

City of Talent Addendum to the Jackson County NHMP



Photos courtesy of Oregon State Archives

Effective:

February 12, 2024 through February 11, 2029

Prepared for
City of Talent
110 E Main St
Talent, OR 97540

Prepared by
The University of Oregon
Institute for Policy Research & Engagement
School of Planning, Public Policy, and Management



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Research and Engagement

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FEMA

April 10, 2024

The Honorable Rick Dyer, Chair
Jackson County Board of Commissioners
10 South Oakland Ave.
Medford, Oregon 97501

Reference: Approval of the Jackson County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dear Chair Dyer:

In accordance with applicable¹ laws, regulations, and policy, the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 10 has approved the Jackson County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan for the following jurisdictions:

City of Butte Falls	City of Phoenix	Jackson County
City of Talent	City of Gold Hill	City of Shady Cove
City of Rogue River	City of Eagle Point	Jackson County Fire District #3
Medford Water Commission	City of Ashland	City of Jacksonville
City of Central Point		

The approval period for this plan is from February 12, 2024 through February 11, 2029.

In addition, Jackson County met the requirements for addressing all dam risks listed in the multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan.

An approved hazard mitigation plan is one of the conditions for applying for and receiving FEMA mitigation grants from the following programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post-Fire (HMGP-PF)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- High Hazard Potential Dams Grants Program (HHPD)

To avoid a lapsed plan, the next plan update must be approved before the end of the approval period, including adoption by the participating jurisdiction(s). Before the end of the approval period, please allow sufficient time to secure funding for the update, including the review and approval process. Please include time for any revisions, if needed, and for participating jurisdictions to formally adopt

¹ Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended; the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended; and National Dam Safety Program Act, as amended; Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 201, Mitigation Planning; and Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide (FP-206-21-0002).

Chair Dyer
April 10, 2024
Page 2

the plan after the review, if not adopted prior to submission. This will enable each jurisdiction to remain eligible to apply for and receive funding from FEMA's mitigation grant programs with a hazard mitigation plan requirement. Local governments, including special districts, with a plan status of "Approvable Pending Adoption" are not eligible for FEMA's mitigation grant programs with a hazard mitigation plan requirement.

If you have questions regarding your plan's approval or FEMA's mitigation program, please contact Joseph Murray, Mitigation Planner with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management at (503) 378-2911 or joseph.murray@oem.oregon.gov, who coordinates these efforts for local entities.

Sincerely,

WENDY L SHAW Digitally signed by WENDY L
SHAW
Date: 2024.05.16 06:17:28 -08'00'

Wendy Shaw, P.E.
Risk Analysis Branch Chief
Mitigation Division

Enclosures

cc: Stephen Richardson, Oregon Department of Emergency Management

JF:JG:ws

**CITY OF TALENT
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-080-R**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF TALENT ADDENDUM TO THE
JACKSON COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARDS
MITIGATION PLAN.**

WHEREAS, the City of Talent recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people, property and infrastructure within our community; and

WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people, property and infrastructure from future hazard occurrences; and

WHEREAS, an adopted Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Talent has fully participated in the FEMA prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare the *Jackson County, Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan*, which has established a comprehensive, coordinated planning process to eliminate or minimize these vulnerabilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Talent has identified natural hazard risks and prioritized several proposed actions and programs needed to mitigate the vulnerabilities of the City of Talent to the impacts of future disasters within the *Jackson County, Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan*; and

WHEREAS, these proposed projects and programs have been incorporated into the *Jackson County, Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan* that has been prepared and promulgated for consideration and implementation by the cities of Jackson County; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Office of Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region X officials reviewed the *Jackson County, Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan* in 2018 which was subsequently adopted by the participating governments and entities.

WHEREAS, the NHMP is comprised of comprised of three volumes: Volume I -Basic Plan, Volume II – Appendices, and Volume III – City Addenda, collectively referred to herein as the NHMP; and

WHEREAS, the NHMP is in an on-going cycle of development and revision to improve its effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Talent adopts this addendum to the NHMP and directs the City Manager and Chief of Police to develop, approve, and implement the mitigation strategies and any administrative changes to the NHMP.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Talent adopts the City of Talent Addendum to the Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, and.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Talent will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region X officials to enable final approval of the City's Addendum to the Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Duly enacted by the City Council in open session on February 7th, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1



Hector Flores, interim City Recorder

Introduction

Purpose

This is an update of the Talent addendum to the Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (MNHMP, NHMP). This addendum supplements information contained in Volume I (Basic Plan), which serves as the NHMP foundation and Volume II (Appendices), which provide additional information. This addendum meets the following requirements:

- Multi-Jurisdictional **Plan Adoption** §201.6(c)(5),
- Multi-Jurisdictional **Participation** §201.6(a)(3),
- Multi-Jurisdictional **Mitigation Strategy** §201.6(c)(3)(iv) and
- Multi-Jurisdictional **Risk Assessment** §201.6(c)(2)(iii).

Updates to Talent’s addendum are further discussed throughout the NHMP and within Volume II, Appendix B, which provides an overview of alterations to the document that took place during the update process.

Talent adopted their addendum to the Jackson County Multi-jurisdictional NHMP on February 7, 2024. FEMA Region X approved the Jackson County NHMP and the City’s addendum on February 12, 2024. With approval of this NHMP, the City is now eligible for non-disaster and disaster mitigation project grants through February 11, 2029.

NHMP Process, Participation and Adoption

This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(c)(5), *Plan Adoption* and 44 CFR 201.6(a)(3), *Participation*.

In addition to establishing a comprehensive city level mitigation strategy, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K), and the regulations contained in Title 44 CFR Part 201, require that jurisdictions maintain an approved NHMP to receive federal funds for mitigation projects. Local adoption, and federal approval of this NHMP ensures that the city will remain eligible for non-disaster and disaster mitigation project grants. Talent was included as an addendum in the 2018 Jackson County NHMP process.

The Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience (OPDR) at the University of Oregon’s Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) partnered with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM), Jackson County, and Talent to update their NHMP. This project is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Members of the Talent NHMP steering committee also participated in the County NHMP update process (Volume II, Appendix B).

By creating a NHMP, locally adopting it, and having it approved by FEMA, Talent will maintain eligibility for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program funds.

The Jackson County NHMP and Talent addendum are the result of a collaborative effort between citizens, public agencies, non-profit organizations, the private sector, and regional organizations. A project steering committee guided the process of developing the NHMP.

Convener and Committee

The Talent Police Chief/Emergency Manager served as the designated convener of the NHMP update and will take the lead in implementing, maintaining, and updating the addendum to the Jackson County NHMP in collaboration with the designated convener of the Jackson County NHMP (Emergency Manager).

Representatives from the City of Talent steering committee met formally and informally, to discuss updates to their addendum (Volume II, Appendix B). The steering committee reviewed and revised the City's addendum, with particular focus on the NHMP's risk assessment and mitigation strategy (action items).

This addendum reflects decisions made at the designated meetings and during subsequent work and communication with Jackson County Emergency Management and the OPDR. The changes are highlighted with more detail throughout this document and within Volume II, Appendix B. Other documented changes include a revision of the City's risk assessment and hazard identification sections, NHMP mission and goals, action items, and community profile.

The Talent Steering Committee was comprised of the following representatives:

- Convener, Jennifer Snook, Police Chief
- Charles Hanley, Jackson County Fire District #5 Chief
- Bret Marshall, Public Works Director
- Kristen Maze, Community Development Director
- Jordan Rooklyn, City Manager
- Robert Slayton, Superintendent of Public Works

The steering committee was closely involved throughout the development of the NHMP and served as the local oversight body for the NHMP's development.

NHMP Implementation and Maintenance

The City Council will be responsible for adopting the Talent addendum to the Jackson County NHMP. This addendum designates a steering committee and a convener to oversee the development and implementation of action items. Because the City addendum is part of the County's multi-jurisdictional NHMP, the City will look for opportunities to partner with the County. The City's steering committee will convene after re-adoption of the Talent NHMP addendum on an annual schedule. The County is meeting on a semi-annual basis and will provide opportunities for the cities to report on NHMP implementation and maintenance during their meetings. The Police Chief/Emergency Manager will serve as the convener and will be responsible for assembling the steering committee.

The steering committee will be responsible for:

- Reviewing existing action items to determine suitability of funding;
- Reviewing existing and new risk assessment data to identify issues that may not have been identified at NHMP creation;
- Educating and training new steering committee members on the NHMP and mitigation actions in general;
- Assisting in the development of funding proposals for priority action items;
- Discussing methods for continued public involvement;
- Evaluating effectiveness of the NHMP at achieving its purpose and goals (use Table 4-1, Volume I, Section 4, as one tool to help measure effectiveness); and
- Documenting successes and lessons learned during the year.

The convener will also remain active in the County’s implementation and maintenance process (Volume I, Section 4).

The steering committee will be responsible for activities outlined in Volume I, Section 4.

The City will utilize the same action item prioritization process as the County (Volume I, Section 4 and Volume II, Appendix D).

Implementation through Existing Programs

Many of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan’s recommendations are consistent with the goals and objectives of the City’s existing plans and policies. Where possible, Talent will implement the NHMP’s recommended actions through existing plans and policies. Plans and policies already in existence have support from residents, businesses, and policy makers. Many land-use, comprehensive, and strategic plans get updated regularly, allowing them to adapt to changing conditions and needs. Implementing the NHMP’s action items through such plans and policies increases their likelihood of being supported and implemented.

Talent’s acknowledged comprehensive plan is the City of Talent Comprehensive Plan. The City implements the plan through the Community Development Code. The last update of the flood ordinance was in May 2023.

Talent currently has the following plans that relate to natural hazard mitigation. For a complete list visit the City’s [website](#).

- [Comprehensive Plan](#)
- [Community Development Code](#)
- Capital Improvements Plan (2023-2028)
- [Emergency Operations Plan \(2012\)](#)
- [Transportation System Plan \(2015\)](#)
- [Stormwater Master Plan \(1999\)](#)
- Water System Master Plan (2020)
- [Regional Problem Solving \(RPS\) Plan \(2012\)](#)

- [Building Codes and Standards: Oregon Structural Specialty Code \(Commercial\) and Oregon Residential Specialty Code.](#)

Capability Assessment

The Capability Assessment identifies and describes the ability of Talent to implement the mitigation strategy and associated action items. Capabilities can be evaluated through an examination of broad categories, including: existing authorities, policies, programs, funding, and resources.

Existing Authorities

Hazard mitigation can be executed at a local scale through three (3) methods: integrating hazard mitigation actions into other local planning documents (i.e., plan integration), adopting building codes that account for best practices in structural hardening, and codifying land use regulations and zoning designations that prescribe mitigation into development requirements. The extent to which a municipality or multi-jurisdictional effort leverages these approaches is an indicator of that community's capabilities.

Comprehensive Plan

Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 7 requires comprehensive planning within every jurisdiction that is designed to reduce risks to people and property from natural hazards. Talent addresses Statewide Planning Goal 7 Natural Hazards as part of their Comprehensive Plan in Element C, Natural Hazards. Since its establishment in 1984, several components of the plan have been updated to address economic development, the transportation system, natural resources, and, most recently, housing. Natural hazards that are a concern identified in Talent include floods in Bear and Wagner Creek floodplains and high water table areas; the possibility of a dam failure at either of two dam sites at Emigrant Lake; landslides on creek banks and in the future when development is likely to occur on hillsides to the southwest of town; earthquakes, and wildfires.

The comprehensive plan was updated in 2012 to include Urban Reserve Areas (URAs). Natural hazards were taken into consideration during the evaluation of these areas for ultimate Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion. One URA was added to Talent's UGB in 2023.

Planned updates to the jurisdiction's Goal 7 element or its broader comprehensive plan will reflect the data and findings within this NHMP and integrate analyses of future climate and natural hazard impacts into the community's long-range plans.

Land Use Regulations

Existing land use policies that define zoning and address hazardous conditions provide another source of mitigation capability.

Chapter 15.1 5 Flood Damage Prevention

This regulation, updated in May, 2023, applies to areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Insurance Administration in a scientific and engineering report entitled "The Flood Insurance Study for Jackson County, Oregon and Incorporated Areas," dated May 3, 2011, with accompanying flood insurance rate maps. This flood prevention code section is based on the

Oregon Model Flood Hazard Prevention code, which includes provisions addressing substantial improvement/substantial damage.

Chapter 18.85 Overlay Zone – Natural Areas, Parks and Floodplains (OFPG)

The floodplain, parks and greenway overlay zone establishes minimum standards for new development in or adjacent to areas designated as floodplains, greenways, wetlands, and riparian areas. Application of special development standards in floodplains is intended to minimize property loss, personal injury and health hazards.

18.115 Development and Design Standards

Updated in 2021, this code includes standards for public facilities, transportation facilities, sanitary sewer and water service improvements, storm drainage and surface water management, and utilities.

18.115.100 Storm drainage and surface water management was amended in 2021 to follow the new Storm Drainage Design Standards.

Structural Building Codes

The Oregon Legislature recently adopted updated building codes for both residential (2021 adoption) and commercial structures (2022) since the last update of this Plan. These building codes are based on the 2021 version of the International Building Code, International Fire Code, and International Existing Building Code. The City of Talent administers the Oregon Residential Specialty Code 2020 and the Oregon Structural Specialty Code 2022.

Community and Economic Development

The Community Development Department manages current and long range planning activities, building and code enforcement in the City of Talent. Current planning involves implementation of adopted land use plans, policies, and development regulations through review of specific land use and development applications. The Community Development Department is also responsible for creating implementing ordinances based on the recommendations described in adopted city plans and technical reports. They work closely with the County and neighboring jurisdictions to ensure plans are aligned.

The Talent Building Department has adopted and administers the 2020 edition of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code and the 2022 edition of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. New residential and commercial structures are required to build according to the latest seismic and wind hardening standards in addition to requiring fire resistant building materials for those structures constructed in proximity or within the WUI.

The Planning Department and the Building Department work together to prevent or reduce the risk of flooding. The Floodplain Manager reviews floodplain management applications and elevation certificates, as well as applications for debris removal.

Public Works

The City of Talent Public Works Department is responsible for street maintenance, park maintenance, operations and maintenance of the Water system, and storm water system

maintenance. Much of their work is associated with the reduction of hazards to the community and the implementation of resilience measures.

Rogue Valley Sewer Service manages the City’s sewer system and stormwater system for water quality. The water supply for the City of Talent is purchased from the Medford Water Commission.

City Administration

The City Council of Talent has the responsibility of developing and adopting the annual city budget. Integrating hazard mitigation goals and projects into the annual budget is key to implementing the plan. The City Council tries to broadly address resilience planning needs while it determines city and departmental priorities and looks for multiple-impact projects wherever possible. They also work with staff to apply for federal and state grant funding to pursue larger projects that are outside of general fund capacity.

Policies and Programs

This Plan directs Talent and Jackson County to explore integration into other planning documents and processes. Talent has made significant progress in integrating the NHMP into its portfolio of planning processes and programs over the last five years.

Stormwater Design Manual (2023)

Rogue Valley Sewer Services manages Stormwater quality for the cities of Talent, Talent, and urbanized, unincorporated Jackson County. This manual provides best management strategies for stormwater design and maintenance.

Capital Improvement Plan (2023)

The City of Talent adopted an updated Capital Improvement Plan in 2023.

City of Talent Water Management and Conservation Plan (2020)

This updated plan includes a summary of the existing system, a description of current water rights, water conservation measures, the City’s curtailment plan, and a supply evaluation. Recommendations are tied to Medford Water Commission’s Curtailment Plan, which was formally adopted as part of this plan.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Jackson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) will be incorporated into this Plan as a functioning annex. The NHMP will also be integrated into the City’s Capital Improvement Plan, to be adopted by March, 2024.

Together for Talent Committee

The [Together for Talent Committee](#) serves as a recommending body to the Talent City Council. It actively promotes projects centered around renewable energy, zero waste, and disaster resilience. Notably, the committee played a crucial role in Talent being the first city in the state to incorporate a Clean Energy Action Plan into its Comprehensive Plan.

National Flood Insurance Program

The City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The first Flood Insurance Rate Maps were developed for the City in 1980. The Community Development Manager is responsible for administering the day-to-day activities of the city's floodplain program. They are assisted by the Building Official, Public Works, and by City Administration.

Specifically, the Community Development Manager:

- maintains and administers Talent's floodplain regulations;
- reviews and issues floodplain development permits;
- maintains elevation certificates for all new and substantially improved structures (and maintains an extensive database of historic elevation certificates);
- ensures that encroachments do not occur within the regulated floodway;
- implements measures to ensure that new and substantially improved structures are protected from flood losses;
- maintains floodplain studies and maps and makes this information available to the public;
- maintains a flood information website with digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) data;
- conducts site visits to assess conditions and provide technical assistance to the public;
- maintains a library of historical flood related information;
- informs the public of flood insurance requirements; and
- conducts outreach and training about flood hazards and development within the floodplain.

The City participates at a Class 8 in the Community Rating System (CRS) Program, a voluntary program offered by FEMA that exchanges discounts on individual flood insurance policies within the community for expanded efforts to mitigate and prevent flooding by the City.

Personnel

The following Talent personnel have assignments related to natural hazard mitigation planning and implementation:

Emergency Management: Chief of Police -Jennifer Snook City Manager-Tom Humphrey Interim C/M.

Public Information Officer: Hector Flores, Community Engagement

Floodplain Manager: Kristin Maze, Community Development

Grant writing (for Public Works or emergency management): Department Heads (Police, Public Works, City Manager, Finance Director, and Community Development Coordinator)

Capital improvement planning: City Manager, Public Works, and Finance

Capital improvement execution: City Manager, Public Works, and Finance.

These personnel integrate hazards and resilience planning into their greater work programs to the best of their abilities. However, there is limited capacity to expand upon their capabilities or workloads.

Capital Projects

Talent has implemented recommendations from the last NHMP into its capital improvement projects over the last 5 years.

The city has constructed bioswales in the Valley View Road right of way between Highway 99 and I-5 to manage stormwater runoff.

The city built a 2-million-gallon water reservoir that was completed in 2021 (Talent Reservoir). The reservoir was equipped with a seismic control valve that in case of an event, shuts closed to retain the water supply in the reservoir.

In 2020/21 the city added solar power to 3 infrastructure locations. The addition of solar power allows the city to maintain communications to these locations in the event of a power outage.

1. Rapp Pump Station
2. Wagner Reservoir
3. Belmont Reservoir

The Highway 99 project (Rapp Rd to Creel Rd) was completed with a joint effort from ODOT and the City of Talent. This project included a complete redesign of the storm water system to help control storm water runoff. Pipes were upsized from 12" to 24" and in some locations 36".

Fire Mitigation Strategies

Restoration and Wildfire Mitigation projects continue along Wagner Creek and Bear Creek in Talent, following the Almeda Fire. Jackson County Fire District 5, the City of Talent, and Jackson County Emergency Management are partnering to use controlled burns for fuels mitigation.

The lowest section of Wagner Creek at its confluence with Bear Creek was recently cleared of potentially hazardous wildfire fuels by The Freshwater Trust funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). This is part of a large, concerted effort by multiple agencies to clean up and restore greenways and prevent future wildfires.

Capital Resources

Talent maintains several capital resources that have important roles to play in the implementation of the natural hazard mitigation plan, including:

Communication towers:

- 251 W Valley View Road
- 1119 S Pacific Hwy-Talent

Critical facilities with power generators:

- Talent PD-Just received a grant. Completion should be done by Summer 2024.
- Public Works
- Talent City Hall

Warming or cooling shelters:

- City hosted cooling/warming shelters as staff/resources have allowed.
- The library is used when it is opened.

Food pantries:

- Access Food Pantry -open every Thursday 8:30-3:30 pm at Talent Town Hall
- Rogue Food Unites- Every Thursday evening

Fueling storage:

- Talent Public Works 200 Suncrest Road
- 3 Commercial fueling stations:
 - 251 W Valley View Road
 - 21 Talent Avenue
 - 301 W Valley View Road

Findings

Several important findings from this capability assessment informed the design of the Plan’s mitigation strategy and aided in prioritizing action items.

Staffing Limitations and Capacity

Talent staff are assigned hazard mitigation responsibilities as a (small) part of their larger job responsibilities. Limited capacity reduces the breadth of the programming the community can undertake in any year. The city relies upon its relationships with the County and other cities within its region to expand its operations.

Reliance upon outside funding streams and local match requirements

Talent operates on a limited budget with a small staff. This leaves few opportunities for using local financial resources to implement hazard mitigation work. They lean heavily upon state and federal grant funds as the primary means for securing mitigation funding. Hazard mitigation grants such as HMGP and BRIC require 10-25% local funding match, as well as extra staff capacity and expertise to navigate the application process and manage the funding.

Leveraging Partnerships with Public and Nonprofit Entities

Regional planning displayed in Community Wildfire Protection Planning process demonstrates the City’s ability to effectively share information and identified priority needs.

Mitigation Strategy

This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(iv), *Mitigation Strategy*.

The City’s mitigation strategy (action items) was reviewed and updated during the NHMP update planning process. The steering committee assessed the City’s risk, identified potential issues, and developed a mitigation strategy (action items). The City developed actions specific to their community after first reviewing a list of recommended actions developed by the County or recommended by OPDR.

Mitigation Successes

Talent has several examples of hazard mitigation including the following projects funded through FEMA [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) and the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority’s [Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program](#)¹.

FEMA Funded Mitigation Successes

- 2021: DR4599 – Generator for Police Facility (\$80,000)
- 2023: FM5327 – Bear Creek Greenway Defensible Space and Hazardous Fuels Reduction (\$1,385,113) - PENDING

Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program Mitigation Successes

- 2021: Jackson County Fire District 5, Station 2 (\$1,630,515)

Other Mitigation Successes

- 2023: Bear Creek Greenway Hazardous Fuels Removal - Oregon State Fire Marshall Grant Program (\$2186,600)
- 2023: Portable Emergency Generator – OEM SPIRE Grant Program

Action Items

Table TA-1 documents the title of each action along with, the lead organization, partners, timeline, cost, and potential funding resources.

¹ The Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP) is a state of Oregon competitive grant program that provides funding for the seismic rehabilitation of critical public buildings, particularly public schools, and emergency services facilities.

Table TA-1 Action Items

Action Item #	Mitigation Actions	Potential Funding Resources	Lead	Partners	Timeline	Cost
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Strategies						
1.1	Pursue funding to replace or retrofit existing water tank at Belmont Reservoir.	General Fund, FEMA (BRIC, HMGP)	Public Works	Planning, Administration	M	H
1.2	Pursue funding for enhancement of city resources including emergency water supply system, critical infrastructure retrofitting, and emergency generators, both traditional and solar.	General Fund, FEMA (BRIC, HMGP), SRGP	City Emergency Management	Planning, Administration	L	H
1.3	Identify and pursue funding to enhance communication efforts including radio equipment, HAM radio operation/equipment, and community warning systems.	General Fund, DLCD, FEMA, SRGP, State Fire Marshall Office	City Emergency Management	Planning, Public Works, Administration	L	H
1.4	Develop and enhance current education programs aimed at mitigating the impacts of natural hazards. Programs should focus on evacuations, disaster awareness, simulated training with partner agencies, and identifying vulnerable populations.	General Fund	City Emergency Management	Planning, Public Works, JCFD#5, Red Cross, County Emergency Management, RVCOG	O	H
1.5	Develop emergency fuel supply plan including supplying, management, rationing, and identifying essential needs.	General Fund	City Emergency Management	Planning, Public Works	O	H
1.6	Integrate the Mitigation Plan findings into City development codes.	General Fund, DLCD Technical Assistance Grant	City Planning	RVCOG, DLCD, FEMA	M	L
1.7	Use hazard information as a basis for ordinances and regulations that govern site specific land use decisions.	General Fund	City Planning	County GIS, FEMA, DLCD	L	L

Action Item #	Mitigation Actions	Potential Funding Resources	Lead	Partners	Timeline	Cost
Air Quality Mitigation Strategies						
2.0	The steering committee, using available local resources, will study this hazard further during the implementation and maintenance phase of this NHMP, seeking to identify cost effective actions that might be implemented to reduce community vulnerability.					
Drought Mitigation Strategies						
3.0	The steering committee, using available local resources, will study this hazard further during the implementation and maintenance phase of this NHMP, seeking to identify cost effective actions that might be implemented to reduce community vulnerability.					
Earthquake Mitigation Strategies						
4.1	Conduct public outreach on building safety through nonstructural improvements by providing public education opportunities.	Local Funding Resources, SRGP, PDM, HMGP	Public Works, City Planning	DLCD, OEM, DOGAMI	M	H
4.2	Replace water mains with seismic resilient piping.	Local Funding Resources, BRIC, HMGP	Public Works, City Planning	DLCD, OEM, DOGAMI	M	H
Emerging Infectious Diseases Mitigation Strategies						
5.0	The steering committee, using available local resources, will study this hazard further during the implementation and maintenance phase of this NHMP, seeking to identify cost effective actions that might be implemented to reduce community vulnerability.					
Flood Mitigation Strategies						
6.1	The City will maintain and update when necessary the City of Talent Flood Plan to ensure corrective and preventative measures for reducing flooding and flood damage are current. Last completed: 2023	General Fund, DLCD Technical Assistance Grants	City Planning	Public Works	O	L

Action Item #	Mitigation Actions	Potential Funding Resources	Lead	Partners	Timeline	Cost
Landslide Mitigation Strategies						
7.1	Investigate the development and implementation of a city ordinance that restricts development on steep slopes.	Local funding resources, DLCD Technical Assistance Grant	City Planning	DLCD, DOGAMI	L	L
Severe Weather (Extreme Heat, Windstorm, Winter Storm) Mitigation Strategies						
8.1	Map areas where extreme weather, such as road icing and wind damage, occurs to inform a response plan for extreme weather events.	General Fund	City Public Works	County Roads	S	M
8.2	Identify facilities to open to the public during extreme heat and cold conditions.	General Fund	City Vegetation Management	Utility partners, ODOT, Public Works, USFS, BLM, ODF, Fire	O	M
Volcanic Event Mitigation Strategies						
9.0	The steering committee, using available local resources, will study this hazard further during the implementation and maintenance phase of this NHMP, seeking to identify cost effective actions that might be implemented to reduce community vulnerability.					
Wildfire Mitigation Strategies						
10.1	Coordinate fire mitigation action items through the Rogue Valley Integrated Community Wildfire Protection Plan.	Local funding resources, Fire District, ODF	City Emergency Management	Jackson County Emergency Management, JCFD#5	O	H
10.2	Sustain a fuel reduction and vegetation management program to address fuel loads along the Bear Creek and Wagner Creek corridors.	Local funding resources, ODF	City Emergency Management	Jackson County Emergency Management, JCFD#5	O	H

Source: Talent NHMP Steering Committee, updated 2023

Cost: L – Low (less than \$50,000), M - Medium (\$50,000-\$100,000), H - High (more than \$100,000)

Timing: O-Ongoing (continuous), S-Short (1-2 years), M-Medium (3-5 years), L-Long (5 or more years)

Priority Actions: Identified with **bold** text and **orange** highlight

Risk Assessment

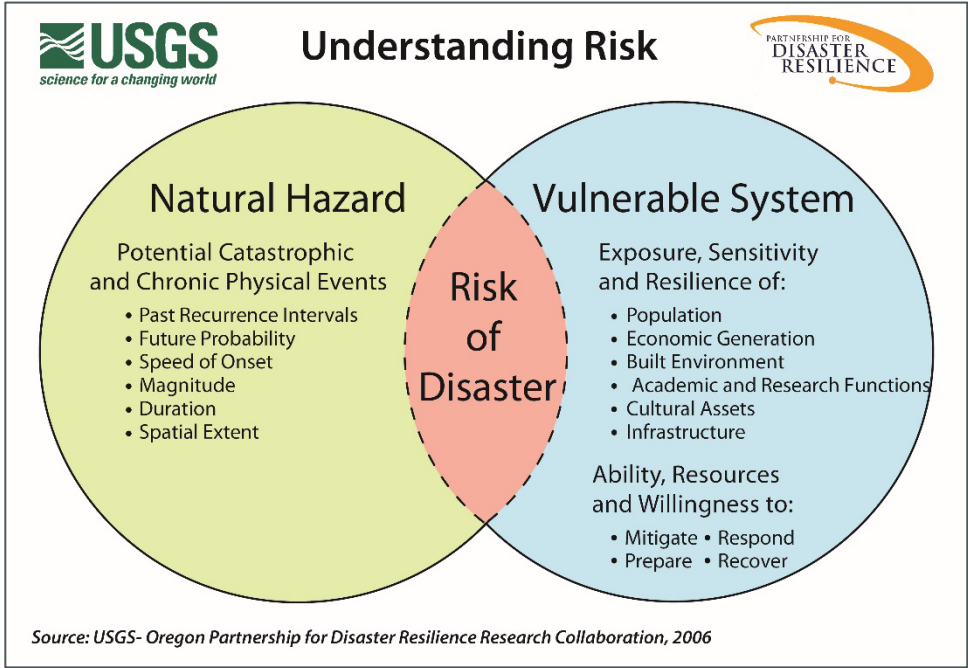
This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(b)(2) - Risk Assessment. In addition, this chapter can serve as the factual basis for addressing Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 7 – Areas Subject to Natural Hazards.

Assessing natural hazard risk has three phases:

- **Phase 1:** Identify hazards that can impact the jurisdiction. This includes an evaluation of potential hazard impacts – type, location, extent, etc.
- **Phase 2:** Identify important community assets and system vulnerabilities. Example vulnerabilities include people, businesses, homes, roads, historic places, and drinking water sources.
- **Phase 3:** Evaluate the extent to which the identified hazards overlap with or have an impact on, the important assets identified by the community.

The local level rationale for the identified mitigation strategies (action items) is presented herein and within Volume I, Sections 2 and 3. The risk assessment process is graphically depicted in Figure TA-1 below. Ultimately, the goal of hazard mitigation is to reduce the area of risk, where hazards overlap vulnerable systems.

Figure TA-1 Understanding Risk



Hazard Analysis

The Talent steering committee developed their hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA), using the County’s HVA (Volume II, Appendix C) as a reference. Changes from the County’s HVA

were made where appropriate to reflect distinctions in vulnerability and risk from natural hazards unique to Talent, which are discussed throughout this addendum.

Table TA-2 shows the HVA matrix for Talent listing each hazard in order of rank from high to low. For local governments, conducting the hazard analysis is a useful step in planning for hazard mitigation, response, and recovery. The method provides the jurisdiction with a sense of hazard priorities but does not predict the occurrence of a particular hazard.

Two chronic hazards (emerging infectious disease and wildfire) and one catastrophic hazard (Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake) rank as the top hazard threats to the City (Top Tier). The extreme heat, winter storm, air quality, and windstorm hazards comprise the next highest ranked hazards (Middle Tier), while the drought, flood, landslide, crustal earthquake, and volcanic event hazards comprise the lowest ranked hazards (Bottom Tier).

Table TA-2 Hazard Analysis Matrix – Talent

Hazard	History	Vulnerability	Maximum Threat	Probability	Total Threat Score	Hazard Rank	Hazard Tiers
Wildfire	16	25	100	70	211	#1	Top Tier
Emerging Infectious Disease	16	40	100	49	205	#2	
Earthquake - Cascadia	2	50	100	49	201	#3	
Extreme Heat Event	20	25	70	70	185	#4	Middle Tier
Winter Storm	20	35	60	70	185	#5	
Air Quality	18	40	60	63	181	#6	
Windstorm	20	35	50	70	175	#7	
Drought	20	25	50	63	158	#8	Bottom Tier
Flood	14	20	50	70	154	#9	
Landslide	4	20	40	70	134	#10	
Earthquake - Crustal	2	25	50	21	98	#11	
Volcanic Event	2	5	50	7	64	#12	

Source: Talent NHMP Steering Committee, 2023.

Community Characteristics

Table TA-3 and the following section provides information on City specific demographics and characteristics. For additional information on the characteristics of Talent, in terms of geography, environment, population, demographics, employment and economics, as well as housing and transportation see Volume III, Appendix C. Many of these community characteristics can affect how natural hazards impact communities and how communities choose to plan for natural hazard mitigation. Considering the City specific assets during the planning process can assist in identifying appropriate measures for natural hazard mitigation.

Talent is in Jackson County in southwestern Oregon. It is in the south-central region of the county, located about 25 miles northwest of the California border and 5 miles south of Medford, about halfway between Phoenix to the north and Ashland to the south, along Interstate 5 and Hwy 99. The City and most of Jackson County are within the Rogue watershed.

Talent experiences a relatively mild climate with four distinct seasons that comes from its position on the west coast of North America and within the mountains of the region. The city is just off Interstate 5 at the southern end of the Rogue Valley at approximately 1,635 feet above sea level. As a result of its location, Talent has a climate somewhat intermediate to central California and northern Oregon. Talent averages about 19.5 inches of rain.² Most of the rain (17 inches) falls between October and May.

Population and Income

The City has grown since its incorporation in 1910 (with a population of 250) and in 2021 has a population of 5,737 over an area of 1.3 square miles. Between 2016 and 2021 the City's population reduced in size by about 568 people (-9%). This decrease is directly related to the Almeda Fire, which destroyed more than 2,600 homes between Ashland, Talent, Phoenix, and Medford on Labor Day weekend, 2020 (715 homes and commercial buildings within Talent).³ Many of the homes destroyed in Talent and Phoenix were manufactured homes along the Bear Creek corridor. The loss of this affordable housing has posed challenges for the community, who continues to work to rebuild needed housing. This is reflected in their extremely low vacancy rate for housing (2%). According to the State's official coordinated population forecast, between 2021 and 2040 the City's population is forecasted to grow by 38% from 5,737 to 7,196 (see Table TA-3). As of 2022, the city's population is starting to rebound from the Almeda Fire to 5,851.

Between 2016 and 2021 the median household income increased 3% (to \$40,266). The poverty rate is 18% (16% for Seniors), 6% do not have health insurance, and 61% of renters pay more than 30% of their household income on rent (48% for owners).

The City has an educated population with 89% of residents 25 years and older holding a high school degree and 32% with a bachelor's degree or higher.⁴ Fourteen (14) percent of the population is Hispanic, with 6% reporting that they speak little to no English. Approximately 14% of the population lives with a disability (32% of seniors), and 46% are either below 18 (24%) or over 65 (22%) years of age. About 23% of the population are 65 or older and living alone and 9% are single parents.

Transportation, Housing, and Infrastructure

In the City of Talent, transportation has played a major role in shaping the community. Talent's commercial areas developed along primary routes and residential development followed nearby. Interstate 5 and Hwy 99 are key transportation routes, and Hwy 99 is a key commercial corridor.

The City of Talent includes a diversity of land uses but is zoned primarily residential. Development in the city spans a total of 1.33 square miles. The city's Comprehensive Plan and [map](#) identifies land use needs within the city and its urban growth boundary). Since the

² NOAA. National Centers for Environmental Information. Summary of Monthly Normals (1991-2010). Ashland, OR US USC00350304. <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/services/data/v1?dataset=normals-monthly-1991-2020&startDate=0001-01-01&endDate=9996-12-31&stations=USC00350304&format=pdf>

³ Firebrand Resiliency Collective. (2023). Almeda Fire Loss and Recovery Dashboard. Accessed August 18, 2023. <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/888491b7ccc949a7a98554a14aa8bf82>

⁴ US Census Bureau, 2020 Census QuickFacts.

previous NHMP (2018) the city has not annexed any land. Sixty-two percent (62%) of housing units are single family residential (or duplexes); 17% are mobile/manufactured homes. The city lost about 678 residential units during the Alameda Fire (172 manufactured homes and 164 multi-family units). New development, particularly that following the Alameda fire, has complied with the standards of the [Oregon Building Code](#) and the city's development code including their floodplain ordinance.

Today, mobility plays an important role in Talent and the daily experience of its residents and businesses as they move from point A to point B. By far, motor vehicles represent the dominant mode of travel through and within Talent. Sixty-one percent (61%) of homeowners and 43% of renters have two or more private vehicles, although 15% of renters have no vehicles. Most workers commute alone in private vehicles (77%), while 8% work from home, 9% carpool, and 5% bicycle or walk to work.

A small percentage of workers rely upon public transit for commuting (1%). The current freight railroad system is serviced through the Union Pacific Railroad system and the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) route. This complements the established Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) and the transit stop located within Talent. In addition, the City is located along the Bear Creek Greenway multi-use trail, which provides alternative routes for pedestrians and bicyclists.⁵

Economy

A diverse range of businesses have chosen to locate in Talent. Traditionally, Talent has built its economy on a favorable climate and attractive landscape. Talent's location near Interstate 5, Highway 99, and the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad shaped the development of the City. Most of the commercial development occurs along Highway 99 and along the corridor to Interstate 5. According to the economic profile of the City's Comprehensive Plan, Talent finds their main economic drivers in the sectors of manufacturing, government services, and manufacturing.⁶ Retail, food services, and health and personal services also exist. According to the U.S. Census (Table TA-4) the top five occupations are Professional and Related (24%), Food Preparation and Serving (15%), Management, Business, and Financial (14%), Office and Administrative (11%), and Sales and Related (7%).

About 46% of the resident population 16 and over is in the labor force (2,906 people) and are employed in a variety of occupations including professional and related (24%), food preparation and serving (15%), management, business, and financial (14%), office and administrative (11%), and sales and related (7%) occupations.

Most workers residing in the city (95%, 2,138 people) travel outside of the city for work primarily to Medford and Ashland.⁷ A significant population of people travel to the city for work, (88% of the workforce, 836 people) primarily from Medford and Ashland and surrounding areas.

⁵ Website: Jackson County Greenway, <http://jacksoncountyor.org/parks/Greenway/Bear-Creek-Greenway-Map>

⁶ City of Talent Comprehensive Plan (2016)

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau. LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (2002-2020). Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program, accessed on August 17, 2023 at <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov>.

Table TA-3 Community Characteristics

Population Characteristics		
2016 Population Estimate	6,305	
2021 Population Estimate	5,737	
2040 Population Forecast*	7,916	
Race		
American Indian and Alaska Native	< 1%	
Asian	6%	
Black/ African American	0%	
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0%	
White	88%	
Some Other Race	2%	
Two or More Races	3%	
Hispanic or Latino/a (of any race)	14%	
Limited or No English Spoken	172	6%
Vulnerable Age Groups		
Less than 5 Years	244	4%
Less than 18 Years	1,225	20%
65 Years and Older	1,306	21%
85 Years and Older	34	1%
Age Dependency Ratio		67.9
Disability Status (Percent age cohort)		
Total Disabled Population	907	14%
Children (Under 18)	110	9%
Working Age (18 to 64)	373	10%
Seniors (65 and older)	424	32%

Household Characteristics		
Housing Units		
Single-Family (includes duplexes)	1,816	62%
Multi-Family	627	21%
Mobile Homes (includes RV, Van, etc.)	509	17%
Household Type		
Family Household	1,351	48%
Married couple (w/ children)	413	15%
Single (w/ children)	258	9%
Living Alone 65+	641	23%
Year Structure Built		
Pre-1970	652	22%
1970-1989	930	32%
1990-2009	1,227	46%
2010 or later	143	5%
Housing Tenure and Vacancy		
Owner-occupied	1,393	47%
Renter-occupied	1,438	49%
Seasonal	49	2%
Vacant	72	2%
Vehicles Available (Occupied Units)		
No Vehicle (owner occupied)	72	5%
Two+ vehicles (owner occupied)	854	61%
No Vehicle (renter occupied)	211	15%
Two+ vehicles (renter occupied)	622	43%

Income Characteristics		
Households by Income Category		
Less than \$15,000	477	17%
\$15,000-\$29,999	465	16%
\$30,000-\$44,999	597	21%
\$45,000-\$59,999	335	12%
\$60,000-\$74,999	345	12%
\$75,000-\$99,999	273	10%
\$100,000-\$199,999	296	10%
\$200,000 or more	43	2%
Median Household Income	\$41,337	
Gini Index of Income Inequality	0.43	
Poverty Rates (Percent age cohort)		
Total Population	1,144	18%
Children (Under 18)	261	22%
Working Age (18 to 64)	678	18%
Seniors (65 and older)	205	16%
Housing Cost Burden (Cost > 30% of household income)		
Owners with a Mortgage	487	35%
Owners without a Mortgage	177	13%
Renters	873	61%

Employment Characteristics		
Labor Force (Population 16+)		
In labor Force (% Total Population)	2,906	46%
Unemployed (% Labor Force)	99	3%
Occupation (Top 5) (Employed 16+)		
Professional & Related	678	24%
Food Preparation & Serving	407	15%
Management, Business, & Financial	385	14%
Office & Administrative	318	11%
Sales & Related	188	7%
Health Insurance		
No Health Insurance	377	6%
Public Health Insurance	3,547	57%
Private Health Insurance	3,521	56%
Transportation to Work (Workers 16+)		
Drove Alone	2,097	77%
Carpooled	247	9%
Public Transit	33	1%
Motorcycle	24	1%
Bicycle/Walk	121	5%
Work at Home	217	8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Portland State University, Population Research Center, "Annual Population Estimates, Table 4", 2016 and 2021; and "Population Forecasts, Summary Tab", 2022.

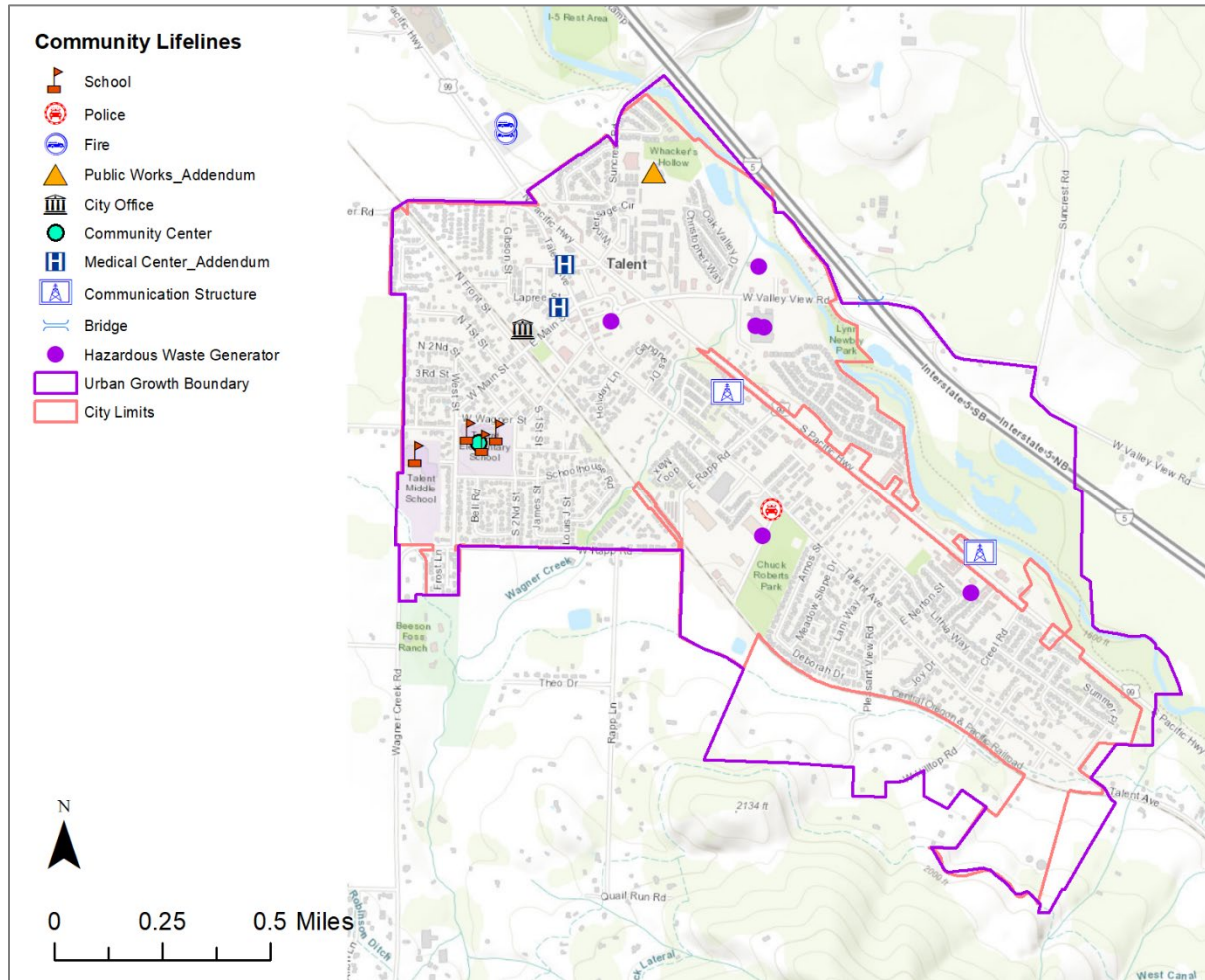
Note 1: * = Population forecast within UGB

Note 2: ACS 5-year estimates represent average characteristics from 2017-2021. Sampling error may result in low reliability of data. This information or data is provided with the understanding that conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. Refer to the original [source](#) documentation to better understand the data sources, results, methodologies and limitations of each dataset presented.

Community Assets

This section outlines the resources, facilities, and infrastructure that, if damaged, could significantly impact the public safety, economic conditions, and environmental integrity of Talent. Community lifelines and historic structures in Talent are shown in Figure TA-2 and Table TA-4. FEMA developed the Community Lifelines construct for objective-based response to prioritize the rapid stabilization of these facilities after a disaster. Mitigating these facilities will increase the community’s resilience.

Figure TA-2 Talent Community Lifeline and Historic Structures



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.
 Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon HazVu.

Table TA-4 Talent Community Lifelines

Facility Name	Community Lifeline Category	Lifeline Type	Earthquake-Liquefaction Hazard	Flood Hazard	Landslide Hazard	Wildfire Hazard
Communication Structure	communications	communication structure	moderate		low	low
Talent Community Center	food, water, and shelter	community center	low		low	low
Talent Irrigation District Fuel Station & Herbicide Storage	hazardous materials	hazardous waste producer	low		low	low
Micro Trains Line Co	hazardous materials	hazardous waste producer	low		low	low
All In One Rentals Fueling Station	hazardous materials	hazardous waste producer	low		low	low
Cummins Battery Facility	hazardous materials	hazardous waste producer	moderate	100-Year	low	low
Talent Truck Stop	hazardous materials	hazardous waste producer	moderate	100-Year	low	low
Talent Clinic	health and medical	medical facility	low		low	low
Asante Family Medicine	health and medical	medical facility	low		low	low
City Hall	safety and security	city office	low		low	low
Town Hall (historic)	safety and security	city office (historic)	low		low	low
I-5 overpass	safety and security	bridge	low		low	low
Talent Elementary School	safety and security	school	low		low	low
Talent Middle School	safety and security	school	low		low	low
Talent Police Department	safety and security	school	low		low	low
Talent Public Works	transportation	public works	low		low	low

Source: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Talent NHMP Steering Committee

Critical Facilities

Facilities that are critical to government response and recovery activities (i.e., life, safety, property, and environmental protection). These facilities include: 911 Centers, Emergency Operations Centers, Police and Fire Stations, Public Works facilities, sewer and water facilities, hospitals, bridges, roads, shelters, and more. Facilities that, if damaged, could cause serious secondary impacts may also be considered “critical.” A hazardous material facility is one example of this type of critical facility.

Fire Stations:

- Fire District #5 (Outside City)

Law Enforcement:

- Talent Police Department

City Buildings:

- City Hall
- Community Center
- Public Works (Water delivery center)
- Town Hall (historic)

Essential Facilities

Facilities that are essential to the continued delivery of key government services and/or that may significantly impact the public's ability to recover from the emergency. These facilities may include: City buildings such as the Public Services Building, the City Hall, and other public facilities such as schools.

Hospitals/Immediate Medical Care Facilities:

- Asante Physician Partners

Schools:

- Talent Elementary
- Talent Middle

Potential Shelter Sites:

- All Talent Schools
- Community Center
- Brammo

Infrastructure

Infrastructure that provides services for the City includes:

Transportation Networks:

- Highway 99
- Interstate 5
- Talent Avenue
- Main Street

Special Service Districts:

- Southern Oregon Education Service District
- Talent Irrigation District
- Fire District #5
- Phoenix/ Talent School District
- Medford Water Commission
- Ashland Water

Private Utilities:

- Pacific Power
- Avista
- Charter/Dish/Direct TV
- Rogue Valley Sewer (stormwater)
- Recology Ashland
- Century Link Hazard Characteristics

Hazard Profiles

The following sections briefly describe relevant information for each profiled hazard. More information on Jackson County hazards can be found in Volume I, Section 2 *Risk Assessment* and in the [Risk Assessment for Region 4, Southwest Oregon, Oregon NHMP \(2020\)](#).

Air Quality

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for poor air quality is **high** (which is the same as the County’s Rating) and that their vulnerability to poor air quality is also **high** (which is the same as the County’s Rating). *This hazard was not assessed in the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of air quality hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Increases in wildfire conditions have shown an increasing potential for air quality hazards.

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute “Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,”⁸ climate change is expected to reduce outdoor air quality. Warmer temperatures may increase ground-level ozone concentrations, while increases in the number and size of wildfires may increase concentrations of smoke and fine particulate matter. Moreover, increases in pollen abundance and the duration of the pollen season may increase aeroallergens. Such poor air quality is expected to exacerbate allergy and asthma conditions and increase the incidence of respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses and death. In Jackson County, the number of smoke wave days is projected to decrease by 20%, but the intensity of smoke on those days is projected to increase by 81%.

Increasingly poor outdoor air quality will have exponentially high impacts upon those living in older homes, manufactured housing, RVs, and campgrounds, or the unhoused. The need to install new or upgraded air conditioning systems or HVAC filtration systems will impact the cost of housing.

Additional information on poor air quality can be found in Volume I, Section 2.

Drought

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for drought is **high** (which is the same as the County’s rating) and that their vulnerability to drought is **moderate** (which is the same as the County’s rating). *These ratings have not changed since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of drought hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and

⁸ Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, *Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon*. February 2023.

probability of a potential event. Due to the climate of Jackson County, past and present weather conditions have shown an increasing potential for drought.

The City receives its main water supply from Big Butte Springs through the Medford Water Commission, supplemented by the Rogue River in the summer months. The City operates two water treatment plants and has a water distribution system that reaches approximately 1,400 households and 100 businesses.⁹ For more information on the future of Talent’s water supply visit their [website](#).

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute “Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,”¹⁰ drought, as represented by low summer soil moisture, low spring snowpack, low summer runoff, and low summer precipitation, is projected to become more frequent in Jackson County by the 2050s.

Increasingly frequent droughts will have economic and social impacts upon those who depend upon predictable growing periods (ranches, farms, vineyards, gardeners) as well as upon the price and availability of fresh vegetables. It may also stress local jurisdiction’s ability to provide water for irrigation or commercial and household use.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Earthquake (Cascadia)

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake is **moderate** (which is the same as the County’s rating) and that their vulnerability to a CSZ earthquake is **high** (which is the same as the County’s rating). *The probability rating decreased and the vulnerability rating stayed the same since the previous version of this NHMP.*

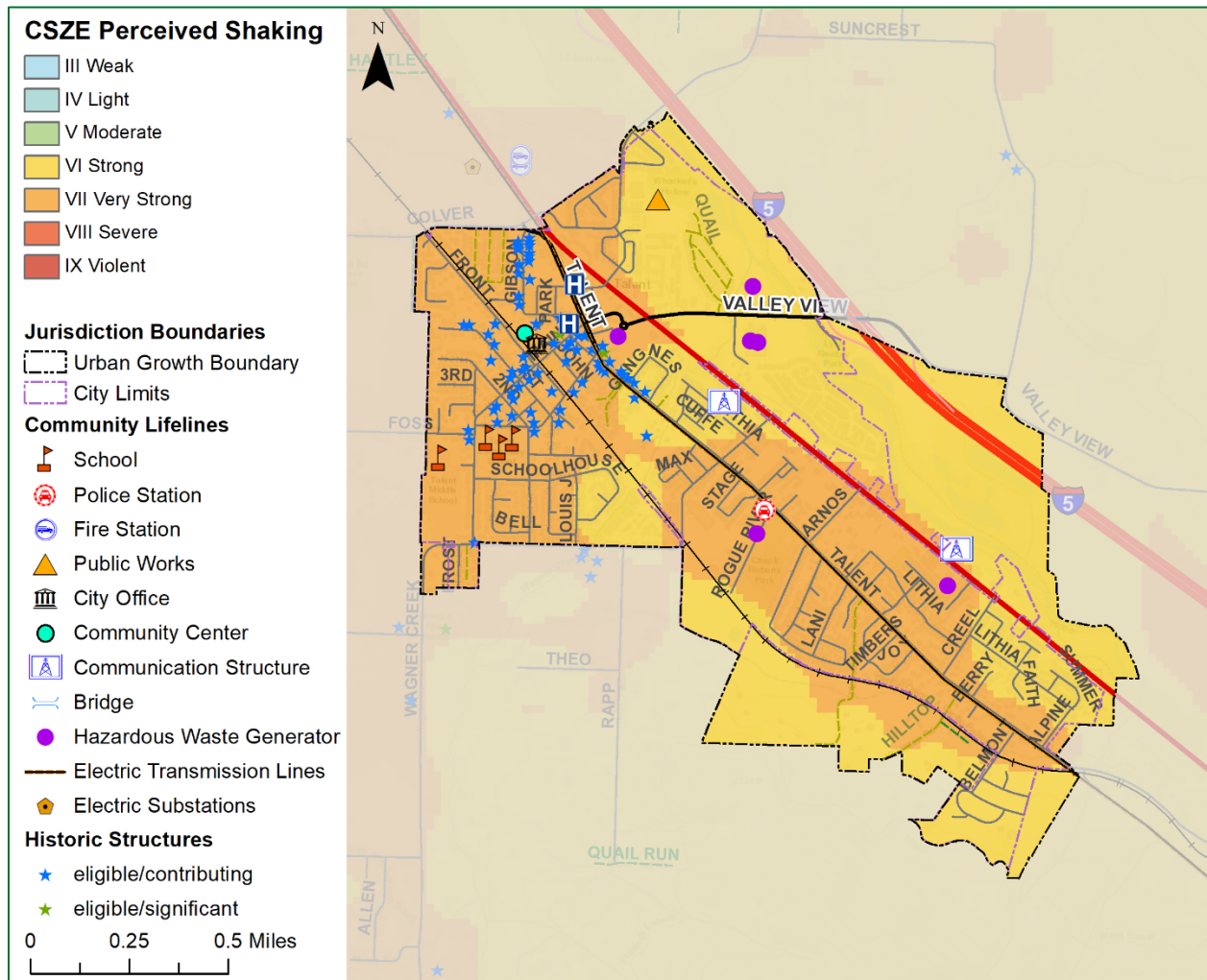
Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of earthquake hazards and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Talent as well. The causes and characteristics of an earthquake event are appropriately described within Volume I, Section 2 as well as are the location and extent of potential hazards. Previous occurrences are well documented within Volume I, Section 2 and the community impacts described by the County would generally be the same for Talent as well.

Figure TA-3 displays perceived shaking hazards from a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake event. As shown in the figure below, the majority of the City is expected to experience very strong shaking in a CSZ event.

⁹ *City of Talent Comprehensive Plan (2016)*

¹⁰ *Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon. February 2023.*

Figure TA-3 Cascadia Subduction Zone Perceived Shaking



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.
 Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon HazVu.

The local faults, the county’s proximity to the Cascadia Subduction Zone, potential slope instability, and the prevalence of certain soils subject to liquefaction and amplification combine to give the County a high-risk profile. Due to the expected pattern of damage resulting from a CSZ event, the Oregon Resilience Plan divides the State into four distinct zones and places Jackson County predominately within the “Valley Zone” (Valley Zone, from the summit of the Coast Range to the summit of the Cascades). Within the Southwest Oregon region, damage and shaking is expected to be strong and widespread - an event will be disruptive to daily life and commerce and the main priority is expected to be restoring services to business and residents.¹¹

As noted in the community profile, approximately 54% of residential buildings were built prior to 1990, which increases the City’s vulnerability to the earthquake hazard. Information on specific public buildings’ (schools and public safety) estimated seismic resistance, determined by DOGAMI in 2007, is shown in Table TA-5; each “X” represents one building within that ranking category. Of the facilities evaluated by DOGAMI using their Rapid Visual Survey (RVS), none have

¹¹ Ibid.

a very high (100% chance) collapse potential, however, three (3) have a high (greater than 10% chance) collapse potential.

Table TA-5 Rapid Visual Survey Scores

Facility	Site ID*	Level of Collapse Potential			
		Low (< 1%)	Moderate (>1%)	High (>10%)	Very High (100%)
Schools					
Talent Elementary School (Phoenix-Talent SD 4) (307 W Wagner St)	Jack_sch47	X,X,X	X,X	X	
Talent Middle School (Phoenix-Talent SD 4) (102 Christian Ave)	Jack_sch01	X		X,X	
Public Safety					
Talent Police Department (604 Talent Ave)	Jack_pol05	X			
Jackson County Fire District #5 (Not in City) (716 S Pacific Hwy) - See Mitigation Successes	Jack_fir15	X			

Source: [DOGAMI 2007. Open File Report 0-07-02. Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment Using Rapid Visual Assessment.](#)
 “*” – Site ID is referenced on the [RVS Jackson County Map](#)

In addition to building damages, utility (electric power, water, wastewater, natural gas) and transportation systems (bridges, pipelines) are also likely to experience significant damage.

Utility systems will be significantly damaged, including damaged buildings and damage to utility infrastructure, including water treatment plants and equipment at high voltage substations (especially 230 kV or higher which are more vulnerable than lower voltage substations). Buried pipe systems will suffer extensive damage with approximately one break per mile in soft soil areas. There would be a much lower rate of pipe breaks in other areas. Restoration of utility services will require substantial mutual aid from utilities outside of the affected area.

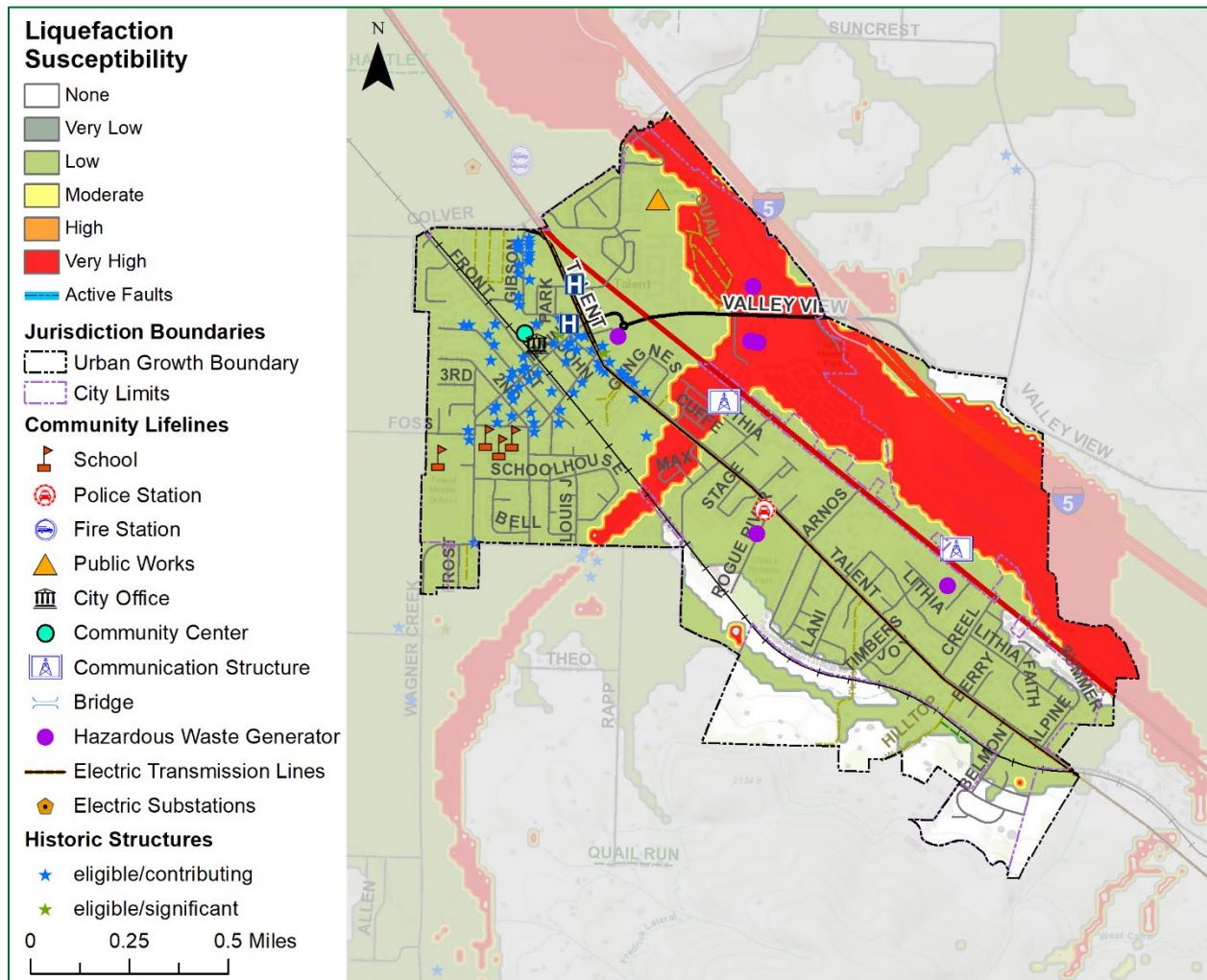
Earthquake (Crustal)

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for a crustal earthquake is **low** (which is the same as the County’s rating) and that their vulnerability to crustal earthquake is **moderate** (which is higher than the County’s rating). *These ratings have not changed since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of earthquake hazards and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Talent as well. The causes and characteristics of an earthquake event are appropriately described within Volume I, Section 2, as well as the location and extent of potential hazards. Previous occurrences are well-documented within Volume I, Section 2 and the community impacts described by the County would generally be the same for Talent as well.

Figure TA-4 shows the liquefaction risk to the community lifelines that were identified in Table TA-4 and historic structures.

Figure TA-4 Liquefaction Susceptibility



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.
 Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon HazVu.

Earthquake-induced damages are difficult to predict and depend on the size, type, and location of the earthquake, as well as site-specific building and soil characteristics. Presently, it is not possible to accurately forecast the location or size of earthquakes, but it is possible to predict the behavior of soil at any site. In many major earthquakes, damages have primarily been caused by the behavior of the soil.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Talent is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for the earthquake (Cascadia subduction zone and crustal) hazards. Identified Community Lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table TA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, *it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability)*. No development changes affected the jurisdiction’s overall vulnerability to this hazard.

Future Projections

Future development (residential, commercial, or industrial) within Jackson County will be at risk to earthquake impacts, although this risk can be mitigated by the adoption and enforcement of high development and building standards. Reducing risks to vulnerable populations should be considered during the redevelopment of existing properties.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Emerging Infectious Disease

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for emerging infectious disease is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating). *These ratings have not changed since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Emerging infectious diseases are those that have recently appeared in a population or those whose incidence or geographic range is rapidly increasing or threatens to increase. Emerging infections may be caused by biological pathogens (e.g., virus, parasite, fungus, or bacterium) and may be: previously unknown or undetected biological pathogens; biological pathogens that have spread to new geographic areas or populations; previously known biological pathogens whose role in specific diseases was previously undetected; and biological pathogens whose incidence of disease was previously declining but whose incidence of disease has reappeared (re-emerging infectious disease).¹²

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of emerging infectious disease and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect the City as well.

Future Projections

Vulnerable populations within Jackson County, including children, elderly, those living with disabilities, and unhoused individuals, will be a greater risk to emerging infectious diseases in the future.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Flood

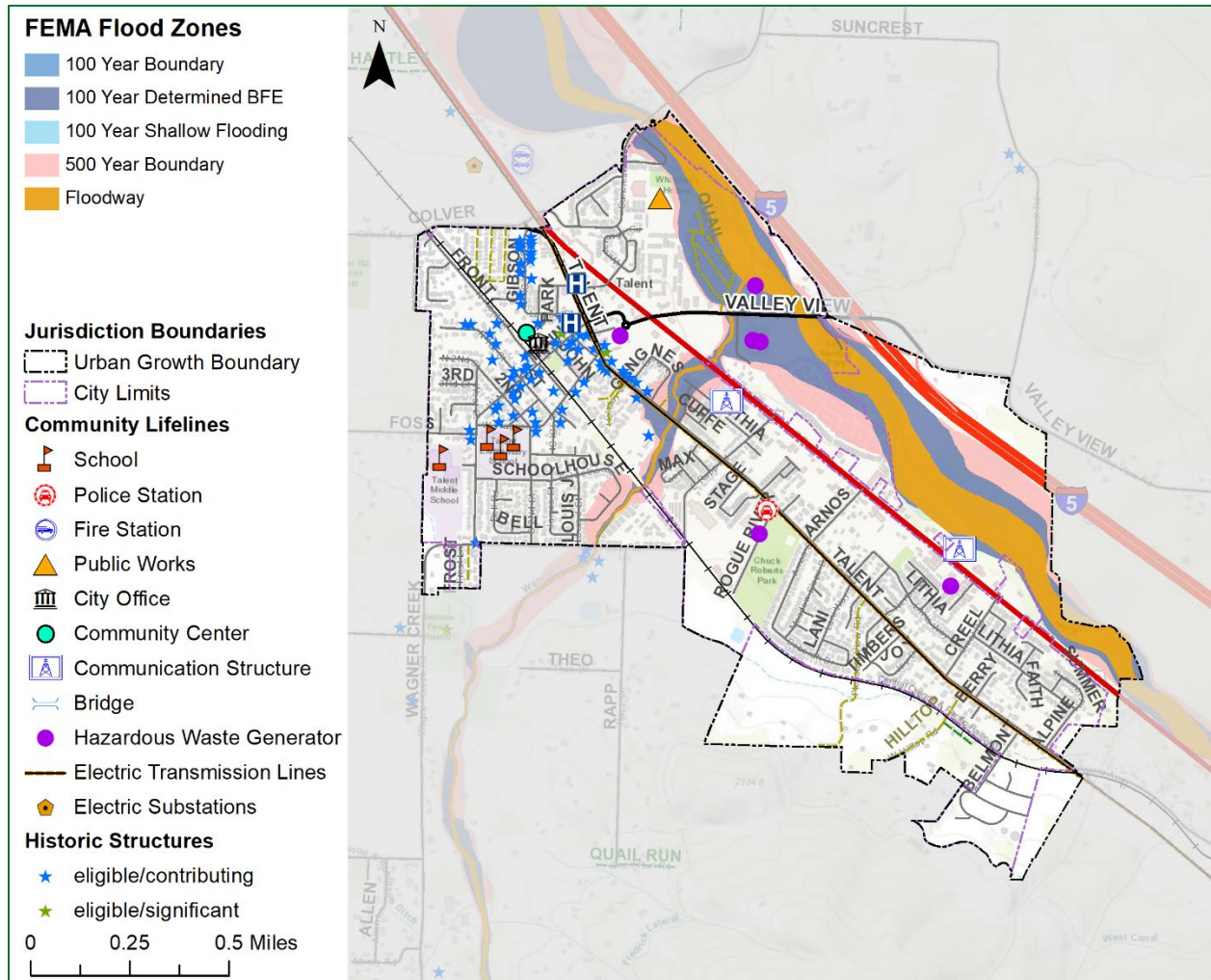
The steering committee determined that the City's probability for flood is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to flood is **moderate** (which is higher than the County's rating). *These ratings have not changed since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of flood hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Portions of Talent have areas of mapped FEMA flood zones

¹² Baylor College of Medicine, *Emerging Infectious Disease*, URL: <https://www.bcm.edu/departments/molecular-virology-and-microbiology/emerging-infections-and-biodefense/emerging-infectious-diseases>, accessed September 17, 2017.

(Figure TA-5). These include areas along Bear Creek and Wagner Creek. The worst flooding occurred along Bear Creek in 1928 and along Wagner Creek in 1964. Furthermore, other portions of Talent, outside of the mapped floodplains, are also subject to flooding from local storm water drainage. *Note: Rogue Valley Sewer Services provides sewer and stormwater services to the City and provides information on [low-impact development](#).*

Figure TA-5 FEMA Flood Zones



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon HazVu.

The City is at risk from two types of flooding: riverine and urban. Riverine flooding occurs when streams overflow their banks and inundate low-lying areas. This is a natural process that adds sediment and nutrients to fertile floodplain areas. It usually results from prolonged periods of precipitation over a wide geographic area. Most areas are generally flooded by low velocity sheets of water. Urban flooding occurs as land is converted to impervious surfaces and hydrologic systems are changed. Precipitation is collected and transmitted to streams at a much faster rate, causing floodwaters that rise rapidly and peak with violent force. During urban flooding, storm drains can back up and cause localized flooding of streets and basements. These flooding events and subsequent damages are commonly caused by the behavior of Bear Creek

and Wagner Creek and their tributaries. In 1997, flooding threatened mobile home parks adjacent to Bear Creek but did not cause much damage (the same area flooded in 1964 with more extensive damage). Note: the 2020 Almeda Fire destroyed about 678 homes within Talent including about 104 single-family and 40 manufactured homes within the floodplain.¹³

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Talent is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified Community Lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table TA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, *it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability)*. No development changes affected the jurisdiction's overall vulnerability to this hazard.

Floods can have a devastating impact on almost every aspect of the community, including private property damage, public infrastructure damage, and economic loss from business interruption. It is important for the City to be aware of flooding impacts and assess its level of risk.

The economic losses due to business closures often total more than the initial property losses that result from flood events. Business owners and their employees are significantly impacted by flood events. Direct damages from flooding are the most common impacts, but indirect damages, such as diminished clientele, can be just as debilitating to a business.

The FEMA Flood Insurance Study (January 19, 2018) has a brief history of flooding in Jackson County and Talent (see Volume I, Section 2 for more information). The water treatment plant is the only critical or essential facility located within the floodplain. The fire station, an assisted care facility, and the public works wastewater pumping station are within the dam hazard impact area.¹⁴

Highway 99 and Interstate 5 are major transportation routes in the Rogue Valley. If major flooding affected all of the bridges in Talent, traffic flow in and out of the City would be significantly affected, but would not cut off all avenues (Talent Avenue bridge). The amount of property in the floodplain is not a large area but damage could be significant as it would affect residential, commercial, and public property. Floodwaters can affect building foundations, seep into basements, or cause damage to the interior, exterior, and contents of buildings, dependent upon the velocity and depth of the water and by the presence of floating debris. The City sewer system can overflow during flood events and cause further property damage.

For mitigation planning purposes, it is important to recognize that flood risk for a community is not limited only to areas of mapped floodplains. Other portions of Talent outside of the mapped floodplains may also be at relatively high risk from over bank flooding from streams too small to be mapped by FEMA or from local storm water drainage. In addition, the City is at risk to flooding from dam inundation of Hosler Dam and Emigrant Lake.

¹³ Firebrand Resiliency Collective. (2023). Almeda Fire Loss and Recovery Dashboard. <https://firebrandcollective.org/recovery-dashboard-2/>. City of Talent email correspondence (August 28, 2023).

¹⁴ City of Talent Comprehensive Plan (2016)

The City has an adopted Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan (Resolution #99-524-R) that “directs the City to manage land use decision making, storm sewers, open space and other City services in ways that minimize the risk of future flood events.”¹⁵ The City has a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and the Talent Zoning Code establishes, among other standards, a 35-foot setback from the 100-year floodplain, a 50-foot setback from inventoried riparian areas and wetlands, and prohibits the siting of critical facilities within the flood hazard areas.¹⁶

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute ([OCCRI report](#)) “Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,”¹⁷ winter flood risk at mid-elevations in Jackson County, where temperatures are near freezing during winter and precipitation is a mix of rain and snow, is projected to increase as winter temperatures increase. The temperature increase will lead to an increase in the percentage of precipitation falling as rain rather than snow. The projected increases in total precipitation, and in rain relative to snow, likely will increase flood magnitudes in the region. Vulnerable populations adjacent to floodways (including the unhoused, manufactured home communities, and campground occupants) will be more at risk as the winter flood risk increases.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

FEMA updated the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in 2018 (effective January 19, 2018). Talent’s Class Rating within the Community Rating System (CRS) is an 8. The City complies with the NFIP through enforcement of their flood damage prevention ordinance and their floodplain management program. Their flood prevention code section is based on the Oregon Model Flood Hazard Prevention code, which includes provisions addressing substantial improvement/substantial damage.

The Community Repetitive Loss record for Talent identifies zero (0) Repetitive Loss Properties¹⁸ and zero (0) Severe Repetitive Loss Properties¹⁹.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Landslide

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for landslide is **high** (which is the same as the County’s rating) and that their vulnerability to landslide is **moderate** (which is higher

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, *Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon. February 2023.*

¹⁸ A Repetitive Loss (RL) property is any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) within any rolling ten-year period, since 1978. A RL property may or may not be currently insured by the NFIP.

¹⁹ A Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) property is a single family property (consisting of 1 to 4 residences) that is covered under flood insurance by the NFIP and has incurred flood-related damage for which 4 or more separate claims payments have been paid under flood insurance coverage, with the amount of each claim payment exceeding \$5,000 and with cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeding \$20,000; or for which at least 2 separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the reported value of the property.

than the County's rating). *These ratings did not change since the previous version of this NHMP addendum.*

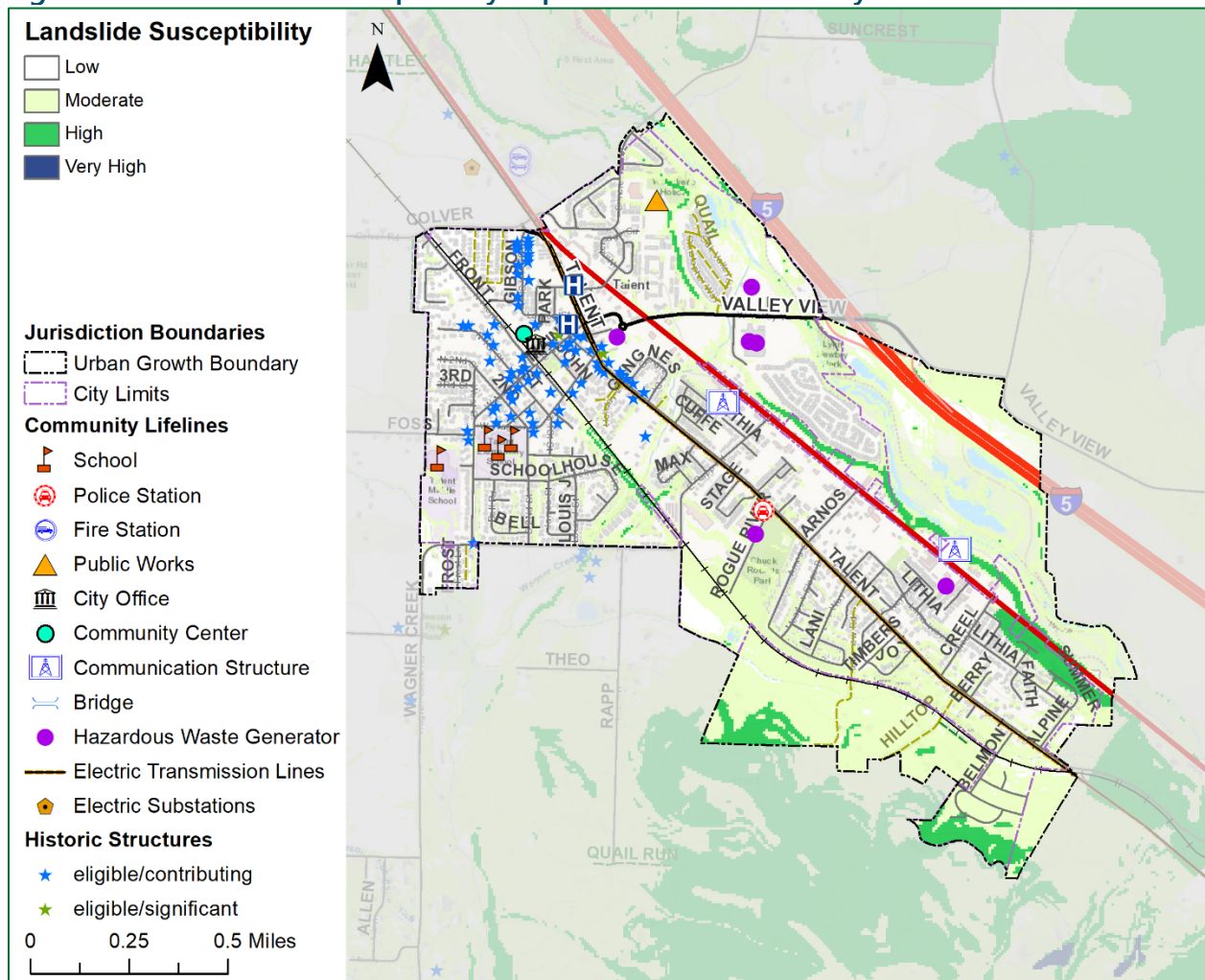
Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of landslide hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. The potential for landslide in Talent is low with the higher landslide risk in the south and southwest and small areas immediately adjacent to stream channels. Future growth in Talent may expose development to higher landslide risk in the steeper sloped areas.

Landslide susceptibility exposure for Talent is shown in Figure TA-6. Most of Talent demonstrates a low susceptibility to landslide exposure, with corridors of moderate susceptibility concentrated around the hills south of the City. Approximately 4% of Talent has high and approximately 21% moderate, landslide susceptibility exposure.²⁰

Note that even if a jurisdiction has a high percentage of area in a high or very high landslide exposure susceptibility zone, this does not mean there is a high risk, because risk is the intersection of hazard and assets.

²⁰ DOGAMI Open-File Report, O-16-02, Landslide Susceptibility Overview Map of Oregon (2016)

Figure TA-6 Landslide Susceptibility Exposure and Community Lifelines



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.
 Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon HazVu.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Talent is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified community lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table TA-4. *Note that even if an area has a high percentage of land in a high or very high landslide exposure susceptibility zone, that does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability), because risk is the intersection of a hazard and assets.* No development changes affected the jurisdiction’s overall vulnerability to this hazard.

Potential landslide-related impacts are adequately described within Volume I, Section 2 and include infrastructural damages, economic impacts (due to isolation and/or arterial road closures), property damages, and obstruction to evacuation routes. Rain-induced landslides and debris flows can potentially occur during any winter in Jackson County and thoroughfares beyond City limits are susceptible to obstruction as well.

Landslides do not occur often in Talent; however, the most common type of landslide in Jackson County are slides caused by erosion. Slides move in contact with the underlying surface, are generally slow moving and can be deep. Rainfall-initiated landslides tend to be smaller; while earthquake induced landslides may be quite large. All soil types can be affected by natural landslide triggering conditions.

Future Projections

Landslides are often triggered by rainfall when the soil becomes saturated. As a surrogate measure of landslide risk, the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute ([OCCRI report](#)) report presents a threshold based on recent precipitation (cumulative precipitation over the previous 3 days) and antecedent precipitation (cumulative precipitation on the 15 days prior to the previous 3 days). By the 2050s under the higher emissions scenario, the average number of days per year in Jackson County on which the landslide risk threshold is exceeded is projected to remain about the same, with an increase of 0.2 days. However, landslide risk depends on multiple factors, and this metric, which is based on precipitation, does not reflect all aspects of the hazard. Additional triggers, such as earthquakes, wildfires, or development, can increase risks of landslides. Future development along slopes or adjacent to riverbanks will be a greater risk of impact from this hazard.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Severe Weather

Severe weather can account for a variety of intense and potentially damaging weather events. These events include windstorms and winter storms. The following section describes the unique probability and vulnerability of each identified weather hazard. Other more abrupt or irregular events such as hail are also described in this section.

Extreme Heat Event

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for extreme heat event is **high** (which is the same as the County's Rating) and that their vulnerability to an extreme heat event is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's Rating). *This hazard was not assessed in the previous version of this NHMP.*

Jackson County's NHMP Volume I, Section 2, adequately describes the causes and characteristics of extreme heat, as well as the history, location, extent, and probability of a potential event and how it relates to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)). Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect the City as well. A severe heat episode or "heat wave" occurs about every two to three years, and typically lasting two to three days but can last as many as five days. A severe heat episode can be defined as consecutive days of temperatures in the high 90s and above 100. Severe heat hazard in Southern Oregon can be described as the average number of days with temperatures greater than or equal to 90-degrees Fahrenheit.²¹

²¹ DLCD. Oregon State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. 2020.

Extreme heat events can and have occurred in the city, and while they typically do not cause loss of life, they are becoming more frequent and have the potential to impact economic activity as well as quality of life and have caused threat to life in some cases.

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute ([OCCRI report](#)) “Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,”²² average temperature is expected to continue increasing during the twenty-first century if global emissions of greenhouse gases continue. The number, duration, and intensity of extreme heat events will increase as temperatures continue to warm. In Jackson County, the number of extremely hot days (days on which the temperature is 90°F or higher) and the temperature on the hottest day of the year are projected to increase by the 2020s and 2050s. The number of days per year with temperatures 90°F or higher is projected to increase by an average of 28 days (range 12–38 days) by the 2050s, relative to the 1971–2000 historical baselines. The temperature on the hottest day of the year is projected to increase by an average of about 7°F (range 3–8°F) by the 2050s. Higher temperatures and longer/more extreme heat events will have negative impacts upon vulnerable populations such as those over 65+, children, those living in older or temporary housing, and field workers.

See the Risk Assessment (Volume I, Section 2) for additional information on this hazard.

Windstorm

The steering committee determined that the City’s probability for windstorm is **high** (which is the same as the County’s rating) and that their vulnerability to windstorm is **moderate** (which is the same as the County’s rating). *These ratings did not change since the previous version of this NHMP addendum.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of windstorm hazards, history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Because windstorms typically occur during winter months, they are sometimes accompanied by ice, freezing rain, flooding, and very rarely, snow. Other severe weather events that may accompany windstorms, including thunderstorms, hail, lightning strikes, and tornadoes are generally negligible for Talent.

Volume I, Section 2 describes the impacts caused by windstorms, including power outages, downed trees, heavy precipitation, building damages, and storm-related debris. Additionally, transportation and economic disruptions result as well.

Damage from high winds generally has resulted in downed utility lines and trees. Electrical power can be out anywhere from a few hours to several days. Outdoor signs have also suffered damage. If the high winds are accompanied by rain (which they often are), blowing leaves and debris clog drainage-ways, which in turn causes localized urban flooding.

Future Projections

Limited research suggests little if any change in the frequency and intensity of windstorms in the Northwest as a result of climate change. Those impacted by windstorms at present, including

²² Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, *Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon*. February 2023.

older residential or commercial developments with above-ground utilities, poor insulation or older construction, heavy tree canopies, or poor storm drainage, will continue to be impacted by windstorms in the future.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Winter Storm (Snow/Ice)

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for winter storm is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to winter storm is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating). *These ratings did not change since the previous version of this NHMP addendum.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of winter storm hazards, history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Severe winter storms can consist of rain, freezing rain, ice, snow, cold temperatures, and wind. They originate from troughs of low pressure offshore that ride along the jet stream during fall, winter, and early spring months. Severe winter storms affecting the City typically originate in the Gulf of Alaska or in the central Pacific Ocean. These storms are most common from November through March.

Major winter storms can and have occurred in the Talent area and while they typically do not cause significant damage, they are frequent and have the potential to impact economic activity. Road and rail closures due to winter weather are an uncommon occurrence but can interrupt commuter and commercial traffic.

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute ([OCCRI report](#)) "Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,"²³ cold extremes will become less frequent and intense as the climate warms. In Jackson County, the number of cold days (maximum temperature 32°F or lower) per year is projected to decrease by an average of 3 days (range -2– -5 days) by the 2050s, relative to the 1971–2000 historical baselines, under the higher emissions scenario. The temperature on the coldest night of the year is projected to increase by an average of 6°F (range 3–9°F) by the 2050s. The intensity of extreme precipitation is expected to increase as the atmosphere warms and holds more water vapor. In Jackson County, the number of days per year with at least 0.75 inches of precipitation is not projected to change substantially. However, by the 2050s, the amount of precipitation on the wettest day and wettest consecutive five days per year is projected to increase by an average of 15% (range -3–32%) and 11% (range -3–34%), respectively. If these precipitation events occur in the winter, heavier winter storms with larger impacts upon transportation routes, vulnerable populations, and economic activity can be expected.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

²³ Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, *Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon*. February 2023.

Volcanic Event

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for a volcanic event is **low** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to a volcanic event is **low** (which is the same as the County's rating). *These ratings did not change since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of volcanic hazards and history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Talent as well. Talent is very unlikely to experience anything more than volcanic ash during a volcanic event.

Future Projections

Although the science of volcano predictions is improving, it remains challenging to predict a potential volcanic event. Ash fall, which will be the greatest impact, will impact the entire County. Impacts will be felt hardest by property managers (ranches, farmers, etc.) and by those relying upon clean surface water (for drinking water production and irrigation).

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Wildfire

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for wildfire is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to wildfire is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating). *The probability rating stayed the same and the vulnerability rating increased since the previous version of this NHMP.*

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of wildfire hazards, history, and how they relate to future climate projections (see [OCCRI report](#)), as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. The location and extent of a wildfire vary depending on fuel, topography, and weather conditions. Weather and urbanization conditions are primarily at cause for the hazard level.

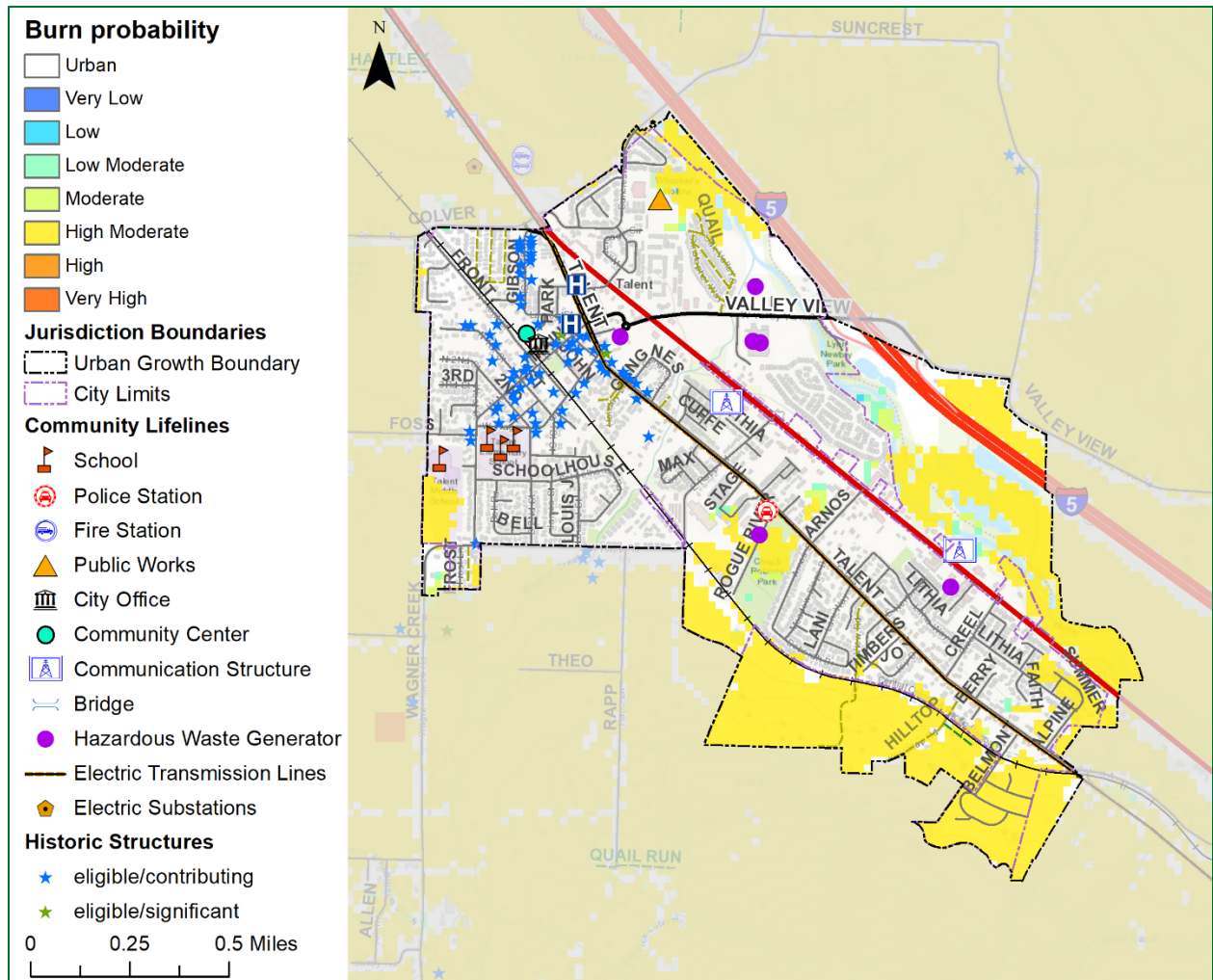
Talent, along with Phoenix, Medford, and Ashland, was severely affected by the Almeda Fire in September 2020. Within Talent's city limits, over 715 units were destroyed or damaged.²⁴

The potential community impacts and vulnerabilities described in Volume I, Section 2 are generally accurate for the City as well. The [Rogue Valley Integrated Wildfire Protection Plan](#) (RVIFP, updated 2019), assesses wildfire risk, maps wildland urban interface areas and includes actions to mitigate wildfire risk. The City is included in the RVIFP and will update the City's wildfire risk assessment if the fire plan presents better data during future updates (an action item is included within Volume I, Section 4 to participate in updates to the integrated fire plan and to continue to maintain and update their RVIFP). Talent is within an area of low wildfire prone urban landscape. The City hereby incorporates the RVIFP into this addendum by reference to provide greater detail to sensitivity and exposure to the wildfire hazard.

²⁴ Firebrand Resiliency Collective. (2023). *Almeda Fire Loss and Recovery Dashboard*. Accessed August 18, 2023. <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/888491b7ccc949a7a98554a14aa8bf82>

Property can be damaged or destroyed with one fire as structures, vegetation, and other flammables easily merge to become unpredictable and hard to manage. Other factors that affect ability to effectively respond to a wildfire include access to the location and to water, response time from the fire station, availability of personnel and equipment, and weather (e.g., heat, low humidity, high winds, and drought). Figure TA-7 shows burn probability in Talent for community lifelines and historic buildings.

Figure TA-7 Burn Probability



Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. USFS Pacific Northwest Region Wildfire Risk Assessment (PNRA)

Note: To view detail click this [link](#) to access Oregon Explorer’s CWPP Planning Tool.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Talent is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified community lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table TA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, *it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability)*. No development changes affected the jurisdiction’s overall vulnerability to this hazard.

Future Projections

According to the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute “Future Climate Projections, Jackson County,”²⁵ wildfire frequency, intensity, and area burned are projected to continue increasing in the Northwest. Wildfire risk, expressed as the average number of days per year on which fire danger is very high, is projected to increase in Jackson County by 13 days (range -6– 29) by the 2050s, relative to the historical baseline (1971–2000), under the higher emissions scenario. Similarly, the average number of days per year on which vapor pressure deficit is extreme is projected to increase by 29 days (range 12–42) by the 2050s. Communities at risk to wildfire include those within the urban wildfire interface or along river or creek corridors, like Bear Creek, where fire can travel quickly. Communities will need to address growing wildfire risks if populations are not restricted from expanding further into higher risk areas.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

²⁵ Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, *Future Climate Projections, Jackson County, Oregon*. February 2023.

Attachment A: Public Involvement Summary

Members of the steering committee provided edits and updates to the NHMP prior to the public review period as reflected in the final document. In addition, a survey was distributed that included responses from residents of Talent (Volume III, Appendix F).

To provide the public information regarding the draft NHMP addendum, and provide an opportunity for comment, an announcement (see below) was provided from **September 6 through October 16** on the City's website. The plan was also posted and announced on the County's website. There was one comment provided that has been reviewed and integrated into the NHMP as applicable. Additional opportunities for stakeholders and the public to be involved in the planning process are addressed in Volume III, Appendix B.

A diverse array of agencies and organizations were provided an opportunity to provide input to inform the plan's content through a variety of mechanisms including the opportunity for comment on the draft plan. The agencies and organizations represent local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, those that have the authority to regulate development, neighboring communities, representatives of businesses, academia, and other private organizations, and representatives of nonprofit organizations, including community-based organizations, that work directly with and/or provide support to underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations. For more information on the engagement strategy see Volume II, Appendix B.

Website Posting

The screenshot shows the City of Talent website with a navigation bar including 'HOME', 'MAYOR & COUNCIL', 'DEPARTMENTS', 'CITY COMMISSIONS', and 'CONTACT'. A search bar and social media links are also visible. The main content area features a news article titled 'Talent Police Department Seeks Public Input on Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan'. The article is dated September 6, 2023, and is a media release from Police Chief Jennifer Snook. The subject is a press release for a city addendum to a Jackson County multi-jurisdictional natural hazard mitigation plan update. The article text explains that the city is updating its Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) in cooperation with the University of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. It details the benefits of a natural hazard mitigation plan and provides information on how the public can comment on the updated draft addendum starting September 6, 2023, until October 16, 2023. Contact information for Jennifer Snook and Michael Howard is provided. A list of documents includes a press release and the addendum itself.

CITY OF TALENT

HOME MAYOR & COUNCIL DEPARTMENTS CITY COMMISSIONS CONTACT

Back

[City of Talent Oregon / News](#)

Talent Police Department Seeks Public Input on Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

Jackson County
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning
PRESS RELEASE

DATE: September 6, 2023
TO: Media Release
FROM: Police Chief Jennifer Snook
SUBJECT: Press Release for City of Talent addendum to the Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Notice and Opportunity for Public Comment

For Immediate Release

City of Talent seeks additional public input on update to Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

City of Talent, OR is in the process of updating their existing Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP). This work is being performed in cooperation with the University of Oregon’s Institute for Policy Research and Engagement - Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management utilizing funds obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. With re-adoption of the plan, Talent will regain its eligibility to apply for federal funding towards natural hazard mitigation projects. This local planning process includes a wide range of representatives from city and county government, emergency management personnel, and outreach to members of the public in the form of an electronic survey.

A natural hazard mitigation plan provides communities with a set of goals, action items, and resources designed to reduce risk from future natural disaster events. Engaging in mitigation activities provides jurisdictions with a number of benefits, including reduced loss of life, property, essential services, critical facilities, and economic hardship; reduced short-term and long-term recovery and reconstruction costs; increased cooperation and communication within the community through the planning process; and increased potential for state and federal funding for recovery and reconstruction projects.

An electronic version of the updated draft Talent NHMP addendum will be available for formal public comment beginning September 6, 2023. Public comment will close at 4:00 PM on October 16th, 2023. To view the draft, please visit: www.cityoftalent.org.

If you have any questions regarding the Talent NHMP addendum or the update process in general, please contact: Jennifer Snook, Chief of Police//City Emergency Coordinator 541-535-1253 email: jsnook@cityoftalent.org or Michael Howard, Director for the Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience at mrhoward@uoregon.edu.

Documents:

- [Press Release from Talent Police Department](#)
- [City of Talent Addendum to Jackson County NHMP](#)



**Jackson County
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning
PRESS RELEASE**



DATE: September 6, 2023

TO: Media Release

FROM: Jennifer Snook

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For Immediate Release

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Talent Steering Committee

Steering committee members possessed familiarity with the community of Talent and how it is affected by natural hazard events. The steering committee guided the update process through several steps including goal confirmation and prioritization, action item review and development, and information sharing, to update the NHMP and to make the NHMP as comprehensive as possible. The steering committee met formally on the following date:

Meeting #1: Talent steering committee, February 22, 2023 (via Zoom)

During this meeting, the steering committee reviewed the previous NHMP, and were provided updates on hazard mitigation planning, the NHMP update process, and project timeline. The steering committee:

- Updated recent history of hazard events in the city.
- Reviewed and confirmed the NHMP's mission and goals.
- Discussed the NHMP public outreach strategy.
- Discussed development changes and community lifelines.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft risk assessment update including community vulnerabilities and hazard information.
- Reviewed and updated their existing mitigation strategy (actions).
- Reviewed and updated their implementation and maintenance program.

Meeting Attendees:

- Convener, Jennifer Snook, Chief of Police
- Charles Hanley, Jackson County Fire District #5 Chief
- Bret Marshall, Public Works Director
- Kristen Maze, Community Development Director
- Jordan Rooklyn, City Manager
- Robert Slayton, Superintendent of Public Works

AGENDA

Meeting: Jackson County NHMP Update: Talent Addenda
Date: 2/22/23
Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Location: <https://uoregon.zoom.us/j/97239702413>

Meeting Goals:

- To share information that the student team needs to draft jurisdictional addenda, namely:
 - To review and update Talent’s hazard vulnerability assessment
 - To review and update Talent’s action items

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Development Information and Community Lifelines

- a. Development information (if not already provided)
- b. Review Community Lifelines for any missed facilities

III. Jurisdiction-Specific Risk Assessment

- a. Review Talent-specific Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)

IV. Jurisdiction-specific Mitigation Strategy

- a. Update action items
- b. Prioritize action items

V. Overview of Implementation and Maintenance

VI. Next Steps

- a. We will send your jurisdiction’s addendum to you for your review and give you two weeks to review the addendum and provide us with any edits
- b. One more Steering Committee meeting (date and time TBA)

OREGON PARTNERSHIP FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE | INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT
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Attachment B: Action Item Changes

Table TA-6 is an accounting of the status (complete or not complete) and major changes to actions since the previous NHMP. All actions were renumbered in this update to be consistent with other jurisdictions that are participating in the multi-jurisdictional NHMP. Actions identified as still relevant are included in the updated action plan (Table TA-1).

Previous NHMP Actions that are Complete:

Earthquake #2 *“Implement structural and non-structural retrofits to critical and essential facilities.”* Complete.

Severe Weather #2 *“Promote the benefits of tree-trimming.”* Complete. Part of normal operations.

Previous NHMP Actions that are Not Complete and No Longer Relevant:

Flood #2 *“Encourage private property owners to restore natural systems within the floodplains.”* Not Complete, Not Relevant.

Table TA-6 Status of All Hazard Mitigation Actions in the Previous Plan

2018 Action Item	2024 Action Item	Status	Still Relevant? (Yes/No)
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Items			
MH #1	1.1	Not Complete	Yes
MH #2	1.2	Not Complete	Yes
MH #3	1.3	Not Complete	Yes
MH #4	1.4	Not Complete	Yes
MH #5	1.5	Not Complete	Yes
MH #6	1.6	Not Complete	Yes
MH #7	1.7	Not Complete	Yes
Air Quality Mitigation Items			
-	2.0	New	-
Drought Mitigation Items			
-	3.0	New	-
Earthquake Mitigation Items			
EQ #1	4.1	Not Complete	Yes
EQ #2	-	Complete	No

2018 Action Item	2024 Action Item	Status	Still Relevant? (Yes/No)
-	4.2	New	-
Emerging Infectious Disease Mitigation Items			
-	5.0	New	-
Flood Mitigation Items			
FL #1	6.1	Not Complete	Yes
FL #2	-	Not Complete	No
Landslide Mitigation Items			
LS #1	7.1	Not Complete	Yes
Severe Weather Mitigation Items			
SW #1	8.1	Not Complete	Yes
SW #2	-	Complete	No
-	8.2	New	-
Volcanic Event Mitigation Items			
-	9.0	New	-
Wildfire Mitigation Items			
WF #1	10.1	Not Complete	Yes
-	10.2	New	-