

## 4.0 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTION ITEMS

### 4.1 Overview

The purpose of District Hazard Mitigation Plan is to reduce the impacts of future natural disasters on the district's facilities, students, staff and volunteers. That is, the purpose is to make the South Whidbey School District more disaster resistant and disaster resilient, by reducing the vulnerability to disasters and enhancing the capability to respond effectively to, and recover quickly from, future disasters.

Completely eliminating the risk of future disasters in the South Whidbey School District is neither technologically possible nor economically feasible. However, substantially reducing the negative impacts of future disasters is achievable with the adoption of this pragmatic Hazard Mitigation Plan and ongoing implementation of risk reducing action items. Incorporating risk reduction strategies and action items into the District's existing programs and decision making processes will facilitate moving the South Whidbey School District toward a safer and more disaster resistant future.

The South Whidbey School District Hazard Mitigation Plan is based on a four-step framework that is designed to help focus attention and action on successful mitigation strategies: Mission Statement, Goals, Objectives, and Action Items.

**Mission Statement.** The Mission Statement states the purpose and defines the primary function of the South Whidbey School District Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Mission Statement is an action-oriented summary that answers the question "Why develop a hazard mitigation plan?"

**Goals.** Goals identify priorities and specify how the South Whidbey School District intends to work toward reducing the risks from natural and human-caused hazards. The Goals represent the guiding principles toward which the District's efforts are directed. Goals provide focus for the more specific issues, recommendations, and actions addressed in Objectives and Action Items.

**Objectives.** Each Goal has Objectives which specify the directions, methods, processes, or steps necessary to accomplish the South Whidbey School District Hazard Mitigation Plan's Goals. Objectives lead directly to specific Action Items.

**Action Items.** Action Items are specific, well-defined activities or projects that work to reduce risk. That is, the Action Items represent the specific, implementable steps necessary to achieve the District's Mission Statement, Goals, and Objectives.

## 4.2 Mission Statement

The mission statement for the South Whidbey School District Hazard Mitigation Plan is to:

**Proactively facilitate and support district-wide policies, practices, and programs that make the South Whidbey School District more disaster resistant and disaster resilient.**

Making the South Whidbey School District more disaster resistant and disaster resilient means taking proactive steps and actions to:

- Protect life safety,
- Reduce damage to district facilities,
- Minimize economic losses and disruption, and
- Shorten the recovery period from future disasters.

## 4.3 Mitigation Plan Goals and Objectives

The following Goals and Objectives serve as guideposts and checklists to begin the process of implementing mitigation Action Items to reduce identified risks to the District's facilities, students, staff, and volunteers from natural disasters.

The Goals and Objectives are consistent with those in the Washington State K–12 Facilities Hazard Mitigation Plan. However, the specific priorities, emphasis, and language in this mitigation plan are the South Whidbey School District's. These goals were developed with extensive input and priority setting by the South Whidbey District's hazard mitigation planning team, with inputs from district staff, volunteers, parents, students, and other stakeholders in the communities served by the District.

### **Goal 1: Reduce Threats to Life Safety**

Reducing threats to life safety is the highest priority for the South Whidbey School District.

#### **Objectives:**

- A. Enhance life safety by retrofitting existing buildings or replacing them with new current-code buildings and by locating and designing new schools to minimize life safety risk from future disaster events.
- B. Develop robust disaster evacuation plans and conduct frequent practice drills. When evacuation is impossible in the anticipated warning time, consider vertical evacuation for tsunamis, other physical measures to shorten evacuation time, such as pedestrian bridges over rivers, or relocate campuses with extreme life safety risk to locations outside of hazard zones when possible.
- C. Enhance life safety by improving public awareness of earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic events, and other natural hazards that pose substantial life safety risk to the District's facilities, students, staff, and volunteers.

**Goal 2: Reduce Damage to District Facilities, Economic Losses, and Disruption of the District's Services**

**Objectives:**

- A. Retrofit or replace existing buildings with a high vulnerability to one or more natural hazards to reduce damage, economic loss, and disruption in future disaster events.
- B. Ensure that new facilities are adequately designed for hazard events and located outside of mapped high hazard zones to minimize damage and loss of function in future disaster events, to the extent practicable.

**Goal 3: Enhance Emergency Planning, Disaster Response, and Post-Disaster Recovery**

**Objectives:**

- A. Enhance collaboration and coordination between the District, local governments, utilities, businesses, and citizens to prepare for, and recover from, future natural disaster events.
- B. Enhance emergency planning to facilitate effective response and rapid recovery from future natural disaster events.

**Goal 4: Increase Awareness and Understanding of Natural Hazards and Mitigation**

**Objectives:**

- A. Implement education and outreach efforts to increase awareness of natural hazards throughout the South Whidbey School District, including staff, parents, teachers, and the entire communities served by the District.
- B. Maintain and publicize a natural hazards section in the high school library with FEMA and other publications and distribute FEMA and other brochures and other educational materials regarding natural hazards.

**4.4 South Whidbey School District Hazard Mitigation Plan Action Items**

Mitigation Action Items may include a wide range of measures such as: refinement of policies, studies, and data collection to better characterize hazards or risk, education, or outreach activities, enhanced emergency planning, partnership building activities, as well as retrofits to existing facilities or replacement of vulnerable facilities with new current-code buildings.

The 2016 South Whidbey School District's Hazard Mitigation Plan Action Items are summarized on the following page

**Table 4.1  
South Whidbey School District Mitigation Action Items**

Hazard	Action Item	Timeline	Source of Funds	Responsible Party	Plan Goals Addressed			
					Life Safety	Protect Facilities	Enhance Emergency Planning	Enhance Awareness and Education
<b>Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Items</b>								
Long-Term #1	Integrate the findings and action items in the mitigation plan into ongoing programs and practices for the district.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #2	Review emergency and evacuation planning to incorporate hazard and risk information from the mitigation plan.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #3	Consider natural hazards whenever siting new facilities and locate new facilities outside of high hazard areas.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #4	Ensure that new facilities are adequately designed to minimize risk from natural hazards.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #5	Maintain, update and enhance facility data and natural hazards data in the ICOS database.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #6	Develop and distribute educational materials regarding natural hazards, vulnerability and risk for K-12 facilities.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #7	Seek FEMA funding for repairs if district facilities suffer damage in a FEMA declared disaster.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #8	Pursue pre- and post-disaster mitigation grants from FEMA and other sources.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Long-Term #9	Post the district's mitigation plan on the website and encourage comments stakeholders for the ongoing review and periodic update of the mitigation plan.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X

Table 4.2  
South Whidbey School District Mitigation Action Items – Continued

Hazard	Action Item	Timeline	Source of Funds	Responsible Party	Plan Goals Addressed			
					Life Safety	Protect Facilities	Enhance Emergency Planning	Enhance Awareness and Education
<b>Earthquake Mitigation Action Items</b>								
Short-Term #1	Complete a life safety seismic retrofit for the North Gym at LMS, as funding becomes available	1-2 Years	District or Grants	Supt.	X	X		
Short-Term #2	Evaluate the seismic vulnerability of the 1950s portions of the Elementary and Middle Schools by having a structural engineer complete an ASCE 41-13 Tier 1 evaluation.	1-2 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Short-Term #3	Have a structural engineer review the drawings of the remodel of the High School to verify that necessary structural seismic mitigation measures were included. If not, complete an ASCE 41-13 Tier 1 evaluation.	1-2 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Short-Term #4	Assess the ASCE 41-13 results and select buildings or building parts that have the greatest vulnerability for more detailed evaluations.	1-3 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Short-Term #5	Evaluate the foundations of the portable buildings to determine whether they are adequate for earthquakes.	1-3 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Short-Term #6	Complete a life safety retrofit for the Primary Campus, as funding becomes available.	1-3 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		
Short-Term #7	Anchor bolting of wood sill plates to the foundation at Langley Middle School	1-3 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		
Long-Term #1	Prioritize and implement seismic retrofits or replacements based on the results of the detailed evaluations, as funding becomes available.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Long-Term #2	Maintain and update building data for seismic risk assessments in the OSPI ICOS PDM database.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X		X
Long-Term #3	Enhance emergency planning for earthquakes including duck and cover and evacuation drills.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X		X	X

**Table 4.3  
South Whidbey School District Mitigation Action Items – Continued**

Hazard	Action Item	Timeline	Source of Funds	Responsible Party	Plan Goals Addressed			
					Life Safety	Protect Facilities	Enhance Emergency Planning	Enhance Awareness and Education
<b>Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Action Items</b>								
Short-Term #1	Consult with Fire District #3 regarding level of fire risk for campuses for which this is recommended by the OSPI ICOS PDM database campus-level wildland/urban interface fire report.	1-2 Years	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X
Short-Term #2	Enhance emergency evacuation planning for all campuses for which wildland/urban fires are possible.	1 year	District or Grants	Supt	X		X	X
Long-Term #1	Review defensible space around district facilities and implement mitigation measures to reduce fire risk, increase defensible space, and reduce potential fuel sources.	Ongoing	District or Grants	Supt	X	X	X	X

**Table 4.3  
South Whidbey School District Mitigation Action Items – Continued**

Hazard	Action Item	Timeline	Source of Funds	Responsible Party	Plan Goals Addressed			
					Life Safety	Protect Facilities	Enhance Emergency Planning	Enhance Awareness and Education
<b>Other Natural Hazards Mitigation Action Items</b>								
Short-Term #1	Evaluate portable buildings to make sure that they are adequately tied down to resist high winds and implement mitigation measures, if necessary.	1-3 Years	District and Grants	Supt.	X	X		
Short-Term #2	Review and implement district emergency response plan for facilities	On-going	District and Grants	Supt.	X	X	X	X
Short-Term #3	Review and implement winter weather facility checklist.	On-going	District and Grants	Supt.	X	X		X
Short-Term #4	Review and update emergency response plan evacuation routes in terms of natural hazards.	On-going	District and Grants	Supt.	X		X	X
Short-Term #5	Evaluate each district site and develop plan for tree trimming or removal to better protect facilities from damage due to severe weather.	1-3 Years	District and Grants	Supt.	X	X		X