



Portola Valley Draft Safety Element Update

Emergency Preparedness, Wildfire Preparedness,
Sustainability, and Geologic Safety

Joint Committees Meeting

October 26, 2022

Safety Element Update Team Introductions

Town of Portola Valley

- Melvin Gaines, Assistant Town Manager
- Laura Russell, Planning & Building Director

Urban Planning Partners & Atlas Planning

- Curtis Banks, Project Director
- Carla Violet, Project Manager
- Aaron Pfannenstiel, Atlas Planning

Today's Agenda

Meeting Outcomes



What is a Safety Element?



Portola Valley's Safety Element Update and Structure



Next Steps



Questions

Meeting Outcomes



Committee Members Feel Prepared to
Hold Individual Meetings on the Draft
Safety Element



Attendees Understand Next
Steps and How To Stay
Involved

What is a Safety Element?

One of seven mandatory elements of the general plan

Includes:

- background and technical information,
- maps
- goals and policies,
- implementation actions/ programs

Intended to guide development priorities for a Town/City over a long timeframe (typically 20 years)

Certain element (Housing and Safety) require more frequent updates (*tied to new legislation*)



* Required if Disadvantaged Communities are located in the Jurisdiction

** Required in certain locations within California

What is a Safety Element?

Govt Code 65302 (g) (1) - Protection of the Community From Unreasonable Risks Associated With:

Seismically
induced
surface rupture

Ground
Shaking

Flooding

Tsunami,
Seiche, and
Dam Failure

Subsidence

Liquefaction

Ground Failure

Wildland and
Urban Fires

Slope Instability
(Mudslides and
Landslides)

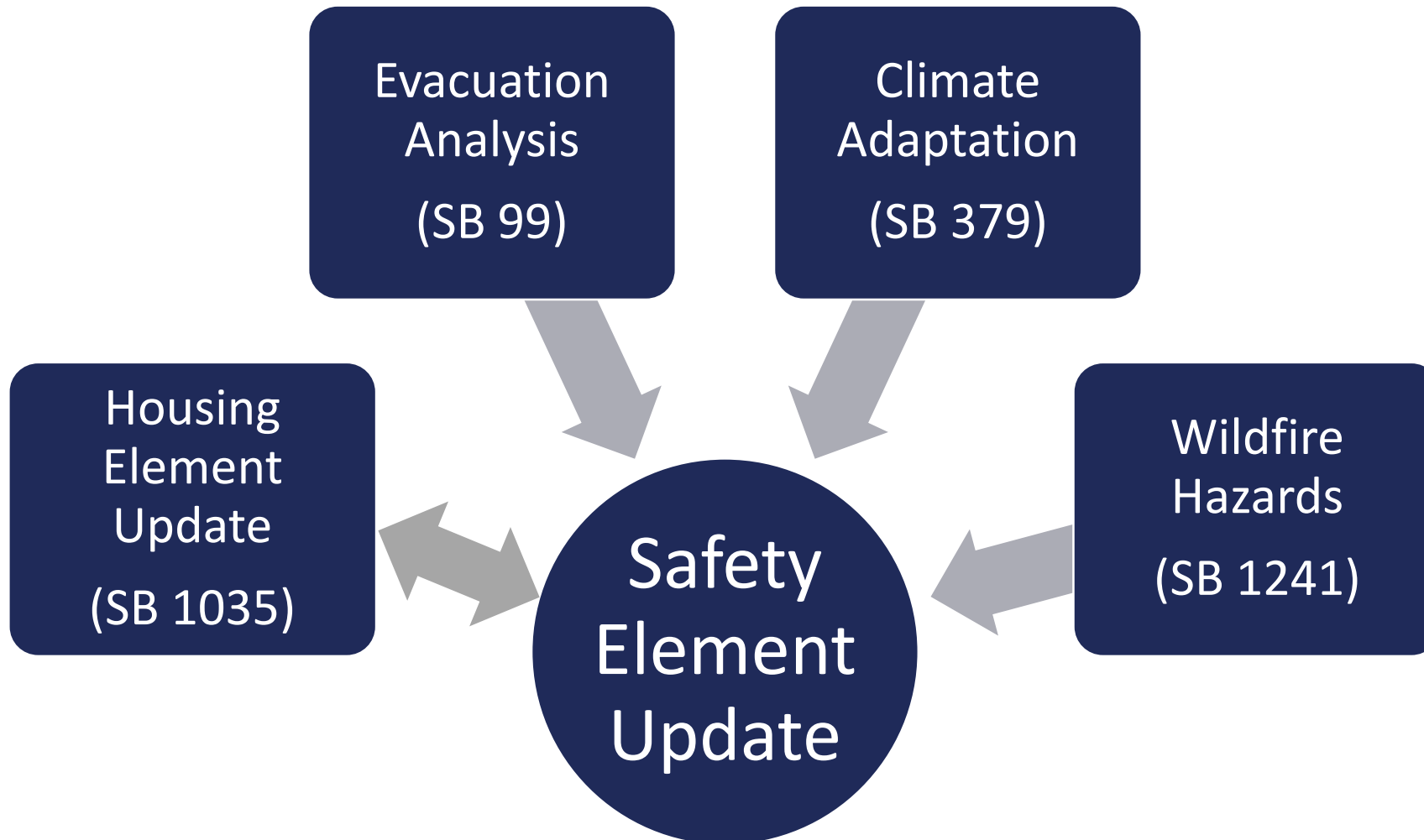
Military
Installations

Peakload
Water Supply
Requirements

Min. Road Widths
& Clearances
Around Structures

Evacuation
Routes

What is a Safety Element?



SB 1035

links the Housing and Safety Elements

SB 1241

compliance includes oversight by Cal Fire

A Safety Element is NOT?

| Not In a Safety Element | Where it is more appropriate |
|--------------------------------|---|
| A short range action plan | Other plans like a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) or a Storm Drain Master Plan. |
| An extremely detailed document | More detailed documents may include highly focused studies/ analysis (fault studies, brush management plans). |
| Highly regulatory | The Town's municipal code is the primary regulatory document that dictates how development occurs. |
| Highly prescriptive | Documents like design guidelines, master plans, or ordinances are better tools for this. |

The Safety Element can identify the creation of all of these.

Portola Valley's Safety Element Update

In May 2022, the Town prepared four memos to receive feedback and guidance from community members while drafting the Safety Element:

1. Geologic, Seismic, and Flooding Hazards,
2. Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience,
3. Wildfire Hazards, and
4. Analysis of Developments with One-way of Ingress and Egress (Senate Bill (SB) 99 Analysis).

Each memo included:

- Historical data
- Existing conditions information
- Relevant existing policies, and
- Best practice recommendations for new policies and programs.

Portola Valley's Safety Element Update

This Update builds from the existing Safety Element and incorporates:

- Preliminary Community and Committee Input
- New information on flooding, wildfires, emergency evacuation, and climate change, as required by recent State Law
- Guidance from State and regional agencies
- Cal Fire Checklist Requirements
- Best Practices

Portola Valley's Safety Element Update Structure

- Introduction
- Planning Process and Public Outreach
- Regulatory Setting
- Hazard Topics
 - Existing Conditions
 - Historical Data
 - Policies and Implementation Actions

Next Steps



Next Steps



How to Stay Involved!

COMMUNITY

DEPARTMENTS

BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT

I WANT TO...

Commission

Cable & Utilities Undergrounding Committee

Cultural Arts Committee

Finance Committee

Historic Resources Committee

Housing Element Committee

Parks & Recreation Committee

Race and Equity Committee

Sustainability Committee

Trails and Paths Committee

Woodside Highlands Road Maintenance District Residents' Advisory Committee

Committee

Classes

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Garden Share

Holiday Dates

Nature & Science Committee

Planning Commission

Special Town Events

Town Council

Water Conservation

Conservation Committee

Farmers' Market

Green Events

Housing

Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee

Public Works Committee

Summer Concert Series

Town Government

Wildfire Preparedness Committee

Job Posts

Staff Employee

Volunteer

News

Council Meeting Updates

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Safety Element

Town Safety

Elections

Housing News

Stanford Wedge Housing Project

Fire Prevention

News for Businesses

Town News

Sign up for Safety Element notifications:
<https://www.portolavalley.net/community>

Community >>Stay Informed

Subscribe to Town ENotices and select “Safety Element”

Questions / Comments

