IX

SAFETY ELEMENT

Maidu Fire Station

1. Introduction

The Safety Element presents a plan for minimizing the hazards to public health and safety in the City of Auburn and its environs. It identifies natural and man-made hazards that affect existing and future development, and provides guidelines for protecting residents from injury and death. It describes present conditions, and sets policies and standards for improved public safety. It seeks to minimize physical harm, as well as economic and social disruptions. The goals and objectives of the Safety Element reflect Auburn's regard for the health and safety of its residents. The element

addresses issues which the community believes would require government intervention in order to effectively achieve public safety. The purposes and goals of the other elements are also related to the goals of the Safety Element. Together, they will serve as a guide for decision making by public and private investors and for the future expenditure of public funds.

Natural and man-made disasters result in losses of life and property, economic and social setbacks, and the destruction of the environment. Local governments are charged with the responsibility of protecting their residents from danger and harm. The Safety Element is intended to guide development by reducing the levels of risk posed by natural and man-made hazards within the city and its planning area.

Some degree of risk is inevitable since natural disasters cannot be predicted with certainty, and because the knowledge and technology to control man-made risks is constantly evolving. Since the total elimination of risk is not possible, public safety is relative to the degree of risk that people find tolerable. The value of life and property becomes a yardstick for tolerance and the need for governmental action.

Specifically, the Safety Element serves the following purposes:

1. As one of the state-mandated elements, it fulfills the requirements of the State Planning and Zoning Law and the regulations in Section 65302(g) of the Government Code of the State of California.

2. The identification, mapping, and appraisal of seismic hazards which would be of concern, including areas subject to liquefaction, groundshaking, surface rupture, or seismic sea waves [Section 65302(f)].

3. An appraisal of mudslides, landslides, and slope stability which might occur as a result of a seismic disturbance [Section 65302(i)].

4. The identification of the potential for fires and other natural and man-made disasters and measures designed to reduce the loss of life, injury, and damage to property [Section 65302(i)].

2. Goals and Policies

The goals and policies in this report were developed in conjunction with the Citizen Advisory Committee for the City of Auburn General Plan Update. These Goals and Policies are presented by topic and sequentially, not by priority.

Goal 1: **Protect the citizens and visitors of the Auburn area from loss of life while protecting property and watershed resources from unwanted fires through preplanning, education, fire defense improvements, and fire suppression.**

Policy 1.1 Encourage future development in areas of Auburn that have been identified as suitable for development and in those areas identified as having the least fire risk.

1.2 Insure that all proposed developments are reviewed for fire safety standards by local agencies responsible for fire protection, including providing adequate water supplies and ingress and egress.

1.3 Maintain strict enforcement of the Uniform Building Code and the Uniform Fire Code.

1.4 Encourage continued use of education programs in schools, service clubs, and industry by fire protection agencies to foster public awareness of local fire hazards.

1.5 Encourage and promote installation of smoke detectors in existing residences which were constructed prior to requirements for their installation.

Goal 2: Protect the lives and property of the citizens of the Auburn area from unacceptable risk resulting from flood hazards.

Policy 2.1 Encourage future development in areas identified as having low risk of flooding.

2.2 Prohibit development within 100-year floodplain of all streams.

2.3 Continue to implement regulatory policies which minimize potential loss of property and threat to human life caused by flooding.

Goal 3: Minimize hazards to public health, safety, and welfare resulting from natural and man-made hazards.

Policy 3.1 All development shall incorporate measures to reduce natural and man-made hazards.

3.2 Continue to encourage and support the enforcement of state and federal environmental and pollution control laws by assisting state and federal agencies in the control of hazardous wastes, landfills, air pollution, and other issues.

3.3 Participate in the development of any local or regional emergency response plans.

3.4 Ensure that public and private water distribution and supply facilities have adequate capacity to supply both daily and emergency fire-flow needs.

3.5 Ensure compatible development in both man-made and natural high-hazard areas (e.g., aircraft safety zones, active fault zones,

slide-prone hillsides) and prohibit development of critical facilities such as police, fire and health facilities in these areas.

3.6 Prior to approval of development in high hazard areas, require the design of mitigation measures to the satisfaction of the City Engineer, Community Development Department, and Police and Fire Departments.

Goal 4: Protect all residents from hazardous materials and the hazards associated with transport of such materials.

Policy 4.1 Continue to support and encourage state efforts to identify existing or previously existing hazardous waste generators or disposal sites and monitor disposal of all wastes and contamination of these sites.

4.2 Require all businesses located in the City of Auburn to maintain Fire Department permits and to file a list of the chemicals which they use with the Fire Department and City Engineer and to identify the areas where chemicals are used or stored so that, should an emergency arise, emergency personnel will be able to respond appropriately.

4.3 The City shall meet or exceed State requirements for the recycling of solid wastes to minimize the demand on landfill sites.

4.4 Cooperate with regional agencies to develop reduced-risk routing for hazardous waste along transportation corridors.

4.5 Promote efforts to reach zero hazardous waste generation within the City of Auburn.

Goal 5: Maintain and enhance City emergency services.

Policy 5.1 Ensure there is no reduction in effectiveness of emergency services as a result of growth or the implementation of the General Plan.

5.2 Support the continued active enforcement of building and fire codes.

5.3 Support the development and continued updating of public education programs on health and safety.

5.4 All new construction shall conform to the requirements for visible and clearly legible signs and street numbers to shorten the response time of emergency personnel.

5.5 Encourage the formation and continued education of neighborhood watch groups to assist the police in crime prevention and detection.

5.6 Encourage neighborhood surveillance.

5.7 Open space areas shall be accessible to emergency vehicles.

5.8 Encourage "fire drills" for neighborhood areas; particularly those in the extreme fire hazard areas (Figure IX-1).

3. Existing Conditions

This section of the Safety Element is concerned with natural and man-made hazards that affect the City of Auburn planning area and the impacts that they could have on life in the City. It focuses on fire hazards, seismic hazards, flood-related hazards, geologic hazards associated with the slope and soil stability failure, the risk of aircraft accidents at Auburn Municipal Airport, hazardous materials, and crime. Certain key issues were identified early in the planning process by city staff, residents, and members of the Auburn General Plan Citizens Advisory Committee. In addition, there are statewide and regional safety issues which affect the city.

This section documents existing conditions in the planning area and provides the background analysis that led to the goals and policies contained in the previous section.

Threats to public health and safety are posed by natural and man-made conditions. Natural hazards result from characteristics of the environment. They are difficult to control or eliminate and are best avoided in order to reduce their danger and potential for damage. Human action may magnify the potential impact of natural hazards, but the disaster is primarily dependent on environmental conditions, such as the presence of earthquake faults, floodplains, and steep slopes. Man-made hazards stem from human activity. They happen as a result of specific practices and actions of man which may create a potential for fire, aircraft accidents, hazardous materials contamination, and crime. To eliminate a man-made hazard, the complete suspension of particular activities is sometimes necessary. This is difficult when economic forces are at play or when the activity supports a host of other economic activities.

In the Auburn area, the major natural hazards are wildfire hazards, seismic activity, flood, and geologic conditions. Aside from these, urban fires, aircraft accidents, hazardous materials contamination, accidents on Interstate 80, Highway 49, and railroads, and crime hazards are present due to ongoing human activities.

Fire Hazards

Wildfires occur on mountains, hillsides, and grasslands and they spread in relation to the area's vegetation, climate, and slope. In the planning area, native vegetation, such as chaparral, sage, and grassland provide the fuel that allows fire to spread easily across large tracts of land. These plant species are capable of regeneration after a fire, making periodic wildfires a natural part of the ecology of these areas. The climate of the Auburn region keeps the grass dry and readily combustible. Steep slopes bring grass and brush within reach of upward flames while impeding the access of fire-fighting equipment. Seasonal drought conditions exacerbate fire hazards.

Figure IX-1 shows the fire hazard ratings within the study area. Due to the rugged terrain, highly flammable timber and brush covered lands, and dry summers, most of the land is designated either extreme or high hazard. The fire season in the Auburn planning area typically occurs roughly from June to November. If rains are minimal, grass may dry as early as May and brush as early as July. From December to April, in the rainy season, wildfires rarely occur.

Wildfire may be started by a variety of things: carelessly used matches, cigarettes discarded in the brush, the lack of spark arresters in off-road vehicles, and target shooting ricochets. In turn, fire fighters are hampered by motorists who do not yield to fire vehicles or who do not know how to provide clear passage in emergencies, as well as the steep terrain in areas where wildfires typically occur.

Fire protection in the plan area is provided by the City of Auburn, the California Department of Forestry, and the Consolidated Fire District and Newcastle Fire Districts. The City of Auburn has an agreement with the Consolidated Fire District to provide services for both structural and wildland fires within its boundary. Structural and wildland fire protection outside the city limits are provided by the individual fire districts or by the California Department of Forestry.

The Auburn Fire Department has four stations currently in operation:

1. Martin Park Station
   485 High Street and El Dorado

2. Gietzen Station
   226 Sacramento Street

3. Maidu Station
   901 Auburn Folsom Road and Maidu Drive

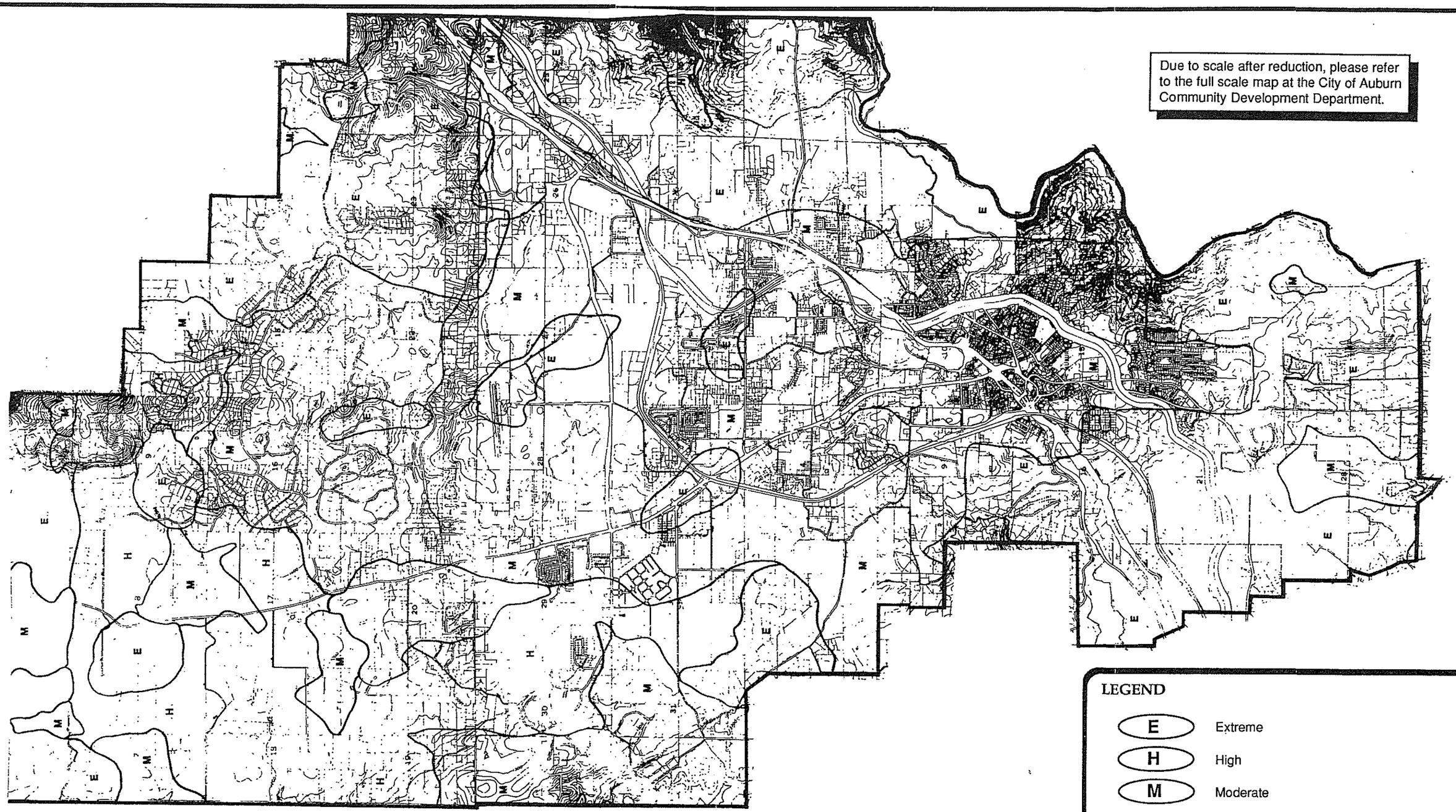
4. Airport/Industrial Station
   New Airport Road and Earhart Avenue

The City is evaluating the addition of new fire stations; four sites under consideration are:

1. Palm Avenue/Nevada Street area
2. Bowman area near Foresthill Road and I-80
3. Bowman Road north of Luther on the west side of I-80
4. Department of Forestry Station

Urban Fires

Urban fires occur in built-up environments, destroying buildings and other man-made structures. These disasters are often due to faulty wiring or mechanical equipment, combustible construction materials, or the absence of fire alarms and sprinkler systems.



Source: Placer County Resource Conservation District

Planning • Engineering • Landscape Architecture
Harland Bartholomew & Associates, Inc
Sacramento, California

CITY OF AUBURN GENERAL PLAN

Fire Hazard Rating

1 : 38,400

FIGURE IX-1

Human accidents with appliances and equipment, and the careless use of cigarettes and matches also cause urban fires. Older buildings are considered more likely to have fires since they often do not comply with present standards for fire safety construction. To minimize fire damage and loss, the fire department sets standards for building and construction. It requires the provision of adequate water supply for fire fighting, fire retardant construction, and minimum street widths, among other things. Fire prevention awareness programs and fire drills are conducted to train residents to respond quickly and correctly in order to reduce injury and losses during fires.

In the planning area, fires have been largely due to human accidents. Fire hazards are continuously present in the form of older buildings in the city center, although there are no pockets of high density development to compound the danger.

Seismic Hazards

A major earthquake is likely to occur in Northern California sometime during the next 30 years. Such an earthquake is expected to cause the loss of life, injury, and property damage at a scale unprecedented in this nation's history. While it is impossible to prevent an earthquake from occurring, research is continuing to develop ways of predicting earthquakes. Still, it will be many years before a program which accurately and reliably predicts earthquakes can be implemented.

Principal faults that could produce damaging earthquakes in the Auburn area are the San Andreas, Bear Mountain, Melones, Hayward and Cleveland Hills faults. The San Andreas Fault is the boundary where the North American plate and the Pacific plate meet. Pressure along this boundary causes earthquakes.

The San Andreas Fault in San Francisco and the Hayward Fault in the east bay area are 100 and 94 miles, respectively, from Auburn. Maximum credible earthquakes along these faults projected at magnitude 8.25 for the San Andreas and 7.5 for the Hayward, would produce barely perceptible shock and bedrock acceleration at Auburn (less than 0.05 g). The closest identified "potentially active" faults (where movement has occurred within the past two million years), are the Bear Mountain Fault and the Melones Faults, which are situated approximately three to four miles westerly and easterly from Auburn respectively. The closest identified "active" fault (where movement has occurred within the past 11,000 years), is the Cleveland Hills Fault, situated approximately 36 miles northwesterly of Auburn. Most recently, the Cleveland Hills fault was the source of the 1975 Oroville earthquake (Richter Magnitude: 5.7).

Active faults located between 50 and 100 miles from Auburn include the Mohawk Valley Fault, the Stampede Valley Fault, and the Fort Sage Fault; all located northeast of Auburn. Given the relationship to these various active faults, there is a high potential that the area will be subject to at least moderate earthquake shaking one or more times over the next century.

In general, the City of Auburn and the planning area are located in a seismically active region (Seismic Zone 3). The Uniform Building Code states that structures shall be designed to withstand seismic events as well as windstorm velocities. The dominant seismic feature affecting the city is the Cleveland Hills Fault which is 36 miles northwest of the planning area. This fault is considered one of the most active in the area in terms of destructive potential.

In addition, there are a number of fault traces that branch off from the primary fault. Movement on the San Andreas Fault may activate one or all of the subsidiary faults.

The amount of groundshaking at a site is expressed in terms of the acceleration of gravity. Ground acceleration is the rate of increase of speed of the ground, where each change in rate acts as a force on a structure. Thus, the greater the acceleration, the greater the force acting on a building site. Table IX-1 shows the historic activity of the San Andreas Fault, which includes richter scale measurement and modified Mercalli intensity scale (MMSI) measurement (see the Technical Appendices for a full description of the MMSI).

Placer County is traversed by a series of northwest-trending faults that are related to the Sierra Nevada uplift. Although seismic activity is a potential hazard, no active faults are known within Placer County (for details, refer to "Earthquake History of Placer County," Livingston, 1979, prepared for Placer County Planning Department).

Aside from groundshaking and ground surface rupture, earthquake hazards include the fissuring or cracking of bedrock, landslides, liquefaction, intense ground breakage, and ground settlement. Structures most likely to be affected are those that are old or near earthquake faults. Dams along earthquake faults may be subject to failure and may cause flooding of the surrounding area. Critical damage may also occur to structures that provide emergency services (hospitals, fire stations, schools, emergency shelters). Roads and utility lines for water, gas, power, telephone, sewer, and storm drainage may be disjointed and services cut off. These structures require special attention in the public safety programs of the city.

In case of a major earthquake in the region, damage to the following structures could occur:

1. **Interstate Highway 80**: There are a number of overpasses on Interstate 80 that could possibly be threatened in the event of a severe earthquake, greater than those previously experienced. Under such a scenario the County would be virtually cut in half between the eastern and western portions. Similar conditions have resulted from past winter storms requiring limited emergency measures.

2. **Train Derailments**: Southern Pacific Railroad tracks run adjacent to Interstate 80. Passenger trains run between Sacramento and Reno through the I-80 Corridor. A derailment in the higher elevations would pose logistics problems involved in freeing passengers caught in snowsheds

TABLE IX-1
SAN ANDREAS FAULT ACTIVITY

Date	Magnitude	Maximum Intensity[1]	
1838	7.0	X -	Comparable to 1906 earthquake
1857	7.9	IX+ -	Buildings and large trees thrown down
1858	6.5	IX+ -	Damage to building frames and foundations
1868	7.0	IX+ -	Many buildings wrecked badly damaged. 30 killed.
1890	N/A		
1899	6.7	VIII -	Brick buildings badly damaged. 6 killed.
1901	6.0+		
1906	8.3	XI -	Great earthquake and fire. 700 killed. Greatest damage on poorly filled land 6.5 meter horizontal slip.
1916	6.0+		
1922	6.5	IX -	Damage to masonry buildings and reservoir. Ground cracking.
1934	6.0	VIII -	$41 million damage. 120 killed.
1966	5.5		
1977	3.0		
1978	2.2		
1989[2]	7.1	VIII -	Freeway and bridge collapse. 42 killed.

[1] Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale
[2] Subsidiary fault of the San Andreas Fault.

SOURCE: Department of Mines and Geology, Fault Map of California and Earthquake Hazards.

especially during winter months. A derailment resulting from an earthquake could also cause a hazardous materials release.

3. **Telephone Communications**: Telephone communications could be adversely affected due to overloading resulting from post-earthquake calls within the area and from outside, and many instruments could be off their hooks. The situation could be further complicated by physical damage to equipment due to ground shaking, loss of services due to loss of electrical power, and subsequent failure of some auxiliary power sources.

4. **Water Supplies:** The open canals operated by Placer County Water Agency could rupture during a large earthquake. It is anticipated that these canals, of which some are elevated and over 100 years old, would be susceptible to failure under sufficient stress that a large earthquake could produce.

5. **Natural Gas and Propane:** The City relies on natural gas for fuel, with some properties dependent on individual propane tanks. Earthquake damage could cause natural gas line breaks, disruption of service and damage to propane tanks by knocking them off their foundations, posing potential fire hazard.

Ground Motion

The technical analysis of earthquakes to be expected from faults affecting the study area has defined these events in terms of a magnitude and recurrence interval. The level of risk associated with each event is indicated by the recurrence interval in much the same manner as the risk from other natural hazards, such as flooding, is defined by a recurrence interval. For example, it is common practice to design flood-prevention projects to accommodate the flows from a 100-year storm. Where a higher level of protection is desired, the design levels are increased to accommodate the flows from storms occurring at 300- to 500-year intervals.

The choice of a particular earthquake, for which protection is to be provided, involves a determination of acceptable risk. In general, the risk of occurrence decreases as the magnitude of the potential earthquake increases. Since the cost of providing protection increases as the magnitude of the "design earthquake" is increased, there is a point at which the cost of providing protection becomes prohibitive. Design for the 100-year event should be considered minimum; where a high level of protection is desired, such as for hospitals, design levels should be increased to protect against earthquakes with longer recurrence intervals.

FLOOD HAZARDS

Historically, precipitation has been moderate to occasionally heavy, but snowfall is very light in the Auburn area. The drought situation which has extended over the past five years has resulted in a significant decrease from the mean precipitation figures of previous years. The average annual rainfall totals 35 inches, but there is considerable variability from year to year. In a ten-year period, on the average, the driest year has less that 24 inches of precipitation while the wettest will receive 48 inches. Winter is the rainy season with 89 percent of the annual total precipitation falling in the six months from November through April.

Although no major flooding is expected in the planning area, intermittent flooding and sheetwash occur along major drainage channels and adjoining areas on scattered sites. Areas with flood hazards are the natural drainage channels of the Auburn Ravine, Dutch

Ravine and Rock Creek and the tunnel section of the Auburn Ravine under Old Town. Flat plains and natural depressions are also subject to possible flooding (as was noticeable in the Mt. Vernon Road area during the 1986 floods).

Both earthquake faults and developments reduce the total ground absorption area. Earthquake faults include bedrock features that create barriers to subsurface percolation, thus increasing the velocity and erosive capacity of storm water runoff on hillsides. Development also creates impermeable surfaces (structures, pavement, streets). Storm runoff is augmented by water flows from development contributing to street flooding. Both earthquake faults and developments reduce the total ground absorption area. Moreover, developed areas generate irrigation water runoff from landscaping which may channel storm water and other runoff flows into nearby underdeveloped areas and street gutters.

Geologic Hazards

The area's geology determines its capacity for supporting man-made structures. In Auburn, consolidated rocks make up the mountains and rocky buttes while alluvial soils are found on stream beds and the valley floor. Beneath the alluvial soils are the same hard rocks as found in the mountain areas. Geologic hazards are present in the form of unstable soils and certain ground formations which render some areas unsuitable for intensive human activity.

The planning area has steep slopes on its eastern edges, with unstable slopes, and areas subject to erosion and landslides. Areas with slopes less than 15 percent are generally considered suitable for all types of development. Those with a 15 to 25 percent slope are typically required to use hillside construction techniques to achieve substantial foundation support and stable soil conditions. Areas with slopes greater than 25 percent are subject to instability and erosion and are generally not recommended for development. Increasing urbanization on the hillsides exposes the community to possible landslides and rockslides which may result in human injury and property damage. Extensive grading will be required to create a developable surface in these areas. However, grading is also a form of land disturbance which may provide future land failure.

Geologic hazards within the area of the Auburn General Plan are small slumps, block slides, and landslides within the metamorphic rock; and slumps, occasional block slides, and erosional gullying within the intensely fractured serpentine. The occurrence of these features will increase as land values increase and more and more building sites are excavated on natural hillsides. The deeper the excavations, the more the weaknesses of underlying rock masses are exposed for potential failure.

Lands around major fault zones are exposed to greater geologic hazards as a result of repeated fault movement. Earthquakes give rise to broken rocks, ground fracture, and clay gouge. Broken subsurface rocks may not be readily apparent but the ground would no longer have its cohesive and shear strength to carry building loads. Ground fracture

is characterized by surface cracks and dips which increase the potential for erosion and landslides. Clay gouge occurs as a result of uneven ground settlement. Clay is more fine-grained than other soils. Thus, repeated ground movement will cause more settlement in areas with clayey soils than in other places.

A soil's potential to expand when wet, and shrink when dry, depends upon the type and amount of clay in the soil. Soil with certain types and a high amount of clay tend to swell or expand when water content is increased. They also shrink disproportionately when dry. Highly expansive soils can cause structural damage to foundations and roads. Lawn watering could concentrate subsurface water and subsequent soil expansion could cause land slippage. Soils with low shrink/swell potentials are suitable for building, with other factors considered. A high shrink/swell potential makes the site less suitable. Detailed investigations may be necessary for areas with moderate to high expansion potentials. Development on expansive soils requires special grading and construction techniques which increase development costs.

The propensity for soil erosion by wind or water runoff is dependent on soil type and its consolidation, vegetative cover, slope, and the runoff velocity. Erosive soils are often found in steep slopes where runoff velocity is also greatest and vegetative cover least. Eroded materials end up on the valley floor with coarse materials near the hillsides and finer ones in areas farther from the slopes.

Complete elimination of these geologic hazards is not possible due to the expense and the potential damage to the environment from massive alteration of the terrain. Danger can be avoided by prohibiting construction in areas with soil stability problems. It can also be reduced to some extent by grading and other engineering methods which remedy soil instability and provide a stable foundation for building construction. Differences in soil stability require specific engineering methods to offset the potential damage to the foundation and the reduced structural strength of buildings.

Aircraft Accident Potential

The Draft Auburn Airport Master Plan reports that seventy-five percent of aircraft accidents have been reported to happen on or near airport runways. These accidents may cause injury, death, fire, explosion, damage to property, and special and nuclear cargo problems, straining hospital facilities, disrupting traffic and utilities, and causing crowd control problems.

The presence of the Auburn Municipal Airport in the planning area carries the probability of aircraft accidents in surrounding areas. The number of flights at the airport fluctuates with an average of 65,000 operations over the last two years. Although forty-six accidents have occurred at the airport since 1964, only three accidents have occurred since 1984.

The airport minimizes disaster potential by following strict safety precautions and by having its own emergency personnel for crash and rescue operations. Development

proposals around the airport are subject to review and approval by the FAA to ensure compatibility with the airport. High density developments around the runway approach zones are limited or prohibited by the adopted Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTES

Trace metals and chemical compounds used in industry have caused toxic pollution of the environment and harmful effects on man. The concern for the production, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials/wastes arises in the wake of widely publicized health and safety problems due to improper handling.

Interstate 80 and Highway 49 pass through Auburn. The bulk of truck carried hazardous materials that enter the County do so via I-80. The cargos consist of a wide range of hazardous substances. Although the road is well maintained and a controlled access roadway, there are some steep and sharp turns that severely tax the brakes and handling ability of semi-trailer trucks. A propane gas spill Interstate 80 through Auburn in 1988.

In addition to highway traffic, other hazardous materials are transported through Auburn on the Southern Pacific Railroad and a major pipeline which runs along Borland Avenue.

Historically, hazardous materials incidents in Auburn have been frequent but of a relatively minor nature compared to more urbanized and industrialized areas.

In accordance with Assembly Bill 2948 (Tanner 1986), the City and County are jointly preparing a Hazardous Waste Management Plan which will include:

- An analysis of the hazardous waste streams generated in the city.
- A description of existing hazardous waste facilities which treat, handle, recycle, and dispose of hazardous waste in the city.
- An analysis of the potential for reducing the volume of hazardous waste through recycling and source reduction.
- A consideration of the need for the management of small volumes of hazardous waste produced by businesses and households.
- A determination of the need for additional hazardous waste facilities to meet expected generation volumes.
- An identification of existing facilities that may be expanded or siting criteria to identify new hazardous waste facilities.
- A statement of goals, objectives and policies for siting of hazardous waste facilities and the general management of hazardous waste facilities and the general management of hazardous waste through the year 2000.
- A schedule which describes City actions necessary to implement the plan through the year 2000.

Assembly Bills 2185 and 2187 (Waters, 1985 and 1986) were intended to protect public health and safety, and the environment by establishing business and area plans relating

to the handling, and release or threatened release of hazardous materials/wastes. The area plan for Placer County has been developed and is implemented by the Placer County Division of Environmental Health. The area plan covers all of Placer County and includes an inventory of hazardous materials/wastes facilities in the County including Auburn, procedures for emergency notification response, pre-emergency planning measures, and public safety information. Facilities with more than a specified amount of hazardous materials/wastes on-site, must submit a business plan to the Placer County Division of Environmental Health. The information in the Placer County Area Plan is available for public review.

Assembly Bill 939 (Sher, 1989), the California Integrated Waste Management Act, was enacted to reduce the amount of solid waste that must be disposed of by transformation or "transportation" and land disposal. Each County, City or local governmental agency which provides solid waste handling services must "provide services that include, but are not limited to, source reduction, recycling, composting activities, and the collection, transfer, and disposal of solid waste within or without the territory subject to its solid waste handling jurisdiction." There are no hazardous waste landfills currently operated by the City of Auburn. The Auburn Placer disposal site, however, is a transfer station presently in use near the Auburn Airport.

Several State agencies monitor hazardous materials/waste facilities. Potential and known contamination sites are monitored and documented by the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). A review of the leaking underground storage tank list produced by the RWQCB, and the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List produced by the Office of Planning and Research indicates no hazardous waste sites are located in Auburn.

If an imminent public health threat is posed by an outside factor, the city will support local regulating agencies in notifying the public.

The transport of hazardous materials/wastes and explosives through the planning area is regulated by the California Department of Transportation (DOT). Interstate 80 is open to vehicles carrying hazardous materials/wastes. City streets and unincorporated County areas are generally not designated as hazardous materials/wastes transportation routes, but a permit may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Transporters of hazardous wastes are required to be certified by the DOT and manifests are required to track the hazardous waste during transport. The danger of hazardous materials/wastes spills during transport does exist and will potentially increase as transportation of these materials increases on Interstate 80, Highway 49, and the railroad. The Placer County Office of Emergency Services (OES), Placer County Division of Environmental Health, the Auburn Police Department, and the Auburn Fire Department are responsible for hazardous materials accidents at all locations within the City.

Development of industrial land in the planning area could increase risks associated with hazardous materials/wastes use. Programs for proper storage, handling, and disposal need to be developed according to State, Federal, and local guidelines to reduce those risks. The City will support and assist in such programs.

CRIME

Crime and other acts of violence undermine the community's sense of security and threaten public safety. As Auburn develops, the increasing concentration of population will bring increasing criminal activities, although not necessarily increasing the crime rate (number of crimes per 1,000 population). While it is expected that individuals will take normal precautions to protect themselves from danger, the city provides additional protection from harm brought on by the malicious intent of others.

CONSTRAINTS

Constraints to public safety are a result of both natural events and the activities of man. Natural hazards are caused by excess rainfall, seismic activity, landslides or high winds. Man made hazards are the result of aircraft accident, crime, hazardous materials spills, and fires. The following are some of the factors which constrain protection of the public:

1. **Unpredictability.** Natural disasters are often unpredictable. In order to reduce the danger of disaster precautionary measures are required. Avoidance of flood-prone areas and flood control measures are necessary. Construction to earthquake standards has proven effective to reduce losses in seismic events. Emergency plans which include evacuation, medical aid, and temporary food and shelter are important.

2. **Existing Land Development.** Prior settlement patterns and very dense development often present difficult access problems for emergency vehicles. Undefined evacuation routes and lack of emergency communication lines are also problems for emergency service providers.

3. **Priorities.** Public safety may be described as the preservation of human life and the protection of property. These values underlie the concept of human settlement; however, the relative importance of saving lives or saving property is sometimes a subjective decision.

4. **Human Carelessness.** Carelessness often leads to accidents which can involve automobiles, airplanes, hazardous materials spills, urban fires and forest fires. Public education and safety rules and regulations are important to avoid careless attitudes and actions.

5. **Individual Precaution.** Citizens often are the cause of their own disasters through lack of available or at-hand precautions, i.e. not locking doors at night or when away, swimming alone, drinking and driving, or smoking in bed.

6. **Economics.** Economic considerations often play an important role in providing for public safety. Budget limitations force difficult decisions related to deciding which safety measures are more important or cost effective.

4. Implementation

These programs relate to the adopted goals and policies. The implementation and completion of the programs represent the mean by which progress in carrying out the Goals and Policies will be measured.

A. The City shall review all new development for conformance to fire safety standards.

Responsibility: Community Development, Fire
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3

B. The City should work with the Fire Department to prepare an educational brochure which fosters public awareness of local fire hazards and promotes use of smoke detectors.

Responsibility: Community Development, Fire
Time Frame: 1994
Related Policy: 1.4, 1.5

C. The City shall identify high flood risk areas and update the zoning ordinance to prohibit development in flood prone areas.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works
Time Frame: 1994
Related Policy: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

D. The City should coordinate efforts with Placer County to keep current and periodically improve the Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Management Plans.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works
Time Frame: Annually
Related Policy: 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4

E. The City shall review all new development proposals for conformance to standards for environmental protection, air pollution control, water quality, and hazardous waste disposal.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works, Fire, Police
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6

F. The City shall periodically update the Emergency Services Plan.

Responsibility: City Manager, Police, Fire, Public Works
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.8

G. The City shall continue and expand Crime Prevention Programs.

Responsibility: Police
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 5.5, 5.6

H. The City should include emergency access for development projects.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works, Building
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 3.6, 5.1, 5.7

I. The City shall include legible sign and street number requirements in the development review process.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works, Building
Time Frame: Ongoing
Related Policy: 5.1, 5.2, 5.4

J. The City shall require all new buildings to be constructed to the Uniform Building Code Standards for protection from seismic events.

Responsibility: Community Development, Public Works, Building
Time Frame: 1993--ongoing
Related Policy: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 5.2

K. The City shall prepare a Household Hazardous Waste Ordinance (see Open Space and Conservation Implementation Measure I).

Responsibility: Public Works
Time Frame: 1992-1993
Related Policy: 4.5