The draft Recovery Framework includes 270 proposed actions. This document highlights 17 of those actions.

**COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Goal CP1 Action: Comprehensive Warning Program.** A comprehensive warning program that communicates alerts over many platforms and across all potential sensory, language, and cultural barriers will be developed, and include tests, assessments, and public outreach campaigns. This top priority will ensure the County is able to communicate warnings and alerts to all members of the community using every feasible method, to include community members who have sensory, language and/or cultural barriers. In the upcoming year, Fire & Emergency Services staff will research all available warning systems and devices; develop a public outreach program to inform the public regarding available alert systems, participation requirements and expectations; and conduct annual systems testing. The County, in coordination with the City of Santa Rosa, recently conducted tests of the current warning systems.

**Goal CP2 Action: Common Operating Picture.** Work with emergency managers and first responders across the County to determine the necessary information (i.e., environmental and infrastructure status, response team details) to be combined into a single real-time picture to support effective decision-making, resource deployments, and execution of response efforts. The County will research and analyze available computer-based software that could virtually aggregate, distill, manage and share information with first responders, allied stakeholder agencies, and the public. Fire cameras will be installed at seven locations throughout the County that will feed into the Common Operating Picture. Staff will work towards incorporating future feeds to the Common Operating Picture, including additional fire cameras, weather stations, stream gauges, weather radar, and seismic monitoring data. Additionally, the County will work to incorporate real-time information provided by residents and communities.

**Goal CP3 Action: Community Preparedness Program.** The County, together with community liaisons, will develop community preparedness programs to empower communities, neighborhoods, and individuals to be better prepared for a disaster. These programs will contain response activities based on a community’s unique assets, hazards, and mitigation measures. A public education and outreach strategy will ensure the community and individual residents are aware of the available resources, programs and services. Specific goals for the upcoming year will be developed when the Fire & Emergency Services staff position is filled in December 2018, but will include establishing a library of community resources on preparedness, collaborate with other jurisdictions on preparedness programming, and establishing a Community Working Group to develop an Outreach Plan to targeted groups, particularly vulnerable populations.

**Goal CP4 Action: Harden Utilities.** Maintaining communication and utilities are crucial to an effective and comprehensive response to an emergency. The County, together with other jurisdictions and organizations, will work with private utility providers (including cell carriers) to identify and implement mitigation measures in the event utility delivery and/or infrastructure is destroyed or disabled in a disaster. The County will meet with affected jurisdictions and utilities to facilitate strategies that effectively deal with issues that could arise in an emergency. In addition, the County will explore opportunities for State and Federal regulatory improvements and available resources to support these efforts.
Recovery and Resiliency Framework - Highlighted Proposed Actions

HOUSING

Goal H3 Action: Build/Rebuild/Retrofit More Resilient Homes in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and Other High-Risk Hazard Locations. Seek funds to help rebuild fire destroyed homes and retrofit existing homes with greater protective measures and encourage greater awareness of and access to programs such as FireSAFE Sonoma’s “Living with Fire” guide for homeowners. Generally, programs such as an all hazards family emergency preparedness plan and other steps that households can take to be better prepared for future events should seek to address hardening their home and immediate landscaping in conjunction with a personal preparedness plan and a broader natural resources response, depending on their location. To support these effort, specific grants that the County has applied for through the Community Development Corporation and Permit Sonoma include:

- Wildfire Adapted Sonoma County Education and Incentives for Safe and Resilient Sonoma County grant. This would harden structures and create defensible space to reduce the risk of fire damage (PRMD and FES lead): $6,677,777
- Seismic Strengthening and Retrofit of Existing Structures grant. This would retrofit soft-story structures in identified vulnerable locations throughout the county (PRMD lead): $6,677,777
- Flood Elevation Program grant. This would elevate homes and provide other mitigation measures for properties on the National Flood Insurance Program repetitive loss list (CDC lead): $1,807,043

Goals H1 and H2 Action: Remove Roadblocks to Moving Projects Forward. Address housing projects that are not moving forward and find solutions to what is keeping them from being built. There are roughly 16,000 housing units somewhere within the development process pipeline countywide. Key roadblocks can include regulations, infrastructure, site requirements, and funding. Working regionally with other jurisdictions, the County is identifying regulatory changes to support moving projects in the pipeline forward. While Permit Sonoma is focusing on regulatory changes, the County is also pursuing additional funding to support housing projects in the pipeline. Working with developers and State agencies to create better, more competitive matches between a specific project and a specific grant program is a part of the coordination that the Community Development Commission will provide. CDGB-DR funds may be able to be used, depending on the State’s Action Plan which is currently being developed.

Goals H1 and H2 Action: Identify Potential Regulatory Changes and Funding Development to Advance a Regional Housing Strategy to Address Chronic Housing Challenges Countywide. Work with regional partners to join larger Bay Area housing solutions and to access regional and State funding to increase housing production at all levels of affordability, preserve existing affordable housing, and protect vulnerable populations from housing instability and displacement. Analysis shows that within the currently approved General Plans countywide, there are roughly 46,000 housing units of capacity. After accounting for the projects already in the pipeline, initial analysis shows the remaining new housing units could be accommodated within the Priority Development Areas countywide in locations in urban areas near transit, jobs, and other services which are called Priority Development Areas (PDAs).
As part of the County’s collaboration and coordination with other jurisdictions and developers, the County and the City of Santa Rosa are forming a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) known as the Renewal Enterprise District (RED). The Renewal Enterprise District seeks to regionalize housing production, pool and leverage financing and funding, share risks and benefits of development in new ways, provide confidence in good projects, and put equity, affordability and climate solutions in the center of our local economic strategies. The Renewal Enterprise District will build on existing regional planning efforts, and focus its regulatory and financial incentives on developments within locally designated employment investment and priority development areas.

**Goal H1 Action: Develop Financing Tool to Stimulate Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Production.** Work with lenders to develop a new revolving loan pool to provide financing for ADUs in the unincorporated areas of the County. When developed, the Community Development Commission and Permit Sonoma will roll out an educational campaign to promote the development of Accessory Dwelling Units and the various streamlining and financing tools that are available to homeowners.

**ECONOMY**

**Goal E1 Action: Foster Opportunities to Develop Construction and Trade Workers.** The destruction of the October wildfires exacerbated an existing shortage of construction workers. Sonoma County partners will continue to collaborate and leverage resources to meet the need for workers, support rebuilding efforts, and prepare high school students, college students, and adult residents for local careers in construction and the trades. One way to support development of construction and trades workers is to continue to offer a five-month after school training program from the North Bay Construction Corps (NBCC). NBCC was established through a partnership of the North Coast Builders Exchange, Career Technical Education Foundation of Sonoma County, and the Sonoma County Office of Education and offers a five-month after school training program for high school seniors interested in construction and the trades. To further support development of construction and trade workers, an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant application has been submitted to fund a formal construction skills training center that would support the NBCC program and further expand the pipeline of workers needed to rebuild and develop new housing. Additionally, the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) received a grant from the California Employment Development Department to help train adults for jobs in construction.

**Goal E1 Action: Create Cooperative Education Program to Develop Pipeline of Graduates into Local Firms.** Another key action to support workforce development will be to create the Sonoma County Cooperative Education Program to bring together local high schools, Santa Rosa Junior College, Sonoma State University, and others in partnership with local employers to develop a pipeline of skilled graduates into local firms. Cooperative education programs combine classroom-based learning with practical, structured work experience.

**Goal E2 Action: Market Sonoma County as a Tourist Destination and Support Shop-Local Campaigns.** Expanding efforts to market Sonoma County as a tourist destination and encouraging residents and others visiting to buy local will help to support local businesses. To accomplish this, the Economic Development Board (EDB) is partnering with Sonoma County Tourism, local Chambers of Commerce, and other organizations to
continue to support marketing campaigns such as the new “Life Opens Up” Tourism campaign as well as the “Open for Business” marketing effort to let visitors know the County is up and running. In addition, the EDB will continue to utilize the #GoSoCo effort, an EDB partnership with all nine cities within Sonoma County and 15 Chambers of Commerce to increase public awareness of the economic benefits of shopping local through print and digital advertising. The #GoSoCo campaign reinforces that residents choosing to spend their money at Sonoma County-based establishments will help create a more resilient, sustainable local economy.

SAFETY NET SERVICES

Goal SN2 Action: Provide Post-fire Mental Health Services for Fire Survivors. Meeting the community’s mental health needs through crisis counseling continues to be a priority. California HOPE county-wide support has been extended through at least April, 2019 thanks to a generous Kaiser Permanente grant. Beyond this date, the Department of Health Services will assess for continued need of the California HOPE program and seek funding opportunities as needed.

Goal SN3 Action: Strengthen ACCESS Sonoma County Initiative. Sonoma County departments will continue to partner to strengthen ACCESS Sonoma County Initiative’s capacity to coordinate care delivery. The ACCESS Sonoma County partnership includes a data sharing and integration effort to identify target populations in need of services and track measures of success. The next steps for this initiative will focus on developing a model for comprehensive approaches to address key needs, based on a “no wrong door” strategy to ensure access to services across departments in order to prioritize coordinated care. This initiative is critical to addressing the impacts of the Sonoma Complex fires on residents and will help connect the most vulnerable populations with appropriate services to improve their wellbeing. After the fires, Sonoma County experienced a significant increase in the need for safety-net services that continue nearly a year later. The county experienced economic and housing instability that impacted vulnerable populations more than any other demographic group.

Goal SN3 Action: Ensure a “One-stop shop” Resource Center. A Resource Center in Sonoma County is needed to serve all residents of the county, regardless of income, language, legal status, age, or other demographics. The Center will address the needs of all community members, including the middle class, who lack access to existing services or public assistance. In turn, the Resource Center will support the overall safety net and economy of Sonoma County, preventing long-term negative impacts of the recent wildfire disaster while providing immediate, critical assistance. The Center will also support the rebuilding process by serving as a navigation center for housing related efforts.

A successful Resource Center will engage a collaborative effort with the County of Sonoma, City of Santa Rosa, and other public and non-profit partners. A Resource Center will initially focus on the needs of residents impacted by the fires, but can be sustained as a way to share ongoing information, resources and referrals with the community, while preparing for future needs and/or disasters. The development of a Resource Center will occur in multiple phases: Initial discussions with Rebuilding Our Community (ROC) Sonoma County have begun about the possibility of using their Resource Center initially. Ideally one or more County staff would be embedded at the ROC Resource Center to be the “navigator for County services.” During this initial phase, the County will explore a longer-term Resource Center plan,
including funding and staffing. Long-term staffing can include County staff, volunteers and others (e.g. AmeriCorps). Examples of potential services at the Resource Center include: mental health counseling – group or individual, services for older adults, legal assistance, energy and water conservation information, assistance with landscaping ideas, disaster preparedness, and volunteer/peer-led services (from individuals who also lost their home).

**Goal SN3 Action: Enhance 2-1-1 Services.** Sonoma County’s Human Services Department oversees an agreement with the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County to manage 2-1-1, an information and referral service that is available any time of day or night. 2-1-1 is an essential resource to the community during times of disaster to provide updates, advisories, and recovery resources. Sonoma County is connecting with local non-profits to explore opportunities and funding commitments necessary to expand the services and capacity of 2-1-1. The County will utilize San Diego County’s 2-1-1 program as an aspirational service model to guide enhancements. San Diego’s 2-1-1 program includes client navigation and care coordination across multiple service providers utilizing a shared data system to track service type utilization, follow up services and client outcomes.

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Goals NR 1, 2, 3 Action: A Fuel Reduction and Landscape Resiliency Campaign.** The natural resources goals each include priority actions that contribute to rapidly lower wildfire hazards to communities and sensitive habitats, improve delivery of resources and amenities people need, and help forests become more resistant to drought, disease, and insects. They are all means to overcome challenges for sustainable fuel reduction and vegetation management on large landholdings, as fuel breaks in key locations in watersheds, and on small parcels. The cornerstone of the campaign is built on continuing to gather and use best available scientific information to inform policy development and County investments that protect watersheds and developed communities from natural disasters. These data and decision systems will be used to target strategic locations for treatment of large landholdings, small parcels, and priority fuel breaks and as input to planning other multi-benefit resiliency actions. The fuel reduction campaign spans the full range of our landscape, with education, implementation, and regulatory efforts at both the state and local levels.

**Large Landholdings**
Several local public agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community working groups will continue to collaborate and leverage recent legislative efforts and state funding opportunities in support of landowner, public entities and non-governmental organization efforts to reduce fuel loads. Close collaboration with CAL FIRE will continue, potentially featuring dedicated CAL FIRE Vegetation Management Program personnel for Sonoma County.

**Fuel Breaks**
We are planning and coordinating implementation of fuel-wise management on large blocks of public and/or private lands in locations that provide multiple benefits in our watersheds and along stream systems. This includes analysis to achieve improved resilience of ecosystems, particularly in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) as we make decisions about open space land protection acquisitions, easements or designation of community separators. Consideration of fire and other natural hazards will be emphasized in efforts such as the Ag + Open Space’s Vital Lands Initiative and Sonoma Water’s Storm Water Resource Plans.
Small Parcels
Chapter 13 of the Sonoma County Code, “Sonoma County Fire Safety Ordinance” ("Fire Code") identifies defensible space requirements for structures and roads. Expansion of the enforcement efforts under the Fire Code is underway and the code is under review for possible amendments to enhance the incentives, inspections, and abatement protocols. The Chipper Program is working with unincorporated residents to establish defensible space and/or thin vegetation. The County has applied for Pre-Hazard Mitigation Grant funds for a Home Fire Mitigation Project to assist and inspire property owners to reduce vegetation by:

- performing inspections for compliance to defensible space regulations
- identifying key vulnerabilities
- providing cost share incentives, and
- supporting critical public education about wildfire loss prevention and preparedness.

Goal NR 2 Action: Assist Burned Watersheds Recovery. The many County family departments, other public agencies, and community partners in the Watershed Task Force as well as the Watershed Collaborative continue to coordinate and implement mitigation, monitoring, rehabilitation and restoration to protect water quality and other natural resources within and downstream of areas burned in the October 2017 fires. In particular, fire damaged hillsides and stream corridors, along with fire-fighting scars, are being assessed for their vulnerability to potential secondary fire hazards such as flooding, erosion, and sedimentation. These types of post-fire concerns often worsen during the second or third year after an event. Information to guide landowner preparedness, protect stormwater during rebuild, inform storm patrols and support adaptive response is being developed, updated, and distributed widely.