

Proposed General Plan Text Amendment to Chapter 9, the Noise and Safety Element:

The following text is proposed to be added to Section 9.4:

To address the risks of damaging floods, the City of Fresno adopted and recently updated a Flood Plain Ordinance that meets the standards imposed by California Government Code Section 65302(g)(2). The Government Code specifies that cities should include either directly, or through adoption by reference to a flood plain ordinance (65302(g)(6)), flood hazards zones and maps on flooding in the area (65302(g)(2)(A)), goals to protect new development against flooding (65302(g)(2)(B)), and implementation measures to achieve the stated goals (65302(g)(2)(C)).

The City of Fresno Flood Plain Ordinance incorporates by reference flood hazard zones established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Insurance Rate Maps completed for Fresno County, and other maps as are needed to review flood risk (FMC 11-607). The Flood Plain Ordinance protects against risk to new and existing development by requiring any building proposed within a special flood hazard area to obtain a building permit and provide information specifically related to flood risk (11-613). The permit is reviewed by the Building Official, whom has been designated as the Flood Plain Administrator, to ensure that the project will be reasonably safe from flooding and will not adversely increase flood risk elsewhere. (11-614, 11-616). The Ordinance also includes specific development and construction standards to minimize flood risk (11-623 to 11-636). This permit review process and the applicable standards help to implement the goals found within the Flood Plain Ordinance Statement of Purpose (11-603) and also serve to both implement and complement the Goals, Objectives, and Implementing Policies found within this General Plan.