

City of Pinole General Plan Update



SAFETY ELEMENT

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL SE 1: Minimize the potential for loss of life, injury, damage to property, economic and social dislocation, and unusual public expense due to natural hazards.	FLOODING AND EROSION		
	POLICY SE 1.1: Continue to implement the Pinole Creek Watershed Vision Plan and Pinole Creek Greenway Master Plan.	<i>Action SE 1.1.1:</i> Continue to seek funding and work with creek restoration stakeholders to implement the Pinole Creek Watershed Vision Plan and Pinole Creek Greenway Master Plan. <i>Action SE 1.1.2:</i> Ensure Pinole Creek is complemented by local development during the review of specific development proposals by including it as a natural amenity for the development. <i>Action SE 1.1.3:</i> Continue to update the Flood Hazard Reduction Ordinance periodically based on new information and research to include land use controls regulations for properties that abut Pinole Creek in order to minimize potential conflicts between flood, resource protection, and recreational goals and to adhere to pertinent local, state, and federal agency requirements. <i>Action SE 1.1.4:</i> Collaborate with the Contra Costa County Flood Control District and other property owners in the Pinole Creek watershed, particularly the East Bay Municipal Utility District, to establish a diversion basin that could reduce stormwater flows during severe storm conditions. <i>Action SE 1.1.5:</i> Coordinate with Contra Costa County Flood Control District on flood protection and prevention within the City, per GC 65302(g)(2)(B)(v)	
	POLICY SE 1.2: Require appropriate control measures to control and minimize the impact of flooding and erosion.	<i>Action SE 1.2.1:</i> Complete and implement the Storm Drainage Master Plan. <i>Action SE 1.2.2:</i> Investigate feasible infrastructure improvements to remove the Pinole Library, Senior Center, and Tiny Tots structure from the 100-year flood zone. <i>Action SE 1.2.3:</i> Coordinate with Caltrans to ensure proper maintenance and infrastructure integrity at all bridges within the City. <i>Action SE 1.2.4:</i> Continue to periodically update and enforce the Erosion Control Ordinance. <i>Action SE 1.2.5:</i> Require erosion prevention plans for new development such as revegetation or other acceptable measures. <i>Action SE 1.2.6:</i> Periodically monitor areas surrounding Pinole Creek for erosion control.	
	POLICY SE 1.3: Continue to monitor studies that identify anticipated changes in sea level and create appropriate standards and improvements to minimize flood risks.	<i>Action SE 1.3.1:</i> Continue to coordinate with local, regional, state, and federal agencies regarding impacts and mitigation of a potential rise in sea level. <i>Action SE 1.3.2:</i> Continue to update the Climate Action and Adaptation planning process on a regular basis, to govern the San Pablo Bay waterfront and any other areas that may be impacted by changes in sea level. <i>Action SE 1.3.3:</i> Continue to support the actions in the Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Bay Adapt Joint Platform and cooperate in the future implementation of strategies to adapt to Bay-related impacts of climate change, in addition to other ongoing research by regional agencies. <i>Action SE 1.3.4:</i> Continue to implement the Municipal Code flood protection standards for development within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - designated Special Flood Hazard Area and will coordinate with FEMA and other agencies in the evaluation and mitigation of future flooding hazards that may occur as a result of sea-level rise. <i>Action SE 1.3.5:</i> Pursue funding for adequate protection from sea-level rise and subsidence.	
	POLICY SE 1.4: Establish appropriate capital improvements and management programs to maintain and upgrade drainage systems as needed to minimize local flooding.	<i>Action SE 1.4.1:</i> Require project applicants to investigate and report on project impacts on stormwater runoff and the wastewater treatment plant and ensure that project-specific impacts are mitigated. <i>Action SE 1.4.2:</i> Explore the possibility of incorporating green infrastructure requirements such as rain gardens, bio-swales, green roofs, permeable paving, rainwater harvesting, and green parking in the City Municipal Code for new developments and major renovations. <i>Action SE 1.4.3:</i> Continue implementing a Clean Water Program to reduce surface water discharge through project design (e.g., reduce water runoff by minimizing impervious surfaces and using green areas for drainage) and monitor compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit program and the Clean Water Act. <i>Action SE 1.4.4:</i> Seek funding to upgrade facilities to reduce inflow and infiltration and treat runoff.	
	POLICY SE 1.5: Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to minimize the risk and impact of flooding due to dam inundation.	<i>Action SE 1.5.1:</i> Investigate infrastructure improvements (such as retaining walls or deployable flood barriers) at City Hall, Fire Station 73, and Police Department. <i>Action SE 1.5.2:</i> Consider alternative locations for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), equipment staging, and other required resources outside of the Maloney Dam Reservoir inundation zone. <i>Action SE 1.5.3:</i> Coordinate with East Bay Municipal Utility District to maintain Maloney Reservoir in satisfactory condition. Promptly identify future deficiencies and collaborate where feasible toward infrastructure solutions or improvements. <i>Action SE 1.5.4:</i> Participate in emergency preparedness exercises with dam owners and operators, where required. <i>Action SE 1.5.5:</i> Explore developing advance warning methods that would identify a likely breach of the dam so a preemptive evacuation order could be given.	

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GOAL SE 1: Minimize the potential for loss of life, injury, damage to property, economic and social dislocation, and unusual public expense due to natural hazards.	SEISMIC ACTIVITY AND GEOLOGIC INSTABILITY		
	POLICY SE 1.6: Ensure that all geologic hazards are adequately addressed and mitigated through project development. Development proposed in areas of potential geological hazards should not be endangered by, nor contribute to, the hazardous conditions on the site or on adjoining properties.	<i>Action SE 1.6.1:</i> Make the Geological Hazard map readily available on the website either by providing links to reliable data sources such as the California Geological Survey or by updating the geologic hazard map with new information provided by geotechnical studies. <i>Action SE 1.6.2:</i> Require future development and major renovations within the fault trace areas or other geologic hazard areas (e.g., liquefaction, land sliding, mud sliding, erosion, sedimentation, hydromodification, and settlement) to provide geotechnical studies determining the location of the fault trace relative to proposed improvements, the feasibility of the proposed design, level of risk associated with potential geologic hazards, and appropriate mitigations. <i>Action SE 1.6.3:</i> Ensure that during project design and review, existing and new structures are designed to protect people and property from seismic hazards. <i>Action SE 1.6.4:</i> Continue to implement and routinely update the California Building Code (CBC) to mitigate the risk of seismic activity. <i>Action SE 1.5.5:</i> Review the location of proposed utilities in relation to active fault traces identified during the Design Review and require utility lines crossing active fault traces to be specifically designed to withstand the earth's expected movement or to be relocated. <i>Action SE 1.5.6:</i> Monitor slope conditions in areas of concern to evaluate future risk. If slope stability appears threatened or otherwise at risk of failure, document a response plan, schedule, and funding source. <i>Action SE 1.5.1:</i> Monitor slope conditions closely after wildfire incidents for potential debris flow. If debris flow conditions occur, proactively stage response materials in areas at risk of debris flows.	
	POLICY SE 1.7: Address safety issues related to unreinforced masonry buildings in coordination with historic preservation policies and programs.	<i>Action SE 1.7.1:</i> Explore funding sources to create an inventory of unreinforced masonry structures in the City that may collapse in the event of an earthquake and develop a hazard reduction program for their rehabilitation or removal.	
	WILDFIRE		
	POLICY SE 1.8: Incorporate fire-safe design for existing and new developments and major renovations.	<i>Action SE 1.8.1:</i> Continue to use the California Fire Code and California Code of Regulations and update them as necessary to mitigate the risk of wildfires. <i>Action SE 1.8.2:</i> Revisit site design and maintenance standards periodically to ensure that the standards for fire protection for new development meet or exceed the statewide minimums. <i>Action SE 1.8.3:</i> Require the new development proposals to submit plans showing ingress/egress, evacuation routes, emergency vehicle access, visible addressing and signage, and fuel modification/fire-retardant zones. <i>Action SE 1.8.4:</i> Identify existing non-conforming development and create a plan which would include seeking grant funding to update those developments to contemporary fire-safe standards, in terms of road standards and vegetative hazard, and requiring all development to meet or exceed CCR, division 1.5, chapter 7, subchapter 2, articles 1 -5 requirements (SRA Fire Safe Regulations).	
	POLICY SE 1.9: Ensure that the City is well equipped to reduce the risk of wildfire and its aftereffects.	<i>Action SE 1.9.1:</i> Evaluate ongoing fire protection and emergency medical service delivery in the community and Stations 73 and 74 to improve response time in the City. <i>Action SE 1.9.2:</i> Review, or work with the contracted fire protection agency to review, the adequate availability of fire suppression equipment, including fire engines, to support planned development in the City. <i>Action SE 1.9.3:</i> Review and revise development impact fees for new development projects for their contribution towards fire protection services <i>Action SE 1.9.4:</i> Ensure that the contracted fire protection agency strives to provide an on-scene response to emergency incidents in the City within eight minutes and 30 seconds, 90 percent of the time. <i>Action SE 1.9.5:</i> Develop a Fire Safety Operations Assessment that identifies and compares different approaches to the provision of emergency services and identifies needed facilities and an appropriate organizational structure to provide cost-effective fire and emergency medical services. <i>Action SE 1.9.6:</i> Examine opportunities to create all-weather emergency vehicle access through open space in order to shorten response times and improve mutual aid between Pinole, Hercules, and El Sobrante. <i>Action SE 1.9.7:</i> Explore opportunities to provide access to two or more evacuation routes for existing and future residential development with densities of more than 30 units per acre. <i>Action SE 1.9.8:</i> Continue using City's Utility Users' Tax (UUT) per Measure C passed in 2018 to fund fire protection services. <i>Action SE 1.9.9:</i> Continue to coordinate with Pacific Gas and Electric Company through the Rule 20 Program to underground utility lines to mitigate wildfire risk for the projects approved under the program. <i>Action SE 1.9.10:</i> Construct an emergency access road extending Galbreth Road to South Rancho Road and a fire access gate to be opened by emergency responders and explore the possibility of making this a permanent public road.	

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GOAL SE 1: Minimize the potential for loss of life, injury, damage to property, economic and social dislocation, and unusual public expense due to natural hazards.	WILDFIRE		
	POLICY SE 1.10: Coordinate and cooperate with regional agencies on wildfire preparedness programs.	Action SE 1.10.1: Continue working with the County to develop the Countywide Zonehaven Platform that connects to the community warning system. Action SE 1.10.2: Cooperate with the East Bay Municipal Utility District to ensure that the present and future water supply needs are met adequately and to maintain the integrity of the water supply. Action SE 1.10.3: Continue to collaborate with the Bay Area Quality Management District to monitor air quality, spread awareness of air quality issues, and notify the public if wildfire smoke appears to be causing elevated levels of particulate pollution in the region. Action SE 1.10.4: Develop a plan to revegetate slopes on City-owned property as well as work with appropriate agencies and property owners soon after wildfires with desirable native species that support native habitat and have robust root systems to keep soil in place.	
	POLICY SE 1.11: Reduce the risk of wildfire spreading to the extent possible.	Action SE 1.11.1: Treat the City-owned roadways identified as evacuation routes as firebreak areas and maintain these roadways adequately. Action SE 1.11.2: Encourage neighborhood- or area-based approaches to reducing wildfire hazards, acknowledging that one property's wildfire risk is dependent on the wildfire hazards presented by surrounding properties. Action SE 1.11.3: Ensure that new development and major renovations are required to submit fuel modification plans for approval from the contracted fire protection agency. Action SE 1.11.4: When feasible, require all development to be located outside of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). Should development be located in VHFHSZ's, then they must maintain certain defensible space through specific fuel modification (brush clearing) requirements as outlined in Government Code 51175 – 51189 and required to be built to the current California Building Code and Fire Code. Action SE 1.11.5: Reduce the risk of wildfire hazards by working with homeowner associations, business park associations, and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District to maintain fire-retardant landscaping and buffer zones in areas of high wildfire risk and impose such requirements on new development in areas of high wildfire risk.	
	CLIMATE RESILIENCY		
	POLICY SE 1.12: Increase the City's resiliency to climate change impacts.	Action SE 1.12.1: Adopt a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, routinely monitor its effectiveness, and update it on a regular basis. Action SE 1.12.2: Continue to implement the resiliency efforts laid out in the Sustainability Element of the General Plan. Action SE 1.12.3: Identify public buildings, specific private buildings, and/or institutions with facilities required for multiple day habitation as public shelters during periods of extreme flooding, heat waves, or power outages and provide up-to-date information to the public about such buildings through the City's website. Action SE 1.12.4: Develop a protocol for how the City will respond to extreme heat events, e.g., extend cooling center hours, alternative schedules for outdoor workers, delivery of water, medicine, and other critical resources to vulnerable populations, and so on. Action SE 1.12.5: Strive to reach out to the community during City-organized festivals or other regional events and on social media with climate-action-related education. Action SE 1.12.6: Locate new essential public facilities, including hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities outside of hazard areas as feasible, and implement construction methods to minimize impacts if located in at-risk areas. Action SE 1.12.7: To the extent feasible, develop natural infrastructure that uses natural ecological systems or processes to reduce vulnerability to climate change-related hazards or other related climate change effects. Action SE 1.12.8: Continue tracking the status of current state drought warnings and conservation requirements. Support EBMUD in public outreach efforts regarding the drought status. Action SE 1.12.9: Support EBMUD in water portfolio diversification efforts, including recycled and desalinated water, to ensure drought-proof water supplies in the future. Action SE 1.12.10: Complete the Recycled Water Feasibility Study, as identified in the Capital Improvement Plan, to phase the construction of future recycled water infrastructure. Action SE 1.12.11: Identify critical facilities in need of reliable sources of sustained electrical power during natural hazards and climate change impacts. Action SE 1.12.12: Evaluate infrastructure improvements at Pinole-Hercules Water Pollution Control Plant (Critical Facility #23) to mitigate against sea level rise and flood hazards. Identify funding sources as appropriate. Action SE 1.12.13: Continue tracking ongoing sea level rise policy and science updates. Action SE 1.12.14: Continue to monitor critical facilities in and around Pinole Creek, where groundwater emergence is more likely to occur.	

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GOAL	POLICIES		ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL SE 2: Minimize the potential for loss of life, injury, damage to property, economic and social dislocation, and unusual public expense due to human-made hazards.	CRIME			
	POLICY SE 2.1: Reduce the risk of crime through site planning, surveillance, and information.	<i>Action SE 2.1.1:</i> Apply Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles when planning for public and private improvements. <i>Action SE 2.1.2:</i> Involve law enforcement agencies in the Design Review process of new and rehabilitated buildings in order to increase resident and occupant safety. The review may include but not be limited to lighting and landscaping. <i>Action SE 2.1.3:</i> Maintain and expand, where feasible, the network of surveillance cameras in the community to discourage and help investigate criminal activity based on Pinole Police Department advice and experience. <i>Action SE 2.1.4:</i> Strive to provide an on-scene response to emergency incidents in the City within 5 minutes. <i>Action SE 2.1.5:</i> Work with criminal justice agencies and community groups to support programs that offer information about community policing, reporting child and adult abuse and neglect, and other crime prevention techniques. <i>Action SE 2.1.6:</i> Support efforts to strengthen and expand neighborhood watch programs and encourage businesses to participate in these efforts. <i>Action SE 2.1.7:</i> Work with law enforcement agencies and community groups to promote cleanup, graffiti removal, and other neighborhood beautification efforts. <i>Action SE 2.1.8:</i> Work with law enforcement to guide and educate the public on active shooter scenario public responses through employer/school staff training and public education. <i>Action SE 2.1.9:</i> Conduct a neighborhood safety light survey and provide adequate street lighting in areas with concern to discourage crime while preventing unnecessary light pollution or spillover.		
	HEALTH EMERGENCIES			
	POLICY SE 2.2: Be prepared to provide essential services during a public health crisis.	<i>Action SE 2.2.1:</i> Include an operations protocol for public health crisis scenarios in the next update to the City's Emergency Operations Plan. <i>Action SE 2.2.2:</i> Ensure that City employees are equipped to telecommute if needed during an emergency. <i>Action SE 2.2.3:</i> Keep the essential City services, to the extent possible, operational and timely. <i>Action SE 2.2.4:</i> Ensure, to the extent possible, that City employees have access to appropriate protective equipment to provide essential services. <i>Action SE 2.2.5:</i> Follow the direction and guidance of appropriate public health agencies and relay the information to the community in a timely manner.		
	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS			
	POLICY SE 2.3: Evaluate new development on sites that may have involved hazardous materials prior to development approvals.	<i>Action SE 2.3.1:</i> Ensure that sites in Pinole that are contaminated with hazardous substances are cleaned through decontamination of soils, treatment, and filtration of groundwater. <i>Action SE 2.3.2:</i> Use the conditional use permit and encroachment permit process to ensure pipeline safety when construction occurs. New developments should screen, protect, or underground all gas, electric, and communication lines; screen facilities (e.g., transformers) as safety and conditions require; and provide underground connections when feasible to improve public safety and the City's appearance.		
	POLICY SE 2.4: Ensure proper handling, storage, disposal, and cleanup of hazardous materials.	<i>Action SE 2.4.1:</i> Work with Contra Costa County and other regional partners to implement the County Hazardous Waste Management Plan and notify the public about locations and opportunities to properly dispose of household hazardous materials. <i>Action SE 2.4.2:</i> A comprehensive investigation of hazardous materials storage tanks should be undertaken for specific sites when development is proposed. The potential hazard of any tanks or former tank sites found should then be evaluated using California Environmental Protection Agency and local regulatory guidelines, and sites shall be remediated as needed. <i>Action SE 2.4.3:</i> At the time of new development, any known or discovered hazardous material should be cleaned up and any impacts mitigated as required by the governing law. <i>Action SE 2.4.4:</i> Ensure that no hazardous materials are dumped in any area of the City through code enforcement. <i>Action SE 2.4.5:</i> Routinely educate the public regarding proper handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and advertise household hazardous waste collection days and locations on the City website, through social media, and other platforms. <i>Action SE 2.4.6:</i> Evaluate contracted fire protection agency's and Police Department's capacity to respond to hazardous materials spills; identify any gaps in equipment or training.		
	POLICY SE 2.5: Support measures to responsibly manage hazardous waste to protect public health, safety, and the environment.	<i>Action SE 2.5.1:</i> Support legislative efforts to reduce the risk associated with hazardous waste. <i>Action SE 2.5.2:</i> Enforce licensing and current laws regarding the transport of hazardous materials through the City and support state and federal safety legislation to strengthen requirements for hazardous materials transport. <i>Action SE 2.5.3:</i> Continue to participate in Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Area Plan regulatory requirements and emergency response coordination.		

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GOAL SE 3: Spread education and awareness related to emergency preparedness and programs.	POLICY SE 3.1: Create programs and practices that provide information and education to the residents of Pinole related to hazards, emergency preparedness, and other safety issues.	<i>Action SE 3.1.1:</i> Encourage the development and dissemination of information relating to fire hazards to educate and assist builders and homeowners in being engaged in wildfire mitigation activities. <i>Action SE 3.1.2:</i> Ensure that the emergency preparedness web page (Pinole-Ready) is up to date and readily accessible on the City website to promote resident awareness and caution regarding hazards, including soil instability, earthquakes, flooding, and fire. <i>Action SE 3.1.3:</i> Periodically update information on personal emergency preparedness (Pinole-Ready). At a minimum, this should include preparedness for events related to wildfire, earthquake, flooding, heat, and health emergencies. <i>Action SE 3.1.4:</i> Strive to reach out to the community during City-organized festivals or other regional events and on social media to educate on personal emergency preparedness and other hazard-related information. <i>Action SE 3.1.5:</i> Explore restoring the CERT program and conducting annual tabletop exercises and community drills <i>Action SE 3.1.6:</i> Educate City officials at the beginning of each term on emergency procedures, protocols, line of command, and expedited processes related to disaster recovery. <i>Action SE 3.1.7:</i> Spread awareness about the County Warning Systems and encourage residents to sign up to receive notifications and communication during a natural or human-made disaster. <i>Action SE 3.1.8:</i> Continue to publicize disaster plans such as Emergency Operations Plan and make them available on the City website and to critical facilities.	

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GOAL SE 4: Ensure that government agencies, residents, and businesses are prepared for an effective response and recovery in the event of emergencies or disasters.	POLICY SE 4.1: Minimize the risk to life and property through emergency preparedness.	<i>Action SE 4.1.1:</i> Maintain and implement the Emergency Operations Plan, including necessary training, emergency preparedness drills, evacuation plan, and community education. <i>Action SE 4.1.2:</i> Explore the possibility of developing and implementing a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan either by the City or in partnership with regional entities. <i>Action SE 4.1.3:</i> Consider developing and adopting a pre-disaster ordinance for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction that includes provisions for debris clearance, damage assessment, demolitions, re-occupancy and building moratorium criteria, fee waivers, and deferrals, and expedited permitting procedures for repair and reconstruction. <i>Action SE 4.1.4:</i> Continue working with Contra Costa County and other concerned agencies to adopt a regional Emergency Response Plan. <i>Action SE 4.1.5:</i> On their next update, ensure that the policies and action items in other general plan elements are revised to be consistent with policies and actions in Safety Element.	
	POLICY SE 4.2: Permit development only in those areas and with design features that mitigate potential danger to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents.	<i>Action SE 4.2.1:</i> Maintain detailed hazard maps for use in the development review. <i>Action SE 4.2.2:</i> Strive to locate and design emergency buildings and vital utilities, communication systems, and other public facilities so that they can remain operational during and after an emergency or disaster. <i>Action SE 4.2.3:</i> Maintain structural and operational integrity of essential public facilities during flooding, per GC 65302(g)(2)(B)(iii). <i>Action SE 4.2.4:</i> Require appropriate studies to assess identified hazards and ensure that impacts are adequately mitigated. <i>Action SE 4.2.5:</i> Regulate new pipeline development through the conditional use permit process. Require new development to screen, protect, or underground all utilities and provide underground connections to improve public safety as well as the City's appearance. <i>Action SE 4.2.6:</i> Ensure newly proposed or modified roadway designs (e.g., median modifications and speed humps) are reviewed by the contracted fire protection agency to ensure that they do not significantly impair the movement of emergency vehicles and equipment.	
	POLICY SE 4.3: Incorporate technological enhancements in new and substantially remodeled structures and facilities to support and improve emergency services.	<i>Action SE 4.3.1:</i> Consider developing a fiber-optic network plan that can provide visual access for emergency services providers and assist with crime prevention and the monitoring of critical public facilities (e.g., storm drain and flood protection facilities). <i>Action SE 4.3.2:</i> Update the City's ordinance to incorporate necessary improvements into new and substantially remodeled structures to ensure that emergency service providers are able to transmit and receive radio communications within structures.	

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & HEALTH ELEMENT

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.1 Promote and support equity in access to key quality of life factors, including access to healthy food, public facilities, public transit, key employment centers, government services, medical/ health services, quality schools and childcare.	EQUITY IN ACCESS		
	POLICY EJ.1.1 Ensure adequate and equitable access to healthy food to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent obesity.	Action EJ.1.1.1 Encourage and support efforts by schools to help shape curriculum and improve access to information related to nutrition and exercise. Action EJ.1.1.2 Encourage schools to set up community gardens by identifying land adjacent to schools that can be used as a garden or by making City staff available to assist the school in starting a garden. Action EJ 1.1.3 Explore using zoning regulations to help create a healthier environment for children by limiting or restricting the number of fast-food outlets near schools. Action EJ 1.1.4 Promote local farmers' markets as an affordable and healthy option for fresh food. Explore opportunities that allow farmers market vendors to accept CalFresh, WIC, and Market Match. Action EJ 1.1.5 Promote educational opportunities and programs that provide residents with the knowledge, skills, and resources, to make healthy food decisions. Action EJ 1.1.6 Evaluate healthy eating equity as part of the land use decision-making process, to avoid concentrations of fast-food establishments/convenience stores creating healthy food deserts in both the Impacted Communities and remainder of the City. Action 1.1.7 Promote statewide efforts to expand the usage of food assistance benefits (e.g., CalFresh, WIC, and Market Match) to increase the purchasing power of the community and decrease food insecurity.	
	POLICY EJ 1.2 Ensure adequate and equitable access to recreational opportunities, including access to parks, open space, natural spaces, and trails, to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent obesity.	Action EJ 1.2.1 Collaborate with school districts to form joint use of facility agreements for the use of pools, sports, and recreation facilities. Action EJ 1.2.2 Encourage educational facilities to locate in areas that will encourage walking and physical activity to promote student health. Action EJ 1.2.3 Ensure the goals, policies and actions in the Natural Resources and Open Spaces Element have been implemented in a manner that promotes equitable access to quality recreational opportunities within parks in Pinole. Integrate universal design principles when designing public spaces.	
	POLICY EJ 1.3 Encourage equitable access through active transportation and public transit to key employment centers, commercial corridors, government services and civic uses.	Action 1.3.1 Encourage compact, transit-oriented development within one-quarter to one-half mile of transit stations and transit stops along key corridors. Action 1.3.2 Continue to collaborate with transportation/transit agencies and organizations to improve transit service, ensure equitable access, and encourage increased ridership. Action 1.3.3 Continue implementation of the Three Corridors Specific Plan for commercial corridors along San Pablo Avenue, Pinole Valley Road, and Appian Way, establishing mixed-use development, land use designations, and design guidelines that encourage walkable communities, improved bicycle facilities, and improved public transit facilities. Action 1.3.4 Improve conditions for walking and bicycling around schools by installing crosswalks, colored pavement, curb bulb outs, and other improvements to ensure pedestrian and bicyclist safety. Action 1.3.5 Promote and advertise WestCAT Dial-A-Ride transportation service for senior citizens to enhance accessibility for citizens aged 65 or older. Action 1.3.6 Include street design features that facilitate biking and walking trips in both newly developed and established neighborhoods. Action 1.3.7 Require all new development be designed to enable easy and safe pedestrian and bicycle access and circulation. Action 1.3.8 Identify and remove gaps and barriers in the walking and biking network, construction new facilities where necessary. Focus connectivity improvements within the Impacted Communities.	
	POLICY EJ 1.4 Encourage and enhance access for children to schools and recreational opportunities.	Action EJ 1.4.1 Coordinate with West Contra Costa County Unified School District and other public agencies to provide adequate transportation access to Pinole public schools. Action EJ 1.4.2 Ensure that future schools and childcare facilities are sited in residential or mixed-use zones that avoid incompatible land uses and environmental health concerns associated with commercial, agricultural, or industrial uses. Action EJ 1.4.3 Continue offering low-cost enrichment classes, sports, and childcare opportunities at the Pinole Youth Center and Tiny Tots. Consider partnering with private entities for supplementary low-cost recreational or childcare opportunities. Action EJ 1.4.4 Encourage partnerships between West Contra Costa County School District and the Pinole Recreation Department to expand accessible and affordable programming and recreational opportunities at the Pinole Youth Center and Tiny Tots. Action EJ 1.4.5 Participate in the Safe Walk to School Program and Injury Prevention and Physical Activity Promotion, prioritizing barrier removal to active transportation between residential areas and schools. Focus on enhancing safe pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connections in both the Impacted Communities and remainder of City.	

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GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.1 Promote and support equity in access to key quality of life factors, including access to healthy food, public facilities, public transit, key employment centers, government services, medical/ health services, quality schools and childcare.	POLICY 1.5 Ensure a full range of equitable public health services to support varied health and wellness needs in the community, including children, senior citizens, disabled individuals, other vulnerable populations.	Action EJ.1.5.1 Encourage local health care providers to locate health care services and facilities to ensure equitable accessibility to such facilities. Action EJ.1.5.2 Identify health services that are not readily available in the community and seek to improve access to these services. Action EJ.1.5.3 Consult with medical service providers to consider the establishment of urgent care facilities or other emergency medical service facilities. Action EJ.1.5.4 Consider collaboration with neighboring jurisdictions in an effort to establish regional urgent care facilities/emergency medical service facilities in mutually beneficial locations. Action EJ.1.5.5 Consider a low-cost or free non-emergency medical transportation service to enhance accessibility to medical care without relying on ambulance or other emergency transportation. Action EJ.1.5.6 Encourage the development of a medical center, emergency room, urgent care, or other hospital uses in the previous Doctors Hospital building. Action EJ.1.5.7 Publicize low-cost or free health services and resources, including low-cost or free insurance programs. Consider cultural competency when selecting the method, approach, and language used in publication materials. Action EJ.1.5.8 Encourage new medical and health uses to locate near existing transit stations to enhance accessibility. Action EJ 1.5.9 Promote and connect at risk individuals with the Contra Costa County H3 (Health, Housing and Homeless) Services.	
	POLICY EJ 1.6 Support and encourage educational programs and practices that improve public health, with particular focus on improving outcomes for sensitive populations.	Action EJ 1.6.1 Integrate healthy life choices into City recreation programs for all age groups. Action EJ 1.6.2 Participate in programs, events, and ongoing outreach efforts that disseminate information about maintenance of physical and mental health and illness prevention. Action EJ 1.6.3 Continue to encourage physical activity and provide a broad range of recreational activities in the community. Action EJ 1.6.4 Work cooperatively with the medical community to develop and support programs promoting healthy lifestyles, including improved diets, exercise, smoking cessation, and diabetes prevention/treatment. Action EJ 1.6.5 Investigate the high instances of asthma, low birth weight, and cardiovascular disease within the Impacted Community as reported by CalEnviroScreen. Identify instances occurring both within and outside of the City, and potential land use, policy, or infrastructure solutions. Action EJ 1.6.6 Investigate higher than average instances of asthma across the City. Identify potential land use, policy, or infrastructure solutions accordingly.	

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.2 Support land use patterns and densities that reduce pollution, with particular focus to reducing pollution burden in and around Impacted Communities.	EQUITY IN ENVIRONMENT		
	POLICY EJ.2.1 Improve land use planning to minimize water quality pollution, including compliance with state and federal water quality standards.	Action EJ.2.1.1 Create partnerships of community groups, businesses, and agencies to develop strategies to reduce water pollution. Action EJ.2.1.2 Enforce the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regulations. Action EJ.2.1.3 Prohibit development in areas that are particularly susceptible to erosion and sediment loss. Action EJ.2.1.4 Implement the Stormwater Management Plan Action EJ.2.1.5 Where appropriate, maximize infiltration of rainwater into soil. Ensure that impervious surfaces created in new development and redevelopment is designed to optimize infiltration. Minimize or eliminate direct connections between impervious surfaces and storm drains. Action EJ.2.1.6 Support regional, state, and federal clean water programs. Action EJ.2.1.7 Proactively support the San Francisco Bay Regional Quality Control Board in clean-up efforts on Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cases within the City of Pinole and adjacent to the City boundary. Prioritize support on clean-up efforts at LUST cases affecting the Impacted Community (including those sites outside of the City), such as the former Chevron facility sites, Wiegman Rose Inter Co, and Koppers, Inc. Action EJ.2.1.8 Work with the Office of Environmental Health and Hazards Assessment and the state Department of Toxic Substances to better understand potential impacts and exposures from water quality pollution identified in the most current version of CalEnviroScreen 4.0.	

City of Pinole General Plan Update



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & HEALTH ELEMENT

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.2 Support land use patterns and densities that reduce pollution, with particular focus to reducing pollution burden in and around Impacted Communities.	POLICY EJ.2.2 Reduce the transport of runoff and surface pollutants off-site and reduce pollutant loading in the wastewater system.	Action EJ.2.2.1 Provide regular maintenance and monitoring of stormwater collection and treatment facilities to ensure effective operation. Action EJ.2.2.2 Regularly inspect commercial, industrial, and public facilities to ensure proper connections to the sanitary system and avoid illicit discharge. Action EJ.2.2.3 Apply best management practices to sanitary sewer system discharges. Action EJ.2.2.4 Establish protocol for reducing the use of pesticides and other public spaces maintained by the City. Action EJ.2.2.5 Wherever possible, use low impact design (LID), requiring on-site stormwater pre-treatment.	
	POLICY EJ.2.3 Preserve natural water bodies, riparian areas, and drainage systems in a natural condition wherever possible.	Action EJ.2.3.1 Limit disturbance of natural water bodies and drainage systems to only those activities related to public recreation and circulation or to activities designed to enhance environmental conditions. Action EJ.2.3.2 Participate in local and regional restoration projects to improve water quality in the local watersheds. Action EJ.2.3.3 Continue implementing the Pinole Creek Watershed Vision Plan and design standards, including setbacks and mitigation requirements, to preserve and restore natural water bodies, riparian areas, and drainage systems. Action EJ.2.3.4 Explore restoration projects on Pinole Creek to enhance water quality and habitat, while reducing disproportionate trash and pollution burden on neighboring properties.	
	POLICY EJ.2.4 Improve land use planning to minimize air quality pollution, noise, and odors, by promoting strategic land use patterns for businesses, reducing the number and length of motor vehicles, encouraging alternative uses of transportation, and reducing pollution associated with vehicular traffic.	Action EJ.2.4.1 Support the location of ancillary employee services, including childcare, restaurants, banking facilities, and convenience markets, at major employment centers for the purposes of reducing mid-day vehicle trips. Action EJ.2.4.2 Change zoning and land use policies to limit land use conflicts between residential areas and sources of diesel pollution. Action EJ.2.4.3 The City shall update the Zoning Code to identify the location of existing odor sources within Pinole. Action EJ.2.4.4 Create a model for large employers in the City to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips, support the use of alternative fuels, and encourage alternative modes of transportation. Such programs could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating rideshare/carpooling incentives for employees who commute together.• Replacing City-owned vehicles with alternative fuel vehicles.• Ensuring that necessary infrastructure is in place (e.g., showers, bike racks, electric charging stations, shared automobile leasing stations) and available to employees and visitors who rely on such facilities to support alternative modes of transportation. Action EJ.2.4.5 Perform additional outdoor air modeling to ensure regional and local air standards are met or exceeded, with particular focus on air quality in and around the Impacted Communities. Action EJ.2.4.6 Enforce mandated truck and bus routes to protect air quality and limit pollution near sensitive receptors or residential uses. Action EJ.2.4.7 Wherever possible, use low impact design (LID), green barriers, and sound barriers to reduce sound impacts and greenhouse gas emissions. In particular, all new development in close proximity to Interstate 80 and Pinole Creek should include a landscaped buffer between development areas to improve air quality. Action EJ.2.4.8 Support efforts by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to improve air quality in Impacted Communities both within and adjoining the City. Monitor local air quality and identify main pollution sources. Action EJ.2.4.9 When new development would be a source of pollution or when odors are proposed near residences or other sensitive receptors, either adequate buffer distances shall be provided (based on recommendations and requirements of the BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines) or filters or other equipment/solutions shall be provided to reduce the potential exposure to acceptable levels. Potential mitigation associated with this policy requirement will be coordinated with any required permit conditions from BAAQMD. Action EJ.2.4.10 When new residential developments or land uses with sensitive receptors are proposed near existing sources of pollution or odors, either adequate buffer distances shall be provided (based on recommendations and requirements of the BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines) or filters or other equipment/solutions shall be provided to the source to reduce the potential exposure to acceptable levels. Action EJ.2.4.11 Encourage smoke-free workplaces and communities to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke. Action EJ.2.4.12 Work with the California Department of Transportation to enhance physical barriers between sensitive receptors and Interstate 80 freeway, such as sound walls and landscaped barriers, to reduce disproportionate diesel and traffic pollution on properties in close proximity. Focus enhancements within the Community of Focus. Action EJ.2.4.13 Work with the Office of Environmental Health and Hazards Assessment and the state Department of Toxic Substances to better understand potential impacts and exposures from air quality pollution identified in the most current version of CalEnviroScreen 4.0.	

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & HEALTH ELEMENT

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.2 Support land use patterns and densities that reduce pollution, with particular focus to reducing pollution burden in and around Impacted Communities.	POLICY EJ.2.5 Participate in local and regional planning efforts to reduce or mitigate health risks associated with climate change and climate vulnerability.	Action EJ.2.5.1 Develop a Climate Action Plan that includes incentive programs, fee mitigation programs, adaptation and resiliency programs, and City-funded programs that minimize health risks associated with climate change and prioritize environmental justice. Action EJ.2.5.2 Develop a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan that investigates natural and man-made hazards and disasters, including impacts specifically on vulnerable or sensitive populations. Action EJ.2.5.3 Participate in regional San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission shoreline adaptation and sea level rise mitigation strategies, to reduce the impact of negative coastal impacts associated with climate change. Action EJ.2.5.4 Incorporate climate change and climate variability into planning, health and emergency preparedness plans and guidance to increase preparedness for natural hazards exacerbated by climate change, especially among vulnerable populations (both within Impacted Communities and the remainder of the City). Action EJ.2.5.5 Develop emergency preparedness support for vulnerable populations as part of the Emergency Operations Plan, including focus within the Impacted Communities.	
	POLICY EJ.2.6 Ensure equitable access to safe and sanitary housing by maintaining a diverse housing stock and supportive programs.	Action EJ.2.6.1 Promote and further fair housing policies and programs identified in the City Housing Element. Action EJ.2.6.2 Develop outreach programs or supportive programs to enhance property and residential maintenance, weatherization, and rehabilitation. Include helpful code enforcement information where appropriate. Focus outreach on the Impacted Communities. Action EJ.2.6.3 Utilize and promote federal, state, local, and private funding programs offering low-interest loans or grants for housing rehabilitation and maintenance. Promote rehabilitation assistance opportunities within the Impacted Communities. Action EJ.2.6.4 Support housing development that meets the needs of diverse populations and households. Action EJ.2.6.5 Promote fair housing resources and services within the Impacted Communities, to assist in the enforcement of fair housing laws.	
GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
Goal EJ.3 Promote meaningful and inclusive participation in the public decision-making process of all community members, particularly those belonging to marginalized groups, and ensure that residents are informed of and are provided opportunities to actively participate in decisions that affect their environment, communities, and quality of life.	EQUITY IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT		
	POLICY EJ.3.1 Promote equitable civic engagement and participation opportunities through the availability and accessibility of information, education, and resources.	Action EJ.3.1.1 Coordinate outreach efforts between City Departments and other public agencies to reduce redundancy between different communication channels. Action EJ.3.1.2 Evaluate creation of an environmental justice ordinance and ensure community outreach to incorporate environmental justice principles into new project development review. Action EJ.3.1.3 Consider including childcare opportunities at key outreach events affecting entire neighborhoods and the City as a whole, allowing parents and caregivers to fully participate. Action EJ.3.1.4 Provide accessible information in the languages used by the affected community, including written and verbal translation/interpretation assistance. Action EJ.3.1.5 Utilize multiple methods to communicate participation opportunities and feedback on public decisions. Consider cultural competency when selecting the method, approach, and language used in publication materials. Action EJ.3.1.6 Consider the digital divide when identifying methods to communicate civic engagement and participation opportunities and avoid relying on digital channels for all communication with the public. Action EJ.3.1.7 Host in-person meetings or workshops at times, dates, and locations that are convenient for affected community members to attend. Consider varying the time, date, and locations for meeting series to encourage participation from broad groups. Consider ADA accommodations, technology access and food options when planning and hosting community outreach. Action EJ.3.1.8 Prioritize transparency and equity in all City decision making. Action EJ.3.1.9 Partner with community-based organizations with established relationships and trust to conduct outreach for relevant City initiatives. Action EJ.3.1.10 Form a resident advisory committee that meets on a regular basis to monitor the implementation of EJ Element. Action EJ.3.1.11 Identify and invite residents from the Impacted Communities or other isolated areas in the City of Pinole to serve on City boards, commissions, and task force members as openings occur. Action EJ.3.1.12 Enhance relationships and build trust with residents and property owners within the Impacted Communities but working with community-based organizations or other specialized outreach/engagement.	
	POLICY EJ.3.2 Promote equitable access to local, state, and federal election polling places and ballot boxes.	Action EJ.3.2.1 Support local outreach efforts hosted by Contra Costa County Elections Division, including information on how to register to vote, how to vote, and voters rights. Action EJ.3.2.2 Advertise and share official Contra Costa County ballot box locations within the City to promote accessibility. Action EJ.3.2.3 Collaborate with transportation/transit agencies and organizations to provide free or discounted public transportation options to polling places on election dates, specifically in low income communities.	

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & HEALTH ELEMENT

Goals, Policies, and Action Items

GOAL	POLICIES	ACTIONS	SELECT (Policy Priority/Focus)
GOAL EJ.4 Promote land use and policy decisions that make Pinole a desirable place to live for people of all ages, races, genders, and income levels, while preserving the right for future generations to live, work and enjoy Pinole.	EQUITY IN GENERATIONS		
	POLICY EJ.4.1 Strengthen existing relationships with the Ohlone people.	Action EJ.4.1.1 Support the Ohlone people in their efforts to secure both state and federal recognition status. Action EJ.4.1.2 Continue to acknowledge the Ohlone people and their land at the beginning of City meetings and gatherings. Action EJ.4.1.3 Continue to maintain positive and meaningful relationships with the Ohlone people, including early consultation on related land use decisions.	
	POLICY EJ.4.2 Promote equitable outcomes for all citizens in Pinole by enhancing diversity and anti-racism education and programming.	Action EJ.4.2.1 Encourage relevant and age-appropriate diversity and anti-racism education and programming in Pinole public schools. Action EJ.4.2.2 Develop diversity and anti-racism education to compliment programming in enrichment classes at Pinole Youth Center and Tiny Tots. Action EJ.4.2.3 Support anti-racism and diversity training for all City employees, including Police and Fire Services.	
	POLICY EJ.4.3 Support land use, policy, and programming decisions to attract young adults and young families to Pinole, while continuing to serve existing residents.	Action EJ.4.3.1 Continue to develop a diverse and affordable housing stock, allowing residents to select housing that best suits unique needs and lifestyles. Action EJ.4.3.2 Encourage West Contra Costa County Unified School District and Contra Costa Community College District to maximize local employment opportunities through relevant education, degrees, and programming opportunities. Action EJ.4.3.3 Improve equitable access to homeownership in Pinole through supporting first-time homebuyers' programs, including first mortgage programs and down payment assistance programs. Acknowledge that home equity is one of the strongest ways for families to build intergenerational wealth and promote such programs to groups who were excluded from homeownership.	
	POLICY 4.4 Prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of the Impacted Communities.	Action 4.4.1 Review City policies and procedures to ensure the spending of general funds for recreation, air quality, and other environmental improvements, community programming and public infrastructure are appropriately prioritized for the Impacted Communities. Action 4.4.2 Seek grants and partnerships with public, private, and philanthropic entities that promote implementation of policies in the Environmental Justice Element and promote social and economic development activities within the Impacted Communities. Actions 4.4.3 Ensure that future improvements in the Impacted Community will not produce negative impacts on existing residents, such as increase in pollution exposure, net loss of affordable housing, or displacement of residents.	