Office of Recovery & Resiliency

Recovery & Resiliency Framework Adoption

December 11, 2018

County Administrator’s Office
Sonoma County Recovery & Resiliency Framework

Presentation Agenda

• Framework Overview
• Public Input Received
• Summary of Changes
• Potential Actions List
• Key Projects
• Recovery Ad Hoc Committee
• Next Steps
Sonoma County Recovery & Resiliency Framework
On December 19, 2017, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors established the Office of Recovery & Resiliency with a mandate to develop a recovery and resiliency plan consisting of five strategic areas:

1. Community Preparedness & Infrastructure
2. Housing
3. Economy
4. Natural Resources
5. Safety Net
The Framework:
- Affirms the County vision
- Outlines how the County engages community
- Describes the implementation approach
- Promotes inclusive planning and coordination
- Encourages the whole community to increase resilience

The Framework is not:
- An exhaustive list of recovery actions
- Static
- A detailed implementation plan
- A replacement for other plans
Here’s What We Heard From the Community

“Make sure we are **bold in our plan** and we talk about **equity.**”

“Regular **controlled burns** in some areas. **Manual fuel reduction** in other areas.”

“I am a huge fan of **sirens** as an alert for major emergencies. ... Siren systems were widely used for decades with great success.”

“Smaller groups (communities) need to take responsibility for communications.”

“I want to encourage us all to realize that these 4-5 themes in this framework are all woven together.”

“Obviously, ‘fast tracking’ approvals for housing. Be careful not to lose sight, in the short term, of environmental impacts in the long term ... don’t forget CEOA.”

“I urge the City and the County to put together a ‘Vulnerable Population Plan’ for future emergencies.”

“Lower fees. **Approve more housing** more quickly.”

Office of Recovery & Resiliency
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December 2017, the County Board of Supervisors established the Office of Recovery and Resiliency to work with County department heads to lead and coordinate recovery efforts in the County. The Office was tasked with taking a long-term, strategic approach, and to develop an integrated framework for recovery that incorporates a long-term vision for a more resilient future.

ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK

The Recovery and Resiliency Framework is a vision for how the County will recover from the October 2017 wildfires, a vision for a resilient future, and an approach to achieve it. It capitalizes on our County’s strengths and identifies the investments we need to keep Sonoma strong. The Framework is a foundation for integration of recovery efforts County-wide, and is informed by residents, community partners, County departments, cities and other jurisdictions in the County.

The Framework draws from the structure, functions, roles, and principles in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF). Like the NDRF, the Framework serves as a platform and forum for the ways the County and community build and sustain recovery capabilities. A focus of the Framework is planning and preparedness before a disaster occurs. Planning includes coordination with partners, risk mitigation, continuity planning, identifying resources and developing capacity to manage the recovery process.

The Framework is structured around recovery efforts in five critical strategic areas — Community Preparedness & Infrastructure, Housing, Economy, Safety Net Services, and Natural Resources. Proposed actions are included for each strategic area, though many actions cross more than a single area.
New Section:

Recovery Roles & Responsibilities

SUCCESSFUL recovery from a disaster as significant as the Sonoma Complex Fires will not be obtained by any one entity. Defining roles and responsibilities for recovery partners allows better coordination of opportunities, increased partnerships, and optimized resources. The following roles and responsibilities are adapted from FEMA’s National Disaster Recovery Framework.

**Individuals and Households**: Individuals and families need to plan and be prepared to sustain themselves in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Disaster preparation includes having adequate insurance and maintaining essential levels of supplies, such as medication, food, and water. Resources to help individuals and families prepare are available through websites and publications of various organizations that are active in disasters, including local, state, and federal agencies.

**Private Sector**: The private sector plays a critical role in establishing public confidence immediately after a disaster. When the private sector is operational, the community recovers more quickly by retaining and providing jobs and a stable tax base. When local leaders and the business community work together pre-disaster and develop a conceptual recovery plan, the public is more likely to be optimistic about the community’s ability to recover post-disaster. For example, local banks can continue to offer accessible loan opportunities to individuals and businesses impacted by the fires. Insurance companies also play a role in preparedness. They can assist in educating community members on risks and reach out to underserved populations to find ways to provide coverage.
Summary of Changes

CORE PRINCIPLES

The ways that we plan for the next disaster, incorporate input, collaborate to build the right capabilities, mitigate threats, care for our citizens, and implement the goals and actions in this Framework, are guided by a set of core principles outlined largely in the National Disaster Recovery Framework. Establishing and adhering to these core principles will help ensure that our recovery efforts are consistent with Federal and State recovery partners and best practices in recovery management. The core principles guide the strategies we pursue, our decision-making, processes and practices. In practice, they maximize the opportunity for achieving recovery success. Their more specific definitions have been informed by input from County leadership, partners, and our community.

SOCIAL EQUITY

All community members who have or will suffer losses have equal voice in informing recovery efforts. Efforts address historic social and institutional barriers to equitable receipt of services and benefits. All individuals have access to resources that equitably address both their physical losses and psychological health needs.

Addition to Guiding Principles:

Social Equity
Summary of Changes

COMMUNITY INPUT

The County heard consistently from community members that they appreciated opportunities to share their ideas with County staff. The compiled data of all public input from the Recovery Planning Community Meetings and online survey are available on the Office of Recovery and Resiliency’s website. In partnership with county departments, Office staff reviewed and analyzed all of the input gathered during stakeholder meetings and submitted via email.

The ideas and concerns expressed by the community in many ways validated the vision and goals in the initial draft Framework; however, community members offered a number of new and innovative approaches to recovery that were incorporated. Each critical recovery area section of this Framework includes a summary of the key themes conveyed by the community. A list of the key themes is included as Appendix D-1. Submitted input is also available on the Office of Recovery and Resiliency’s website.

“...I want to underscore the importance of embedding equity at the beginning of the Framework and connecting it with environmental justice and access to resources, so that those themes are carried across the Framework."  

— COMMUNITY MEMBER

Added Inclusive Language Throughout
Summary of Changes

Added Guide to Framework Documents Online
Summary of Changes

All Strategy Areas:

- Edited
- Simplified language when possible for readability and accessibility
- Updated Timelines

Strategy Area 1
COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS & INFRASTRUCTURE
County-wide awareness, infrastructure, systems

Strategy Area 2
HOUSING
Diverse, affordable, accessible places to live

Strategy Area 3
ECONOMY
New jobs, businesses, opportunities

Strategy Area 4
SAFETY NET SERVICES
Care for people who need extra help

Strategy Area 5
NATURAL RESOURCES
Healthy and well-managed land and water
Summary of Changes

Community Preparedness:

- Added action items for animal care in a disaster
- Addressed metrics and objective measurements
- Addressed the need for individual preparedness
- Added action item on annual preparedness day
- Added advocacy issues
Summary of Changes

Housing:

- Added implicit bias discussion
- Added SB35 Regional Housing Needs Assessment targets met by Sonoma County discussion
Summary of Changes

Economy:

- Added action items related to expansion of workforce development services and job fairs
- Added creation of “green jobs” focused on vegetation management with Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps partnership.
Summary of Changes

Safety Net Services:

• Added 2 action items to address food services needs and coordination during disasters; UCCE will lead

• Added action item to ensure resources and services at shelters are accessible to non-English speakers and undocumented residents
Summary of Changes

Natural Resources:

- Additions to reflect recent legislation, studies, regional organizations networking, and funding programs
- Incorporated more on recovery needs of burned watersheds
- Updated actions completed to-date by various county agencies and partners
Potential Actions List

• A range of potential future actions that could advance the County toward resilience

• Appendix A of the Recovery and Resiliency Framework

• Reflects broad community input

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Proposed Action</th>
<th>Potential Action</th>
<th>Primary Agency</th>
<th>County’s Role</th>
<th>Other Partners</th>
<th>Implementation Status</th>
<th>Funding Status</th>
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Office of Recovery & Resiliency
Potential Actions List

- Total Potential Actions: **273**

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10 Priority Projects

1. **Alert and Warning System** *(Action #: CP 1)*

2. **Work with community** to identify hazards, risks, mitigation strategies, including *evacuation routes*. *(Action #: CP3)*

3. **Facilitate** *construction hardening techniques appropriate for wildfire urban interfaces and seismic retrofits* for rebuilding and for existing homes through education and grant programs. *(Action #: 3.4 and H 3.1)*

4. **Work with private utility providers** on solutions related to *hardening infrastructure* and on coping with destroyed utilities in a disaster, including undergrounding where appropriate and necessary. *(Action #: CP 4.6)*

5. **Help property owners navigate** *vegetation management* opportunities through partnership with Fire Safe Sonoma and similar programs. *(Action #: CP 3.4)*
10 Priority Projects

6. Continue to advocate for substantive changes to insurance regulations. (Action #: H 4.4)

7. Community Awareness strategies we’ve been doing such as the recent mailers on Watershed Protection and Defensible Space. (Actions #: NR 2.1, 2.4)

8. Expedited Permitting (Action #: H 4.3)

9. Enhance 2-1-1 System (Action #: SN 3.5)

10. One Stop Shop Resource Center (Action #: SN 3.3)
Proposed: Recovery Ad Hoc Committee
# Next Steps

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*Note: The table details specific actions and their timelines for recovery framework and continuing activities.
Recommended Action

• Approve the Recovery and Resiliency Framework
• Create and appoint a Recovery Ad Hoc Committee to provide input on Recovery and Resiliency Framework implementation
Questions & Discussion