards.

# II. ISSUES/OPPORTUNITIES/CONSTRAINTS

Significant potential hazards to public health and safety exist in Mono County. The Safety Element contains a discussion, goals and policies for hazards that pose the greatest risk including: These hazards include: avalanches; floods; fires; geologic hazards such as landslides and, mudflows; and seismic hazards; and volcanic eruptions. The following section briefly discusses the constraints to development posed by each of these high-risk hazards. In addition, the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan contains additional measures to address these and other hazards that may affect the county's population and assets. Additional hazards addressed by the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan include dam failure, diseases and pests, drought, earthquake, extreme heat, severe wind, hazardous materials, severe winter weather and snow, wildlife collisions, and climate change--related hazardous conditions.

The following section briefly discusses the constraints to development posed by each of these hazards.

#### SEISMIC HAZARDS

## **Earthquakes**

Mono County covers an area that is relatively young by geologic standards. It is located at a stress point where the earth's crustal plates are exerting opposite pressures against each other. This combination creates both "tectonic" earthquakes (e.g., land mass movement) and volcanic activity that can trigger earth shaking (e.g., magma chamber movement and lava dyke formations).

## **Fault Movement**

Earthquakes are usually caused by sudden movement along geologic faults. The California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology (DMG), has evaluated potentially and recently active faults throughout Mono County including most of the community areas. Based upon these DMG studies, fault hazard zones (Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones) have been designated for the county (see the MEA or General Plan Map or MJHMP).

## **Ground Shaking**

The primary seismic hazard in the county is strong to severe ground shaking generated by movement along active faults. The entire county, except for a small portion of the Sierra crest, is in an area where intense ground shaking is possible. This area has been designated as a Seismic Zone D, the zone of greatest hazard defined in the California Building Code. Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment (PSHA) maps prepared by the California Geological Survey (CGS) and the USGS show that the areas with the greatest earthquake shaking hazard in Mono County include the Long Valley Caldera, the western portion of the Mono Basin extending north along the Eastern Sierra escarpment, the western edge of the White Mountains, the southeast corner of the county around Oasis, and the northern tip of the county around Topaz.

The Long Valley-Mammoth Lakes region has experienced numerous earthquakes caused by the movement of magma below the earth's surface. The oval-shaped Long Valley Caldera spans an area approximately 10 by 20 miles, and is among the largest volcanoes in the continental United States. Scientists suspect that the earthquakes are caused by shifts of buried stone slabs that are made unstable as magma moves within the volcano.

## **Ground Failure**

Ground failure induced by ground shaking includes liquefaction, lateral spreading, lurching, and differential settlement, all of which usually occur in soft, fine-grained, water-saturated sediments, typically found in valleys. Areas at high risk are mapped in the MJHMP-MEA. During the 1980 Mammoth Lakes earthquake sequence, ground failure was prevalent at Little Antelope Valley, along margins of the Owens River in upper Long Valley, along the northwest margins of Lake Crowley, and along Hot Creek Meadow.

All of Mono County is situated within Seismic Zone D, and consequently new construction in the county must comply with stringent engineering and construction requirements. Existing buildings that may be subject to seismic hazards must comply with the requirements of the unreinforced masonry building law (Government Code § 8875).

#### OTHER GEOLOGIC HAZARDS

## Rockfall, Mudflow and Landslide Hazards

Rockfalls and landslides are particularly common along the very steep slopes of the eastern scarp of the Sierra Nevada, where talus slopes provide evidence of abundant past rockfalls. During the winter and spring months, rockfalls can be lubricated with snow and ice and can become extremely fast moving and destructive. Landslides in areas of hilly and mountainous terrain can be triggered by ground shaking, heavy rains or human activities such as road cuts, grading, construction removal of vegetation, and changes in drainage.

The state Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology has yet to prepare maps of earthquake-induced landslide hazards for Mono County as required by the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act. However, a landslide susceptibility map is included in the MJHMP based on California Geological Society mapping. Maps of rockfall hazard areas are based upon slope conditions and local and historical knowledge. Community areas in the county affected by rockfall hazards include Lundy Canyon and the June Lake Loop (primarily the Down Canyon area). The remaining rockfall risk areas are outside community areas.

Mud and debris flows involve very rapid downslope movement of saturated soil, sub-soil, and weathered bedrock. Large mud and debris flows, such as the one that occurred in 1989 in the Tri-Valley area, can be destructive, particularly at the mouths of canyons. Previous evidence of extensive mud and debris flows are evident in the large alluvial fans in the Tri-Valley area.

# Subsidence

Subsidence in Mono County has been caused primarily by the tectonic movement of the earth and the movement of magma beneath the Long Valley Caldera. During the May 1980 sequence of earthquakes near Mammoth Lakes, the ground surface dropped about four inches at several locations near the Hilton Creek fault, and up to 12 inches of vertical offset occurred along the Mammoth Yosemite Airport fault zone. Magma movement in the Long Valley Caldera has caused bulging of the resurgent dome in the Casa Diablo area by about two and a half feet since 1980.

No subsidence has been observed in the county due to fluid withdrawals, or hydrocompaction of water impoundment. All major groundwater basins (see the **MEA**), however, have been identified by the Division of Mines and Geology as areas where subsidence could occur as a result of excessive groundwater pumping. None of these basins are identified as medium or high priority under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) except, possibly, the Owens Valley basin in the Tri-Valley, which has been reprioritized from a medium to low basin.

## Volcanic Hazards

Evidence of volcanic activity in Mono County extends from Black Point north of Mono Lake to the deposits of Bishop Tuff in southern Mono County. The source of volcanic risk in Mono County is the Inyo-Mono crater chain and the Long Valley Caldera. Vents in the Inyo-Mono crater chain have erupted about every 500 years over the last 2,000 to 3,000 years, with the most recent eruption occurring approximately 500 years ago. Eruptions in the Long Valley Caldera have occurred approximately every 2,000 years over the last 7,000 years. The volcanic hazards mapped in the **MEA-MJHMP** estimate the extent of explosive blasts, hot flowing material, and ash flow.

## **FLOODING**

#### Flood Hazards

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared Flood Insurance Rate Maps illustrating 100-year flood hazard areas for several streams. Floods in these areas have a 1% probability of occurring in any given year. Such flooding could result in the loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, and extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief. Flood losses may be increased by the cumulative effect of obstructions in flood hazard areas that increase flood heights and velocities, and when inadequately anchored, can damage downstream uses.

Flooding is a potential risk to private properties situated in the vicinity of several waterways within the county. The community areas most likely to be impacted by a 100-year flood include properties along the East and West Walker River, Reversed Creek, and Spring Canyon Creek including portions of the Antelope Valley, Bridgeport Valley, the June Lake Loop, and the Tri-Valley area (see **General Plan maps**).

Some FEMA maps lack information regarding the base flood elevation, and are therefore of limited use for local development review and site-specific planning purposes. Some maps lack information concerning local alluvial fan and mudflow hazards. There is a significant need to update the flood hazard maps where these deficiencies exist. The California Department of Water Resources publishes flood-awareness area maps that, while non-regulatory, can provide additional flooding potential information, particularly for areas that remain unmapped by FEMA.

## Dam Failure

The Mono County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LMJHMP) indicates that 22 18 dams are located in Mono County. The Lower and Upper Twin Lakes, Lundy Lake, Long Valley/Crowley Lake, Rush Creek meadows, and Saddlebag dams are identified as presenting some threat to downstream developed areas\_infrastructure if dam failure were to occur.

The **MEA MJHMP** illustrates the areas subject to flood hazards and dam failure inundation, as well as the area that would be inundated if the dam at Crowley Lake were raised an additional 20 feet to provide an increased storage area.

#### Seiches

Seiches are earthquake-generated waves within enclosed or restricted bodies of water such as lakes and reservoirs. Similar to the sloshing of water in a bowl or a bucket when it is shaken or jarred, seiches can overtop dams and pose a hazard to people and property within their reach. There is no available evidence that seiches have occurred in Mono County lakes and reservoirs.

## **FIRE**

## Wildland Fires

The combination of highly flammable fuel, long dry summers and steep slopes creates a significant natural hazard of wildland fire potential in most of Mono County. Wildland fires can result in death, injury, economic loss, and significant public investment in firefighting efforts. Woodlands and other natural vegetation can be destroyed resulting in a loss of timber, wildlife habitat, scenic quality and recreational resources. Soil erosion, sedimentation of fisheries and reservoirs, and downstream flooding can also result.

Fire hazard severity has been mapped by Cal Fire for most of the privately owned land in Mono County.- Portions of the Antelope Valley, Sonora Pass (Sonora Junction), Swauger Creek, Lundy Canyon (Mono Basin), June Lake, Upper Owens, Mammoth Vicinity, and Long Valley Planning Areas are in the High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Portions of June Lake and Sonora Junction are in Very High Fire Severity Zones. Most of the Bridgeport Valley, Mono Basin and Tri-Valley Planning Areas are mapped Moderate Hazard Severity Zones. —All areas except the Bridgeport Valley and Antelope Valley have been rated as having a very high fire hazard. The Bridgeport Valley has a moderate fire hazard rating, and the Antelope Valley has not been rated. With the exception of the Antelope Valley, all privately owned lands in Mono County are within the State Responsibility Area (SRA).

The Mono County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and the Cal Fire San Bernardino/Inyo/Mono Unit Fire Plan are incorporated by reference into this Safety Element. The CWPP provides community-level data concerning fire hazards in the county, including community fuel reduction treatment areas and fuel breaks and other wildfire mitigation recommendations, particularly in Wildland-Urban Interface areas.

Much of the privately owned land in the county is located outside of fire protection districts, and therefore lacks formal emergency fire protection service. It is difficult for existing fire districts to receive additional property tax revenues for annexation of these unserved areas, or for new fire districts to be formed. Consequently, future development in these areas without adequate fire protection will be limited.

The State of California recently updated has adopted wildland protection regulations for future development in the SRA; Mono County has adopted and periodically updates a local ordinance that has the same practical effect as the Cal Fire regulations (Mono County Land Use Element Ch. 22, Fire Safe Regulations).

These fire safe regulations address requirements for adequate clearance of flammable vegetation around individual structures and clusters of structures and construction methods to prevent the spread of fire from the wildland to structures, and from structures to wildlands. Minimum water capacities for fire protection purposes are established in the regulations to ensure the availability of water for fire suppression purposes. Adequate road widths and load capacities are required to ensure ready movement of fire engines, and other heavy firefighting equipment to developed areas of the county; the Mono County Department of Public Works also has established similar road improvement standards for new development.

### Structural Fires

The 11 fire protection districts in the county provide fire-prevention services through such activities as education and development review. The districts also provide varying levels of fire suppression and emergency medical response services to community areas. The MJHMP and 2015 General Plan/Regional Transportation Plan Environmental Impact Report Community Services Section of the MEA provides a summary description of fire district service levels and

capabilities, including the general capabilities and availability of local community water service in the county.

#### **AVALANCHE**

## **Avalanche Hazards**

Although avalanches in Mono County occur primarily on national forests in the Sierra Nevada backcountry, some avalanche hazards present a significant risk to community areas. Both property damage and loss of life have resulted from avalanches in Mono County. Community areas influenced by avalanche hazards include <a href="Swauger Creek">Swauger Creek</a>, Twin Lakes (Bridgeport area), Virginia Lakes, Lundy Lake, Bridgeport Valley, Mono Basin, Mono Basin, June Lake, Long Valley/McGee Creek, Mammoth Vicinity and Wheeler Crest. In addition, roadway sections threatened by potential avalanches include portions of Lower Rock Creek Road; US 395 at Long Valley, Wilson Butte, and just north of Lee Vining; S.R. 158 entering the June Lake Loop; and several County roads entering eastern-slope community areas.

## **Avalanche Studies and Maps**

In accordance with State law, avalanche hazard maps have been developed to illustrate areas of known avalanche occurrences. These maps were prepared by five Board-appointed avalanche advisory committees consisting of local residents and landowners. All pertinent information concerning the work of the five appointed committees and the avalanche policy formulation process – including committee recommendations and position papers – is posted as part of the General Plan maps and on file in the county Planning Division. Other County avalanche hazard studies prepared by avalanche consultants and that project potential avalanche run-out areas, and an archive of photographs documenting evidence of avalanche damage and occurrences are also on file in the Planning Division.

# **Avalanche Monitoring and Evacuation**

A backcountry avalanche monitoring program is operated by the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center. This monitoring program issues avalanche hazard warnings during periods of high avalanche danger in the backcountry. The county Sheriff's Department keeps in contact with avalanche experts and should a hazardous situation develop, advises those within the hazard-prone area of the critical nature of the hazard.

#### **EVACUATION ROUTES**

The Mono County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan indicates that major routes (State and County), immediate access routes to community areas, and internal community street systems could be subject to closure by avalanches, landslides, snow and fog whiteouts, and flooding. In addition, imminent hazards such as high avalanche hazard conditions could prohibit travel even along open access routes. Several community areas have only a single access route, including potions of June Lake, McGee Creek, Crowley Lake, and Chalfant, and the entire community of Swall Meadows. Area Plan policies The developed areas of Wheeler Crest, Lundy Lake, Virginia Lakes, and Twin Lakes all have only one access. Several community area plans call for development of additional emergency access routes into these community areas.

The Mono County <u>Multi-Jurisdictional Local</u> Hazard Mitigation Plan, sets general evacuation procedures and available routes during all seasons for various emergency situations.

#### III. POLICIES

GOAL 1. Avoid the exposure of people and improvements to unreasonable risks of damage or injury from earthquakes and other geologic hazards.

### Objective 1.A.

Direct development to occur in a manner that reduces the risks of damage and injury from seismic and other geologic hazards to acceptable levels.

**Policy 1.A.1.** In order to mitigate risk from seismic hazards such as surface fault-rupture, and other geologic hazards, regulate development near active faults, seismic hazard zones and other geologic hazards consistent with the provisions of the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone Act and the Seismic Hazard Mapping Act.

**Action 1.A.1.a.** Applicable development proposals in Alquist-Priolo fault hazard zones, seismic hazard zones, or other known geologic hazard areas, shall provide a geologic or geotechnical report prior to project approval. The report shall:

- a. be funded by the applicant;
- b. be prepared by a registered geologist or certified engineering geologist;
- c. if a fault hazard, locate existing faults, evaluate their historic activity and determine the level of risk they present to the proposed development;
- d. if another geologic hazard, including a seismic hazard other than a fault hazard, locate site-specific geologic/seismic hazards affecting the project, identify areas containing geologic/seismic hazards that could adversely affect the site in the event of an earthquake or other geologic episode, and determine the level of risk they present to the proposed development;
- e. recommend measures to reduce risk to acceptable levels; and
- f. be prepared in sufficient detail to meet the criteria and policies of the State Mining and Geology Board, and to allow for review by the County's consulting geologist (see also Action 1.3).

Mitigation measures shall be included in the project plans and specifications and shall be made a condition of approval for the project.

**Action 1.A.1.b.** Require the scope of investigation for geologic and geotechnical reports to be commensurate with the complexity and exposure to risk of the proposed project. As an example, reports for hospitals, multi-story buildings, and other critical, sensitive, or high-intensity structures should be prepared in greater detail than those for lower-density wood-frame structures.

**Action 1.A.1.c.** Retain a qualified consulting geologist to review geologic/geotechnical studies prepared in accordance with Action 1.A.1.a. The consulting geologist shall evaluate the adequacy of the report, interpret or set standards where they are unclear, and advise the County of the report's acceptability. Project proponents shall be required to fund the costs associated with the County's consulting geologist's review of project geologic hazard studies. The County's consulting geologist shall be retained in conformance with the Mono County Environmental Handbook.

- **Action 1.A.1.d.** During the initial project review process, encourage applicants to design or redesign their projects as necessary to avoid unreasonable risks from surface fault rupture and other geologic/seismic hazards. Work with the State Geologist to exempt from special geologic study requirements those projects that will clearly not be impacted by fault rupture or other geologic/seismic hazards.
- **Action 1.A.1.e.** Deny applications for planning permits where geologic studies provide substantial evidence that the proposed project will be exposed to unreasonable risks from surface faulting, fault creep or other seismic hazards. Projects that include measures to reduce risks to acceptable levels may be approved. Consistent with Seismic Hazard Mapping Regulations, "acceptable level" means a reasonable assurance of public safety, although structural integrity and continued functionality are not ensured.
- **Action 1.A.1.f.** Work with the State Geologist to address development proposals in areas where recent geologic/seismic episodes have occurred, but where special study zones or seismic zones have yet to be delineated.
- **Action 1.A.1.g.** Require that all applicants for County permits in delineated special study zones or geologic/seismic hazard zones be notified of the area's potential for surface displacement or other seismic/geologic hazards, and that they be referred to this Element, support documents, seismic hazard-zone maps (when available) and the Alquist-Priolo maps on file in the county Planning Division for further information.
- **Policy 1.A.2.** Identify and mitigate seismic/geologic hazards to existing structures, and ensure that new construction is designed to withstand seismic/geologic events.
  - **Action 1.A.2.a.** Consider conducting a comprehensive survey of the structural condition of all buildings, and identify potentially hazardous buildings in accordance with the Unreinforced Masonry Building Law (Government Code Section 8875). Input the results into the GIS system and update as needed.
  - **Action 1.A.2.b.** Utilizing the structural survey detailed in Action 1.A.2.a., consider developing a mitigation program for potentially unsafe structures in accordance with the Unreinforced Masonry Building Law.
  - **Action 1.A.2.c.** Continue to require new construction to comply with the engineering and design requirements of Seismic Design Category D.
  - **Action 1.A.2.d.** The County may require geotechnical studies as necessary to comply with the California Building Code.
- **Policy 1.A.3.** Identify areas of seismic and geologic hazards.
  - **Action 1.A.3.a.** Utilize historical data and geotechnical studies to designate areas of geologic hazards.
  - **Action 1.A.3.b.** Work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State Department of Water Resources, and other appropriate agencies to designate alluvial fans and mudflow areas on Flood Insurance Rate Maps where appropriate.
  - **Action 1.A.3.c.** Coordinate with the US Geologic Survey and other research entities in volcanic hazard research and monitoring activities for the Long Valley Caldera and the Inyo-Mono Crater chain.

- **Action 1.A.3.d.** Request the Division of Mines and Geology to establish Mono County as a priority area for mapping areas of ground shaking, liquefaction, and earthquake-induced landslides in accordance with Seismic Hazard Mapping Regulations.
- **Policy 1.A.4.** Limit the intensity of development in seismic and other geologic hazard areas.
  - **Action 1.A.4.a.** Designate known hazardous areas for low-intensity uses in the Land Use Element; assign low-intensity land use designations for such areas.
  - **Action 1.A.4.b.** Utilizing the established land ownership adjustment process, facilitate land trades or purchases that result in placing properties subject to major geologic hazards into federal ownership or into the ownership of land conservation organizations.
  - **Action 1.A.4.c.** Through the permit process, including site plan review, direct development to avoid locating in hazardous areas.
- **Policy 1.A.5.** Regulate land uses that may increase the potential for natural hazards, such as activities that disturb vegetative cover on steep slopes, or which could divert hazard flows toward down-gradient development.
  - **Action 1.A.5.a.** Prior to site development, require geotechnical evaluation of the potential for landslides and mudslides in applicable areas.

# GOAL 2. Avoid exposure of people and improvements to unreasonable risks of damage or injury from flood hazards.

#### Objective 2.A.

Plan for and regulate development in flood hazard areas in a manner that protects people and property from unreasonable risks of damage due to flooding.

- **Policy 2.A.1.** Seek to reduce the number of structures, and Rregulate the placement of new structures and major renovation of existing structures, in the 100-year flood plain.
  - Action 2.A.1.a. Work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State Department of Water Resources, and other appropriate agencies to update flood hazard studies and FEMA NFIP maps for developing areas of the county.
  - **Action 2.A.1.b.** Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by enforcing and updating as necessary the provisions of the Mono County Flood Plain Regulations (Chapter 21 of the Land Development Regulations)
  - **Action 2.A.1.c.** In accordance with the stream setback requirements of the Mono County General Plan, require new development to set back adequately from surface waters for flood and habitat protection purposes. Any deviations from the stream setback requirements within the 100-year floodplain should be reviewed by the county Floodplain Administrator prior to permit issuance.
  - **Action 2.A.1.d.** Future development projects with the potential to cause substantial flooding, erosion, or siltation shall provide an analysis of the potential impacts prior to project approval. The analysis shall:
    - a. be funded by the applicant;

- b. be prepared by a registered geologist or civil engineer;
- c. identify the nature of the hazard, and assess the impacts of the development on downstream development and resources; and
- d. recommend alternatives and/or mitigation measures to mitigate potential impacts to downstream resources to a level of non-significance, unless a statement of overriding considerations is made through the EIR process.

Mitigation measures shall be included in the project plans and specifications and shall be made a condition of approval for the project.

- **Action 2.A.1.e.** Limit the intensity of development within the 100-year floodplain in the Land Use Element.
- **Action 2.A.1.f.** Continue to implement Mono County Code Chapter 13.08, Land Clearing, Earthwork and Drainage Facilities, and update as necessary.
- **Action 2.A.1.g.** Continue to address flood management issues during the planning and implementation of stream restoration efforts.
- **Action 2.A.1.h.** Document past flood events and incorporate local data into the County GIS.
- **Action 2.A.1.i.** Update the County GIS as new FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and DWR flood-awareness area maps are made available.
- **Action 2.A.1.j.** Seek priority funding from FEMA and the SWRCB to update the flood hazard maps of community areas where needed, including providing information regarding base-flood elevations, alluvial fans and mudflow hazards.
- **Action 2.A.1.j.** Seek priority funding from FEMA and the SWRCB to establish a program to fund homeowners to lift existing residential structures out of the 100-year floodplain and fund buyouts for repetitive loss structures.
- **Action 2.A.1.k.** Require flood proofing of existing public structures and critical facilities that are in the 100-year flood plain and 500-year floodplain.
- **Action 2.A.1.1.** Regularly update and revise flood risk data and flood maps in coordination with FEMA to reflect the most current scientific data.
- **Action 2.A.1.m.** Develop plans for phased use and adaptation of infrastructure that can be used as floodwater levels rise over time due to climate change.
- GOAL 3. Avoid exposure of people and improvements to unreasonable risks of damage or injury from fire hazards.

#### Objective 3.A.

Plan for and regulate development in a manner that protects people and property by minimizing risks from wildland and structural fire hazards.

**Policy 3.A.1.** Continue to plan for wildfire protection in Mono County.

- **Action 3.A.1.a.** The Mono County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Wheeler Crest CWPP, Mammoth Lakes CWPP, and any other CWPPs within Mono County, and the Cal Fire San Bernardino/Inyo/Mono Unit Fire Plan are incorporated by reference into this Safety Element.
- **Action 3.A.1.b.** Ensure that the CWPP and Unit Fire Plan are updated as needed to contain up-to-date evaluations of fire hazards, assessments of assets at risk, prioritization of hazard mitigation actions, and implementation and monitoring elements.
- Action 3.A.1.c. Facilitate implementation of development and education measures identified in the Mono County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to protect human life and property, critical infrastructure, and natural resources from wildfire.
- **Action 3.A.1.de.** Utilize fire hazard maps to identify and disclose wildland urban interface hazards. Fire hazard maps in the MJHMP and CWPP are incorporated by reference in the Element.
- **Action 3.A.1.e.** Work with Cal Fire to update fire hazard mapping to reflect changing fuels and climate conditions. Upon release of updated hazard severity zones, incorporate revised mapping into the Safety Element and update community fire risk assessments contained in the CWPP.
- **Action 3.A.1.f.** Facilitate distribution of information from the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District to the public on the status of air quality as requested, provide alerts on poor air quality days, and include educational materials on the health effects of air pollution.
- **Action 3.A.1.g.** Encourage local Fire Safe Councils to prepare community and parcelspecific CWPPs and, to the extent feasible, support recommended projects that emerge from these plans, such as activities that educate community members about fire risk and how to prepare and protect their own properties against fire risk.
- **Policy 3.A.2.** Require adequate structural fire protection for new development projects.
  - **Action 3.A.2.a.** Development projects including subdivisions shall demonstrate the availability of adequate structural fire protection consistent with SB 1241 California Government Code §66474.02-and the California Building Code, including safe access for emergency vehicles, safe egress for residents, and adequate water supply prior to or as a condition of permit issuance. Applicants shall provide either a will-serve letter from the applicable fire protection district or a fire protection plan. The fire protection plan shall be part of the development application and shall identify the nature of the local fire hazard, assess the risk of wildland and structural fires presented by the project, and specify measures for detecting and responding to fires on the project site throughout all phases of the proposed development. Project approvals shall include a finding that adequate structural fire protection is or will be available.
  - **Action 3.A.2.b.** Require development projects within the sphere of influence of a fire protection district to annex into the district.
  - **Action 3.A.2.c.** Require the formation of a fire protection entity for specific plan areas that include significant residential uses, unless the area is within the Sphere of Influence of an existing local fire protection agency

- **Policy 3.A.3.** Require new construction in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) to comply with minimum wildland fire safe standards, including those established for emergency access, signing and building numbering, private water supply reserves for fire use, and vegetation modification, as contained in the county Fire Safe Ordinance (Ch. 22 of the Mono County Land Development Regulations) and consistent with State laws 4290 and 4291.
  - **Action 3.A.3.a.** Work with Cal Fire to implement the county's Fire Safe Regulations.
  - **Action 3.A.3.b.** Adopt the Wildland Urban Interface Building Codes, established by the Office of the State Fire Marshall.
  - **Action 3.A.3.c.** Request the Mono County Fire Services Association, which consists of the 11 fire protection districts in the county, to review and comment on fire protection plans and major development proposals situated outside existing fire district spheres of influence.
  - **Action 3.A.3.d.** When the subdivision ordinance is updated, consider a policy stipulating that approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in SRAs or very high fire hazard severity zones is conditional based on meeting the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures Regulations, particularly those regarding road standards for ingress, egress, and fire equipment access. (See Government Code §66474.02).
  - **Action 3.A.3.e.** Consider programming, as resources allow, emergency access routes identified in the MJHMP.
  - **Action 3.A.3.f.** Require development proposals to meet emergency access routes a specified in Chapter 22 of the Land Use Element and Public Resources Code §4290 and §4291.
  - **Action 3.A.3.g.** When the subdivision ordinance is updated, consider a requirement to identify fuel breaks in the layout/siting of subdivisions and an ongoing fuel break maintenance plan.
  - **Action 3.A.3.h.** Require development projects to provide ongoing maintenance of existing or proposed fuel breaks within the project site.
- **Policy 3.A.4.** Mitigate fire hazards through the environmental and project review process.
  - **Action 3.A.4.a.** Consider the severity of natural fire hazards, the potential for damage from wildland and structural fire, the adequacy of fire protection, appropriate project modifications and mitigation measures consistent with this Element in the review of projects.
  - **Action 3.A.4.b.** Refer project proposals to local fire protection districts and Cal Fire for review and comment.
  - **Action 3.A.4.c.** Require on-site detection and suppression, such as automatic sprinkler systems consistent with the California Building Code.
  - **Action 3.A.4.d.** Limit the intensity of development in areas lacking adequate structural fire protection.

- **Policy 3.A.5.** Assist fire protection districts in securing adequate funding for capital facilities and ongoing operations to serve new development.
  - **Action 3.A.5.a.** Assist fire protection districts in the establishment and implementation of appropriate funding sources such as fees, exactions, charges, and assessments to enable existing fire districts to annex appropriate areas, and to enable new fire protection districts to be formed.
  - **Action 3.A.5.b.** Continue to allocate the "First Responders Fund" through the augmentation hearing process to assist fire districts, as well as other appropriate special districts.
- **Policy 3.A.6.** Consider mitigating fire hazards in previously developed areas that do not meet current fire safe development standards.
  - **Action 3.A.6.a.** Consider identifying and mapping existing housing that does not conform to current fire standards in terms of building materials, access, and vegetative hazards as identified in the CWPP.
  - **Action 3.A.6.b.** Consider developing plans to address the substandard housing identified above, including structural rehabilitation, occupancy reduction, fuels hazard reduction projects, community education, and improvements pertaining to access, fire flows, signage, and defensible space.
- **Policy 3.A.7.** Reduce fuel around developed areas throughout the county to minimize wildland fire hazard risks to people and property.
  - **Action 3.A.7.a.** Review the County's land use designation maps to ensure that land uses near high or very-high-hazard fire severity zones are compatible with wildland fire protection and suppression activities.
  - **Action 3.A.7.b.** Consider amending the CWPP to establish wildfire defense zones around community areas (e.g., fuel breaks, shelter zones, back fire areas, and staging areas to support fire-suppression activities-).
  - **Action 3.A.7.c.** Site and design development to minimize the likelihood of a wildfire spreading to structures by minimizing pockets or peninsulas, or islands of flammable vegetation within a development.
  - **Action 3.A.7.d.** Coordinate with Public Works, Cal Fire, U.S. Forest Service, local Fire Protection Districts, local Fire Safe Councils, and private property owners to maintain fuel breaks and appropriate flammable vegetation clearance along public and private roads.
  - **Action 3.A.7.e.** Support fuel management programs and plans, consistent with state law, that require fuel management/modification within established defensible space boundaries and when strategic fuel modification is necessary outside of defensible space, balance fuel management needs to protect structures with the preservation of native vegetation, wildlife, and sensitive habitats.
  - **Action 3.A.7.f.** Support appropriate fuel management projects to remove hazardous fuel loads and improve ecosystem health.

- **Action 3.A.7.g.** Consistent with Senate Bill 1122 and Senate Bill 859, facilitate efforts to establish a biomass facility in the County, with the goal of reducing forest fuel loads and wildfire hazard risk.
- **Action 3.A.7.h.** Support efforts by Fire Safe Councils and community groups to promote fire prevention, fuels treatments, invasive species control, and defensible space in the WUI and assist in identifying and pursuing funding opportunities to complete these activities.
- **Action 3.A.7.i.** Support incentive programs that provide free or affordable residential green waste disposal to encourage vegetation management on private property.
- **Policy 3.A.8.** Mitigate the effects of fire hazards within Mono County.
  - **Action 3.A.8.a.** Implement the fire hazard mitigation recommendations contained in the CWPP, which pertain to addressing, public education, local preparedness and firefighting capabilities, home mitigation, and fuels modification projects.
  - **Action 3.A.8.b.** Work with other jurisdictions and agencies to prepare for public safety power shutoffs (PSPS) and support, to the extent feasible, viable plans to provide resources for the community and vulnerable populations during and after PSPS events.
  - **Action 3.A.8.c.** Develop community outreach and education programs to facilitate the distribution of information about PSPS events including the current status of outages in Mono County, how to prepare for PSPS events, and information on existing rebate and incentive programs to assist community members in purchasing emergency backup generators.
  - Action 3.A.8.d. Identify communities most in need of backup generators for continued water supply operation during PSPS and severe weather events. Work with those communities to obtain the appropriate equipment and permits.
  - **Action 3.A.8.e.** Consider developing incentive programs to assist private property owners with private wells in purchasing, installing, and maintaining a backup generator for continued access to their water supply during PSPS and severe weather events.
  - Action 3.A.8.f. Encourage the installation of generators to enable continued operation of community and private water systems during PSPS events or severe weather-related outages.
  - **Action 3.A.8.g.** Work with regional partners to identify a technology backup power system and energy resource center to provide alternative telecommunication services.
- **Policy 3.A.9.** Ensure the existing and future transportation system within Mono County adequately supports fire protection and suppression activities.
  - **Action 3.A.9.a.** Work with local fire districts, Cal Fire and federal and state land management agencies to prioritize pertinent transportation-related recommendations in the CWPP.
  - **Action 3.A.9.b.** Ensure that the Mono County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Mono County Circulation Element contain adequate policies pertaining to fire infrastructure; e.g., turnouts, helispots, safety zones, and vegetation management programs for state and county streets and highways.

Policy 3.A.10. After a large fire, evaluate the potential to reduce future vulnerabilities to fire hazard risks through site preparation, redevelopment layout (when possible), landscape design, and fire-resistant building materials.

Action 3.A.10.a. Coordinate with appropriate public and private entities to remove debris and promote the sound, equitable, and expedient reconstruction of property damaged/destroyed by wildfire and facilitate the upgrading of the built environment as expeditiously as possible.

**Action 3.A.10.b.** Seek resources to address fire hazard vulnerabilities and bring substandard development/subdivisions into compliance with current fire safe standards.

# GOAL 4. Avoid exposure of people and improvements to unreasonable risks of damage or injury from avalanche hazards.

## Objective 4.A.

Limit development that attracts concentrations of people in historical avalanche paths (Conditional Development Areas) during the avalanche season.

**Policy 4.A.1.** Prohibit new subdivisions, new winter commercial uses, and multi-family developments in conditional development areas unless proper mitigation is provided. A Conditional Development Area<sup>1</sup> denotes private property that has previously experienced avalanche activity.

**Action 4.A.1.a.** Prior to approving new development, other than single-family residential, in conditional development areas or within the Twin Lakes Avalanche Influence Area, the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors shall either find:

- a. On the basis of a site-specific study by a qualified snow scientist, that the site is not within a potential avalanche hazard; or
- b. That the project has been designed by a registered civil engineer to withstand potential avalanche impact, or other appropriate structural mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project.
- c. Unless otherwise mitigated, all building sites created through new subdivisions shall be identified and located outside avalanche areas.

**Action 4.A.1.b.** Impose subdivision and use restrictions in conditional development areas through future rezoning and Use Permit conditions.

**Policy 4.A.2.** Promote seasonal rather than year-round land uses in conditional development areas.

<sup>1</sup>Conditional Development Areas have been identified by local avalanche advisory committees appointed by the Board of Supervisors. In some communities where insufficient historical data exist, the high-hazard zones identified in prior avalanche studies (i.e., Wilson, Beck, or Mears/Whitmore) have supplemented available historical information in defining the Conditional Development Area. The entire parcel shall be considered within the Conditional Development Area if any portion of a lot appears to be within the boundary. It should be noted the Conditional Development Areas are not highly precise and do not necessarily coincide with parcel lines.

- **Action 4.A.2.a.** Require new commercial development projects in conditional development areas to discontinue operations during the avalanche season, unless mitigated as specified in Action 4.A.1.a. The avalanche season is considered to run from November 1 to April 15 of the following calendar year. Upon application, the Board of Supervisors may change the foregoing dates for specific areas if it finds that public health and safety will not be affected.
- **Action 4.A.2.b.** Encourage the use of seasonal trailers in conditional development areas where such use does not conflict with local land use designations or private restrictive covenants.
- **Policy 4.A.3.** Utilizing the established land ownership adjustment process, facilitate land trades or purchases that result in placing properties, which on the basis of prior studies may be impacted by avalanches, into federal ownership or into the ownership of land conservation groups, for permanent open-space use.
  - **Action 4.A.3.a.** Survey landowners who own properties which, on the basis of prior studies, may be impacted by avalanches, for interest in land trades or purchases.
  - **Action 4.A.3.b.** Initiate land trade/purchase discussions between landowners and appropriate federal, state, or county agencies, or land conservation groups.
  - **Action 4.A.3.c.** Request applicable federal or state agencies to assign high- priority land acquisition status to private lands in areas that, on the basis of prior studies, may be impacted by avalanches.
- **Policy 4.A.4.** Maintain and update historical avalanche data.
  - **Action 4.A.4.a.** Appropriate County agencies shall continue to compile avalanche data, including photographing and archiving avalanche damage when it occurs.
  - **Action 4.A.4.b.** The historical maps contained in the **MEA** should be revised and updated as necessary to reflect the run-out boundaries of actual avalanches; maps shall be compiled by the Planning Division and approved by the Board of Supervisors.
  - **Action 4.A.4.c.** Where the boundary of an actual avalanche area is in question, require site-specific analysis of the historical avalanche impact to the parcel prior to issuance of any County permits, other than building permits for single-family residential development. Such analysis should be conducted by a qualified snow scientist, and the conclusions of the analysis should be incorporated into this Element.
    - <u>APN 015-085-010-000</u> in June Lake: a site-specific avalanche study concluded this parcel is in the White Zone, which is a low-risk zone with an estimated return period of 300 years or impact pressures less than a gale force wind (21 lbs/ft²).<sup>2</sup>

#### Objective 4.B.

Inform residents and visitors of the potential avalanche hazards in or near local communities.

**Policy 4.B.1.** Inform affected persons of potential avalanche hazards in the area during the permit process and during transfer of property ownership.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Use Permit 18-003/High Sierra Cannabis Retail (DeCoster)

- **Action 4.B.1.a.** Designate community areas containing private lands influenced by historic avalanche path as "Avalanche Influence Areas" in this Element. The Avalanche Influence Area designation shall define community areas in which residents and visitors should be notified of where potential avalanche hazards exist in the vicinity.
- **Action 4.B.1.b.** Designate historical avalanche paths as "conditional development zones" in this Element.
- **Action 4.B.1.c.** Require that all applicants for County permits in avalanche influence areas be notified of the area's potential avalanche hazards, and require that they be referred to this Element and avalanche documents on file in the county Planning Division for further information.
- **Action 4.B.1.d.** In accordance with State law, sellers of property will notify buyer/transferees of potential avalanche and seismic hazards affecting subject property.
- **Policy 4.B.2.** Inform visitors of potential avalanche hazards by posting notification signs on roadways entering avalanche areas as designated by the Board of Supervisors.
  - **Action 4.B.2.a.** Continue to post signs on local roads warning of avalanche potential.
  - **Action 4.B.2.b.** Require that new roads constructed in areas which may be impacted by avalanches be properly signed to notify of potential avalanche hazards.

## Objective 4.C.

Plan for and provide emergency services in the event of avalanches.

- **Policy 4.C.1.** Initiate avalanche warning procedures during hazard periods in accordance with adopted procedures such as the Mono County Sheriff Code Red Emergency Alert System.
- Policy 4.C.2. Provide emergency access to avalanche-influence areas where feasible.
  - **Action 4.C.2.a.** Evaluate potential emergency access routes for avalanche influence areas in the county Circulation Element.
  - **Action 4.C.2.b.** Seek state or federal funding for emergency access road construction in avalanche-influence areas.
- **Policy 4.C.3.** Provide snow-removal services to County roads only during periods of acceptable avalanche risks.
  - **Action 4.C.3.a.** The Director of Public Works will utilize broad discretion in determining when roads should be plowed.

## Objective 4.D.

Work cooperatively with the US Forest Service (USFS) and Caltrans in mitigating local avalanche hazards.

- **Policy 4.D.1.** Seek cooperation from the USFS in mitigating avalanche hazards that originate on land managed by the USFS and that threaten private property.
  - **Action 4.D.1.a.** Continue to promote and encourage local and/or regional USFS offices to:

- a. Support and expand the backcountry avalanche forecasting program to include threatened community areas;
- b. Structurally mitigate (i.e., environmentally sensitive supporting structures, deflecting berms, retarding mounds, catching dams, snow fences, etc.) avalanche hazards threatening community areas; and
- c. Initiate land exchanges with willing property owners in avalanche hazard areas.
- **Policy 4.D.2.** Seek cooperation from Caltrans in mitigating avalanche hazards to local State highways.
  - **Action 4.D.2.a.** Promote and encourage Caltrans' assistance in funding local avalanche forecasting programs.
  - **Action 4.D.2.b.** Support Caltrans efforts to expand avalanche mitigation efforts in the June Lake community. Implement pertinent policies of the June Lake Area Plan.
  - **Action 4.D.2.c.** Encourage Caltrans to post avalanche warning signs along potential avalanche sections of US 395, such as in the Long Valley area, the Wilson Butte area, and the area north of Lee Vining during the avalanche season.
- GOAL 5. Reduce the risks from natural hazards by planning for safe development, increasing public awareness of the natural hazards in Mono County, and providing an integrated multi-agency approach to emergency response.

#### Objective 5.A.

Identify areas of the county susceptible to hazards.

- **Policy 5.A.1.** The County GIS system should include or integrate all available hazard mapping, including multi-hazard and repetitive-loss properties.
  - **Action 5.A.1.a.** Periodically assess the data and mapping products available on the County GIS system to integrate additional hazards information as it becomes available.
- **Policy 5.A.2.** Maintain an inventory of existing assets (structures, infrastructure) in order to understand more fully the areas and types of development most susceptible to identified hazards and to identify more-specific mitigations for each hazard.
  - **Action 5.A.2.a.** Complete a detailed inventory of existing assets and enter that inventory into the County GIS. The inventory should include all data required by hazard mitigation planning such as type of structure, occupancy, construction type, size, value, etc.
- **Policy 5.A.3.** Identify areas with the greatest potential for loss from identified hazards.
  - **Action 5.A.3.a.** In compliance with FEMA requirements for loss estimation, develop loss-estimation values and corresponding GIS products and update as needed.

## Objective 5.B.

Limit development in areas identified as hazardous.

**Policy 5.B.1.** Restrict development in areas subject to hazards, including but not limited to, fire, flood, geologic, seismic, volcanic, and avalanche.

- **Action 5.B.1.a.** Limit the intensity of development in hazard areas through the assignment of appropriate land use designations.
- **Action 5.B.1.b.** Design public facilities such as power and water distribution pipes and sewer lines to avoid hazard areas and utilize valves and switches to mitigate hazards when no routing alternatives are feasible.
- **Action 5.B.1.c.** Consistent with government code 66474.2, avoid intensive development outside existing fire protection districts, unless an appropriate fire protection entity is established as a condition of project approval.
- **Policy 5.B.2.** Maintain, update and integrate hazard planning documents.
  - **Action 5.B.2.a.** Update and work to integrate the Safety Element, Multi-Jurisdictional Local—Hazard Mitigation Plan, Emergency Operations Plans, Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans, Community Wildfire Protection and other fire plans, and any other safety documents on a regular basis.
  - **Action 5.B.2.b.** Work with local fire protection districts, law enforcement, land management agencies, and Cal Fire to pursue funding and update and integrate planning documents.
- **Policy 5.B.3.** Utilize Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) municipal service reviews to evaluate existing emergency service providers and to identify needed improvements.
  - **Action 5.B.3.a.** Map existing emergency service facilities and areas lacking service, analyze which areas in identified hazard zones are missing adequate emergency services and integrate into applicable safety plans.

## Objective 5.C.

Inform the public as to the nature and extent of natural hazards in Mono County.

- **Policy 5.C.1.** Inform affected persons during the County permit process and during the transfer of property of potential seismic, geologic, volcanic, fire, flood, avalanche, and other natural hazards in the area.
  - **Action 5.C.1.a.** Prior to issuing planning or building permits in hazardous areas, refer the applicant to this Element, and support documents and studies on file in the county Planning Division for further information concerning potential hazards. In order to ensure that the applicant has been notified of potential hazards, the applicant may be required to sign a statement recognizing that potential hazards exist in the area.
  - **Action 5.C.1.b.** In accordance with State law, sellers of property will notify buyer/transferees of all potential hazards affecting subject property, including but not limited to, geologic, seismic, fire, flood, and avalanche.
- **Policy 5.C.2.** Work cooperatively with other public agencies in the area to develop a public awareness program to inform residents and visitors of natural hazards in the county and emergency response procedures.
  - **Action 5.C.1.a.** In accordance with procedures adopted by the county Office of Emergency Services, provide notification to residents and visitors during emergencies and elevated hazard periods.

## Objective 5.D.

Provide for safe ingress and egress of emergency vehicles/equipment and evacuation of populations.

- **Policy 5.D.1.** Assess and pursue primary and secondary access improvements for all community areas for emergency purposes.
  - **Action 5.D.1.a.** Review development proposals to ensure the provision of primary and secondary access.
  - **Action 5.D.1.b.** Refer applications for planning and building permits to Cal Fire and local fire protection districts for review and comment regarding, emergency-access considerations.
  - **Action 5.D.1.c.** The Department of Public Works shall continue to review the adequacy of primary and secondary access for development projects on a case-by-case basis.
  - **Action 5.D.1.d.** Delineate community evacuation routes and plans for areas with high or very-high fire hazard residential areas, flood areas, avalanches influence areas, etc.
  - **Action 5.D.1.e.** Encourage local and regional partnerships to create evacuation routes and shelter locations to provide safe refuge during emergencies.
  - Action 5.D.1.f. For communities with only one access route, evaluate options to provide an emergency access route, prioritized based on multi-hazard risk to existing access. Design and create the alternative access route(s) if an option is chosen, and if funding and resources are available.
  - **Action 5.D.1.g.** Require individuals, as well as companies, that provide home or accommodation rentals to clearly post available emergency evacuation routes for guests.
  - **Action 5.D.1.h.** Encourage the incorporation of backup powered emergency response systems into evacuation centers (locations where visitors and residents can seek refuge during an incident)
  - **Action 5.D.1.e.** Work with federal land management agencies to ensure adequate access to high-hazard wildland areas, particularly adjacent to communities, for fire suppression activities and public evacuation.
- **Policy 5.D.2.** All projects using hazardous materials or generating hazardous waste shall conform to the requirements of the county's Integrated Waste Management Plan for transportation, storage, and disposal.
- **Policy 5.D.3.** Transportation, storage, and use of explosive materials shall comply with applicable county, state, and federal permit requirements.

## Objective 5.E.

Work with local, state, and federal agencies and organizations to provide an integrated approach to emergency response, including search-and-rescue operations, in Mono County for all hazards.

**Policy 5.E.1.** Implement and update as needed the Mono County Emergency Operations Plan, Mono County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the Mono County Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan.

- **Action 5.E.1.a.** Periodically review emergency response plans during the General Plan review process.
- **Policy 5.E.2.** Work toward implementing a standardized emergency management system for responding to large-scale situations requiring multi-agency response.
  - **Action 5.E.2.a.** Review mutual aid agreements with adjoining emergency service providers to ensure a coordinated approach to emergency services.

## Goal 6. Prepare for changing climate conditions in Mono County.3

**Objective 6.A.** Prepare for changing precipitation levels in the region.

- **Policy 6.A.1.** Plan for reduced levels of precipitation and mitigate the impacts that will occur to water availability.
  - **Action 6.A.1.a.** Encourage water conservation regulations and encourage public reporting of violations.
  - Action 6.A.1.b Protect groundwater resources from contamination and overdraft through methods such as encouraging capture of precipitation in tanks and the use of treated wastewater for groundwater recharge and protecting important groundwater recharge areas.
- **Objective 6.B.** Prepare for an increase in severe weather conditions and storm events.
  - **Policy 6.B.1.** Develop procedures and practices to reduce the impacts of more extreme storms, temperatures and their related impacts in Mono County, to help protect residents from the health hazards associated with severe weather.
    - Action 6.B.1.a. Follow County procedures in the event of severe weather conditions such as extreme heat events and more frequent and severe combined snow and rainstorms, including the deployment of emergency services, opening of additional local heating/cooling shelters, and community notification procedures. Cooling shelters may be of particular importance in the Tri-Valley.
    - **Action 6.B.1.b.** Develop and utilize emergency notification and information systems to promote public awareness of severe weather hazards and the impacts to the conditions on local and regional roadways. Expand the use of Spanish translation for information distributed to the public during severe weather or disaster events.
    - <u>Action 6.B.1.c.</u> Coordinate with health and social service providers from multiple sectors to identify data sources and strategies for community resilience and reaching out to vulnerable populations.
    - **Action 6.B.1.d.** Assist with seeking funding to address anticipated additional repairs to damaged infrastructure that will be required due to increased stress from climate effects such as intense snow and rainstorms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Policies to address climate change related to wildfire and flood are incorporated directly into those goals in the Safety Element.

- **Action 6.B.1.e.** Continue to work with state and federal agencies and wireless providers to expand and improve coverage and interoperability of cell and radio service throughout the County.
- Action 6.B.1.f. Work with Caltrans to install real-time wind and visibility tracking system for key access road segments and incorporate warnings into online notifications and emergency notification system.
- **Objective 6.C.** Increase the resiliency and adaptability of residents, buildings, infrastructure, the natural environment, and the Mono County economy to climate change hazards.
  - **Action 6.C.1.a.** Prepare to address environmental hazards and vulnerabilities that climate change influences currently and in the future.
    - Action 6.C.1.b During the periodic future updates of the Safety Element, hazards and vulnerabilities shall be reviewed, updated and new policies adopted to reflect the most current information available regarding climate change and strategies to reduce hazard risks compounded by climate change.
    - Action 6.C.1.c. Identify strategies to foster resiliency to climate change influences in both the built and undeveloped lands based on current and updated science.
    - Action 6.C.1.d. Identify mitigation measures to reduce climate change causes and adaptation plans to decrease the effects of climate change and protect residents and business from increased risks of natural disasters, such as flooding, drought, severe weather events and wildfire.
    - **Action 6.C.1.e.** Work with State agencies on adaptation strategies to address climate change impacts.

## MISCELLANOUS LAND USE ELEMENT UPDATES

## 1. WHEELER CREST AREA PLAN

**Policy 24.A.3.** Retain the rural residential character of the entire study area.

**Action 24.A.3.f.** Prohibit not-owner occupied all types of short-term rentals (see that may be permitted under Chapter 25) in the Wheeler Crest Planning Area.

#### 2. LAND USE DESIGNATION CHAPTERS

## Commercial (C)

INTENT: The "C" designation is intended to provide for a wide range of uses and services for the resident and visitor including retail, business and professional uses and services in community areas, including commercial lodging and higher density housing, when found compatible with retail and service functions.

The creation of a pleasant and efficient environment for shopping and business is an important function of this district.

**USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO DIRECTOR REVIEW** (Director Review Processing, Ch. 31)

- All permitted uses if determined necessary by the Director
- Temporary uses: model homes, mobile-home display units, etc., only if one year or less
- All new construction for the purpose of conducting sales, business or services, including any uses listed above.
- All conversions from a prior use when exterior structural alterations or additional parking are required.
- · Accessory buildings and uses.
- Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days)

## **USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT** (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)

- Household units; if found compatible with the district, apartments, condominiums, etc.
- Lodging e.g., hotels, motels, time-share, RV parks, <u>campgrounds</u>, <u>glamping</u>, bed-and-breakfast establishments, etc.

## Commercial Lodging, Moderate (CL-M) and High (CL-H)

INTENT: The "CL-M" designation is intended to provide commercial lodging units for short-term occupation in or near residential uses.

The "CL-H" designation is intended to provide short-term commercial lodging units in close proximity to commercial/recreational centers.

**USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT** (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)

- Mobile-home parks (see Dev. Standards –Mobile-home and RV Parks, Ch. 17)
- Recreational-vehicle parks (see Ch. 17), campgrounds and glamping
- Projects containing four or more units such as condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments, and/or apartments
- Hotels, motels, lodges, bed-and-breakfast establishments, cabins, and other uses found to be similar by the Commission. Ancillary uses such as limited dining, lounges and convenience retail, provided the ancillary use does not occupy more than 25% of the project's habitable space
- Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days) in multi-family units under single ownership of four or more dwelling units
- Conversion of five or more apartment units into transient rentals
- Conversion of existing habitable space into ancillary uses
- Parking lots and parking structures other than required off-street parking
- Construction of an accessory building prior to construction of the main building

## Industrial Park (IP)

INTENT: The "IP" designation is intended to provide for a combination of light- and moderate-intensity industrial uses that do not create environmental nuisances or hazards to a degree that might be obnoxious or offensive to persons conducting business in this or adjacent areas.

## PERMITTED USES

- Any proposed change of use when conducted within an existing, conforming, legally developed structure, for those uses subject to a Director Review or Use Permit
- Adult-oriented businesses conducted in compliance with the locational requirements of Chapter 19 of the Land Development Regulations (set forth in Section VI of this Land Use Element) and with the permit and other operational requirements of Chapter 5.45 of the Mono County Code
- Caretaker unit one per district

## Mixed Use (MU)

INTENT: The "MU" designation is intended to provide for a wide range of compatible resident- and visitor-oriented residential and commercial uses, including business, professional, and retail uses; to provide for efficient use of land and increased opportunities for affordable housing; to provide a transition between intensive commercial uses and residential uses; and to be applied to areas with existing mixed-use development.

MU transitional areas can limit the size of business establishments and restrict uses incompatible with residential district. Not all areas need contain residential uses. Commercial uses shall conform to strict standards that prohibit obnoxious odors, obtrusive light and glare, and excessive noise.

**USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO DIRECTOR REVIEW** (Director Review Processing, Ch. 31)

- Residential uses e.g., condominiums, townhomes, commercial lodging, cluster developments, and apartments
- Retail trade e.g., food, drug, hardware, apparel, arts and crafts, sporting goods, bookstores, bakery, florist
- Social care facilities e.g., medical and dental offices, welfare and charitable services
- Professional offices e.g., real estate, financial, insurance, rental and reservation services, legal services
- Business services e.g., business centers, general advertising, business and management consulting
- Recreational activities e.g., health clubs, dance studios
- Food service establishments e.g., restaurants, cafes, delicatessens
- Conversion or expansion of existing operations
- Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days)

## **USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT** (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)

- All of the above uses subject to Director Review, if determined to be necessary by the Community Development director
- Parking lots and parking structures other than required off-street parking when abutting a commercial district
- Religious and cultural activities e.g., museums, art galleries, churches
- Small-scale malls, plazas, parks and related pedestrian open space
- Conversion or expansion of existing operations
- Mobile-home parks (see Development Standards Mobile-home Parks and RV Parks, Ch. 17)
- Recreational-vehicle parks (see Ch. 17), campgrounds and glamping
- Manufactured housing subdivision (see Ch. 18)

Commerical cannabis activity: Manufacturing Type N, Manufacturing Type P, Distribution, Testing, Retail, and Microbusiness (only individual cannabis activities permitted in this designation shall be permitted in a Microbusiness), conducted in compliance with requirements of Chapter 13 of the Land Development Regulations and with the permit and operation requirements of Chapter 5.60 of the Mono County Code.

## Rural Resort (RU)

INTENT: The "RU" designation is intended to provide appropriate sites for outdoor recreation facilities and limited visitor-oriented facilities and services in rural areas of the county. The district is intended to protect the environment and rural character of an area while allowing for compatible development.

**USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT** (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)

- Construction of an accessory building prior to construction of the main building
- Recreational-vehicle parks (see Dev. Standards Mobile-home and RV Parks, Ch. 17), campgrounds and glamping facilities
- Hotels, motels, bed-and-breakfast establishments, cabins and other uses found to be similar by the Commission. Ancillary uses such as limited restaurants, lounges and convenience retail, provided the ancillary use does not occupy more than 25% of the project's habitable space
- Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days)
- Developed campgrounds
- Commercial recreational facilities such as cross country ski facilities, equestrian facilities, golf courses and facilities (if developed in conjunction with lodging facilities), marinas and boathouses
   Employee housing, if developed in conjunction with recreational/lodging facilities

# Resource Management (RM)

INTENT: The "RM" designation is intended to recognize and maintain a wide variety of values in the lands outside existing communities. The RM designation indicates the land may be valuable for uses including but not limited to recreation, surface water conservation, groundwater conservation and recharge, wetlands conservation, habitat protection for special-status species, wildlife habitat, visual resources, cultural resources, geothermal or mineral resources. The land may also need special management consideration due to the presence of natural hazards in the

# area; e.g., avalanche-prone areas, earthquake faults, flood hazards, or landslide or rockfall hazards.

The RM designation provides for low-intensity rural uses in a manner that recognizes and maintains the resource values of the parcel.

Land subject to the land use authority of an agency other than the County may be designated RM with a reference to the appropriate plan as follows:

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan – RM/TNF

Inyo National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan - RM/INF

Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area Comprehensive Management Plan – RM/MB

Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Resource Management Plan – RM/BLM

California Department of Fish and Game Lands – RM/DFG Mammoth Yosemite Airport Land Use Plan – RM/ALUP

These designations recognize the planning authority of other agencies on publicly owned lands only; the County has authority over private and LADWP (Los Angeles Department of Water and Power) lands throughout the unincorporated area.

# **USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO DIRECTOR REVIEW** (Director Review Processing, Ch. 31)

- Resource exploratory activities that involve excavation, devegetation, or other potentially significant environmental effects
- None stated

## **USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT** (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)

- Limited-scale lodging, such as small inns, bed-and-breakfast establishments, and cabins, if found by the Commission to be compatible
- Recreation facilities, such as improved bike trails, cross country ski trails, and pedestrian trails requiring modification of the natural landscape, if found by the Commission to be compatible with the natural habitat of the area
- Construction of an accessory building prior to construction of the main building
- · Airports, heliports, taxiways, and landing strips for aircraft
- Mining and geothermal exploration projects
- Commercial composting facilities
- Resource exploratory activities that involve excavation, devegetation, or other potentially significant environmental effects

## 3. CHAPTER 01 - INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

# 01.040 Permissive Zoning & Interpretation.

- A. Mono County uses permissive zoning where, any use that is not enumerated or listed in the land use designation as permitted is presumed to be prohibited, except for those instances provided for in section 01.040.B. Interpretation.
- B. Unless otherwise provided, any ambiguity concerning the content or application of the Land Development Regulations shall be resolved by the Planning Commission (see Section 04.030, Interpretation of "Similar Uses") or, on appeal therefrom, by the Board of Supervisors.

## 4. CHAPTER 02 - DEFINITIONS

# 02.730 Lot coverage.

"Lot coverage" means the percentage of a lot encumbered by <u>impervious structures</u> and <u>modifications</u>, <u>structures</u> including decks <u>and areas devoted to vehicular trafficor parking</u>. Specified requirements may be modified for substandard lots.

## 02.230 Campground.

"Campground" means any area or tract of land that is used or intended for use, or to be let or rented with one or more spaces available for transient recreational occupancy (less than 30 days) by campers on a temporary basis without provisions for electrical or sanitary hookups at individual campsites upon which individuals may occupy individual campsites overnight. "Campground" does not include "Glamping" as defined in 02.541 or "Recreational-vehicle park" as defined in 02.980.

## 02.231. Caretaker's unit.

"Caretaker's unit" means a dwelling unit that is secondary and accessory to an existing allowed use that is occupied by a person engaged on-site for the purpose of care and protection of the property.

# 02.541 Glamping.

"Glamping" means a form of 'glamorous camping' for a transient occupancy, where guests occupy detached units and/or permanently installed vintage recreational vehicles but which are not conventional hotel, motel, or cabin facilities. Permanent units must comply with the California Building Code. "Glamping" does not include "Campgrounds" as defined in 02.230 or "Recreational-vehicle park" as defined in 02.980.

## **CHAPTER 04 - GENERAL**

# 04.040 Uses subject to Director Review.

The following uses are permitted subject to Director Review in all districts, in addition to those listed in individual land use designations:

- A. Placement and Use of Recreational Vehicles (RVs) on Vacant Property.
  - 2. Long-term temporary use of an RV not to exceed six months of each year for a five-year period may be permitted in designated <u>hazard</u> <u>avalanche</u> zones <u>as a primary use</u> subject to Director Review permit.

### 04.340 Mobile Vendor Standards and Guidelines

The sale of food and other retail items from a motorized vehicle or from a trailer, or from a portable unit, is permitted in Commercial and Mixed Use (MU) land use designations. Temporary uses (i.e., fewer than 180 days) may be permitted through a Director Review or Special Event permit. Longer-term or permanent operations shall be permitted through a use permit. The following standards and guidelines shall apply to all operations:

## 5. CHAPTER 22 - FIRE SAFE STANDARDS

## 22.110 Emergency Access.

Road and street networks, whether public or private, unless exempted under Section 22.020(e), shall provide for safe access for emergency wildland fire equipment and civilian evacuation concurrently, and shall provide unobstructed traffic circulation during a wildfire emergency consistent with this section.

## J. Driveways.

All driveways shall be constructed to provide a minimum of one 10-foot traffic lane.

- 1. Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall be provided no more than 400 feet apart.
- 2. A turnaround shall be provided at all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and shall be within 50 feet of the building.
- 3. Driveways shall be designed and maintained to support at least 36,000 pounds.

## 6. CHAPTER 25 - SHORT-TERM RENTALS

## 25.015 General Requirements and Applicability.

C. Unless explicitly states otherwise in this Chapter, short-term rentals covered by this Chapter shall operate in compliance with this Chapter, Chapter <u>5.605.65</u> of the Mono County Code, and all applicable Area Plan policies,14 and must exhibit no reasonable opposition from neighbors within 500 feet of the subject parcel.

D. Pursuant to Chapter <u>5.605.65</u> of the Mono County Code and the required Short-Term Rental Activity Permit, short-term rentals covered by this Chapter shall be specific to the owner and shall terminate upon a change of ownership.

# 7. LAND USE DESIGNATION CHANGES

• Sunny Slopes (636 Owens Gorge Road) – APN: 062-070-035 from SFR- ½ to Public Facilities (PF) designation.



• Benton (36 Christie Lane) - APN: 024-131-029 change the housing portion of the parcel from Public Facilities (PF) to Mixed Designation (MD). Multi-Family Residential (MFR-L) for the western half of the parcel (indicated by the gray polygon) and Public Facilities (PF) for the eastern half of the parcel.



#### **CHAPTER 16 - ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS**

#### **Sections:**

16.010	Intent.
16.020	Definition.
16.030	Applicable Land Use Designations.
16.040	General Provisions.
16.050	Standards for Accessory Dwelling Units

#### 16.010 Intent.

The intent of this chapter is to allow for Accessory Dwelling Units in accordance with State law in order to provide additional affordable housing opportunities, including housing for the elderly in Mono County.

## 16.015 Consistency with State Law

This chapter is consistent with State Law, including AB 881, AB 670, AB 587, AB 671, AB 68, and SB 13.

## 16.020 Definition.

"Accessory Dwelling Unit" (also referred to as "dependent," "Secondary Housing," or "granny unit") means residential occupancy of a living unit located on the same parcel as the primary residential unit. It provides complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the primary unit is situated. An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall meet the minimum regulations for an efficiency dwelling unit in the California Building Code.

The Accessory Dwelling Unit can be either attached to or detached from the primary residential unit but in either case shall have similar architectural elements as the primary unit (i.e., materials, textures, colors, etc.; see 16.050 G below). The Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be clearly subordinate to the primary unit.

"Junior accessory dwelling unit" means a unit that is no more than 500 square feet in size and contained entirely within an existing single-family structure. A junior accessory dwelling unit may include separate sanitation facilities, or may share sanitation facilities with the existing structure. The junior accessory dwelling unit must contain cooking facilities.

Utilities that are installed for future expansion, such as stub outs that would allow a kitchen to be installed at a later date, shall be considered as complete cooking facilities in accessory dwelling units. In units required by deed restriction, complete cooking facilities shall be installed resulting in a usable kitchen at final permit issuance, and interior access between attached units shall be no more than a single personnel door.

## 16.030 Applicable Land Use Designations.

An Accessory Dwelling Unit and Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit may be permitted in any land use designation that allows single-family residences as a permitted use or as allowed in Specific Plan (SP) areas subject to the General Provisions below.

## 16.040 General Provisions.

- A. On parcels less than 7,500 sq. ft. in net area, an attached Accessory Dwelling Unit not exceeding 500 sq. ft. in size may be permitted with a building permit.
- B. On parcels of 7,500 sq. ft. up to 10,000 sq. ft. in net area, an attached Accessory Dwelling Unit not exceeding 640 sq. ft. in size is allowed with a building permit. A detached Accessory Dwelling Unit not exceeding 640 sq. ft. may be permitted by application for a Director Review.
- C. On parcels of 10,000 sq. ft. up to one acre in net area, an Accessory Dwelling Unit not exceeding 640 sq. ft. in size (attached or detached) is allowed with a building permit.
- D. On parcels one acre or greater, an Accessory Dwelling Unit not exceeding 640 sq. ft. in size (attached or detached) is allowed with a building permit. In this same parcel size range, an Accessory Dwelling Unit exceeding 640 sq. ft. but not exceeding 1,400 sq. ft. in size (attached or detached) may be permitted by application for a Director Review. In this same parcel size range, an Accessory Dwelling Unit exceeding 1,400 sq. ft. may be permitted by application for a use permit.
- A. Accessory Dwelling Units are permitted with a building permit if any of the following instances apply:
  - (i) The accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit is located within a single-family dwelling or existing space of a single-family dwelling, whether existing or proposed, or accessory structure and may include an expansion of not more than 150 square feet beyond the physical dimensions of the existing accessory structure. An expansion beyond the physical dimensions of the existing accessory structure shall be limited to accommodating ingress and egress. The space must have exterior access. Side and rear setbacks must meet fire protection standards and prevent snow shedding onto adjacent properties.
  - (ii) One-bedroom detached accessory dwelling units not exceeding 850-square feet and two-bedroom accessory dwelling units not exceeding 1,000-square feet. The unit may not exceed four-foot side and rear yard setbacks and must meet fire and safety standards, including prevention of snow shedding onto adjacent properties.
  - (iii) Multiple accessory dwelling units within the portions of existing multifamily dwelling structures not used as livable space, including, but not limited to, storage rooms, boiler rooms, passageways, attics, basements, or garages, if each unit complies with state building standards for dwellings. An existing multifamily unit is allowed at least one accessory dwelling unit or up to, and not exceeding, 25 percent of the existing multifamily dwelling units.
  - (iv) Not more than two accessory dwelling units that are located on a lot that has an existing multifamily dwelling, but are detached from that multifamily dwelling. Side and rear yard setbacks may be reduced to four feet provided the design demonstrates snow will not shed onto adjacent properties and fire safety standards are met.
- B. The following accessory dwelling units that do not qualify under 16.040A may be permitted through Director Review:
  - (i) One-bedroom units between 850 and 1,400-square feet;
  - (ii) Two-bedroom units between 1,000 and 1,400-square.
- C. Accessory dwelling units that do not qualify under 16.040A and exceed 1,400-square feet may be permitted through Use Permit.

- E. Square footage of accessory dwelling units shall be calculated based on the exterior dimensions of the unit. All interior living space shall count toward the total square footage of the unit.
- F. Consistent with Government Code section 65852.2, ministerial reviews shall occur within 120 60 days after receiving an accessory dwelling unit application, unless the accessory dwelling unit is built concurrently with the primary unit.

## 16.050 Standards for New Accessory Dwelling Units.

- A. All construction shall conform to the height, setback, lot coverage, fees (including school impact fees and fire district fees), snow storage, and other development requirements applicable to residential construction in the land use designation in which the property is located. Side and rear yard setbacks may be reduced to four feet provided the design demonstrates snow will not shed onto adjacent properties. The unit shall be exempt from development impact fees if less than 750-square feet and all units are exempt from Housing Mitigation Ordinance (HMO) fees.
- B. If a well and/or septic system is/are to be utilized, a clearance letter shall be obtained from the Environmental Health director and shall accompany the building permit application (or if applicable, the Director Review or Use Permit application). For Accessory Dwelling Units that are served by a public water and/or sewer system, a letter from the serving entity that indicates adequate service shall be submitted as part of the application.
- C. One of the units on the parcel must be owner occupied if the property contains a junior accessory dwelling unit (either the primary unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit); for detached accessory dwelling units, there is no owner occupancy requirement. For units that do not qualify under 16.040.A, one unit on the property must be owner occupied.
- D. If the Accessory Dwelling Unit is 640 sq. ft. or less in size, one off-street parking space must be provided for the Accessory Dwelling Unit in addition to parking required for the primary unit. If the Accessory Dwelling Unit is larger than 640 square feet, two parking spaces must be provided for the Accessory Dwelling Unit in addition to parking required for the primary unit, if it contains two or more bedrooms. Parking shall be in accordance with Chapter 06 of the Mono County Land Use Element, unless the following instances exist, in which case. Required parking shall be one space for a one-bedroom unit and two spaces for units of two or more bedrooms, and is in addition to the required parking for the primary unit. There is no parking requirement for studio units. No parking standards shall be imposed in the following instances:
  - (1) The accessory dwelling unit is located within one-half mile of public transit.
  - (2) The accessory dwelling unit is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.
  - (3) The accessory dwelling unit is part of the existing primary residence or an existing accessory structure.
  - (4) When on-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupant of the accessory dwelling unit.
  - (5) When there is a car-share vehicle located within one block of the accessory dwelling unit.
- E. Whether attached or detached, the Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be architecturally compatible with the primary residence. The Community Development Department shall determine the architectural compatibility of the structures and shall consider roofing, siding, trim, door and window frame colors and materials; roofing, siding, trim, door, and window materials; roof slope and pitch; and wall articulation, roof line articulation, eaves,

railings, chimneys, porches, and similar features; landscaping should also be considered in helping to make the units compatible. The Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be clearly subordinate to the primary unit in terms of size and placement on the property. If attached, the two units shall have the appearance of a single-family residence; the Accessory Dwelling Unit entrance shall be located on the side or rear of the building.

- F. Pursuant to the California Building Code, accessory dwelling units shall not be required to provide fire sprinklers if they were not required for the primary residence. Accessory dwelling unit utility connections and related fees shall comply with Government Code section 65852.2.
- G. No passageway shall be required in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit. No setback shall be required for an existing garage that is converted to an accessory dwelling unit, and a setback of no more than five four feet from the side and rear lot lines shall be required for an accessory dwelling unit that is constructed above a garage, provided the design demonstrates snow will not shed onto adjacent properties and fire safety standards are met.
- H. Short-term rentals are prohibited in units that qualify under 16.040A; units qualifying under 16.040B and 16.040C are subject to Mono County's short-term rental regulations (see Chapter 25 and Mono County Code Chapter 5.65).
- I. A height limit of 16 feet shall be imposed on units that are between the standard side or rear setback under the land use designation and the minimum allowed reduced setback of four feet under 16.050A.\*

\*Proposed language