

## **ANNEX 4. Revised, LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**

The Los Altos Hills County Fire Protection District (LAHCFD), a Board of Supervisors governed special district, provides fire protection to the Town of Los Altos Hills and the unincorporated area west of town. There are approximately 13,000 residents.

### **ORGANIZATION AND JURISDICTION**

LAHCFD, by contract to the Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD), provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, basic and technical rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, fire prevention, fire inspection and investigation, public education, domestic preparedness planning, and response to the Town of Los Altos Hills and the unincorporated areas in Santa Clara County known as Loyola, Los Trancos Woods, and San Antonio Hills. Additionally, LAHCFD supports programs that manage the various contracts, provides greater domestic preparedness training within the community, and ensures critical infrastructure maintenance.<sup>1</sup>

The incorporated Town of Los Altos Hills is designated Local Responsibility Area (LRA), and wildfire jurisdiction and responsibility rests with the fire district and Town of Los Altos Hills. The unincorporated area of the fire district is designated State Responsibility Area (SRA) and, as such, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) shares wildland fire protection jurisdiction and responsibility. State wildfire prevention codes, particularly defensible space codes (Public Resources Code 4290-91) apply in the unincorporated portion of the district.

LAHCFD is monitored by a seven-member commission appointed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. LAHCFD is funded by property taxes collected from within the district. This annex summarizes elements of the Fire District's 2015 Strategic Plan and incorporates material content by reference.

Authority for land use decisions, fire/building code adoption, and building permitting processes in LAHCFD follows the underlying governmental boundary and is split between the Town of Los Altos Hills and the County Board of Supervisors.

The LAHCFD response area is delineated in Figure 4.1.

### **PLANNING TEAM PARTICIPATION TO DEVELOP ANNEX 4**

To develop Annex 4, LAHCFD, through SCCFD staff, engaged in the planning process providing tours of the planning area, identified at risk areas and participated in community workshops.

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<sup>1</sup>[https://3bmsvuv5t9ih49712162y1jo-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/lahcfd\\_strategic\\_plan\\_2015-16.pdf](https://3bmsvuv5t9ih49712162y1jo-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/lahcfd_strategic_plan_2015-16.pdf)

## **SUMMARY**

Los Altos Hills is listed as a Community at Risk from wildfires on the Federal and/or California Fire Alliance list of Communities at Risk in Santa Clara County. The unincorporated portions are SRA and the incorporated portions are LRA.

Wildfires occur in the vicinity of Los Altos Hills and present a danger to people and properties within the town. Increased number and severity of wildfires throughout the state since 2010 have heightened awareness of strategic approaches to best prepare LAHCFD for similar events here.

The unincorporated portion of LAHCFD is a State Responsibility Area (SRA) and jurisdiction for wildland fires is shared with CAL FIRE. CAL FIRE classifies the SRA portions as high and very high fire hazard severity zones (FHSZs) (Figure 4.1).

Mitigations can reduce the risk of injury and damage. Some mitigations are solely the responsibility of property owners, other mitigations require neighborhood level action, and some require town government action.

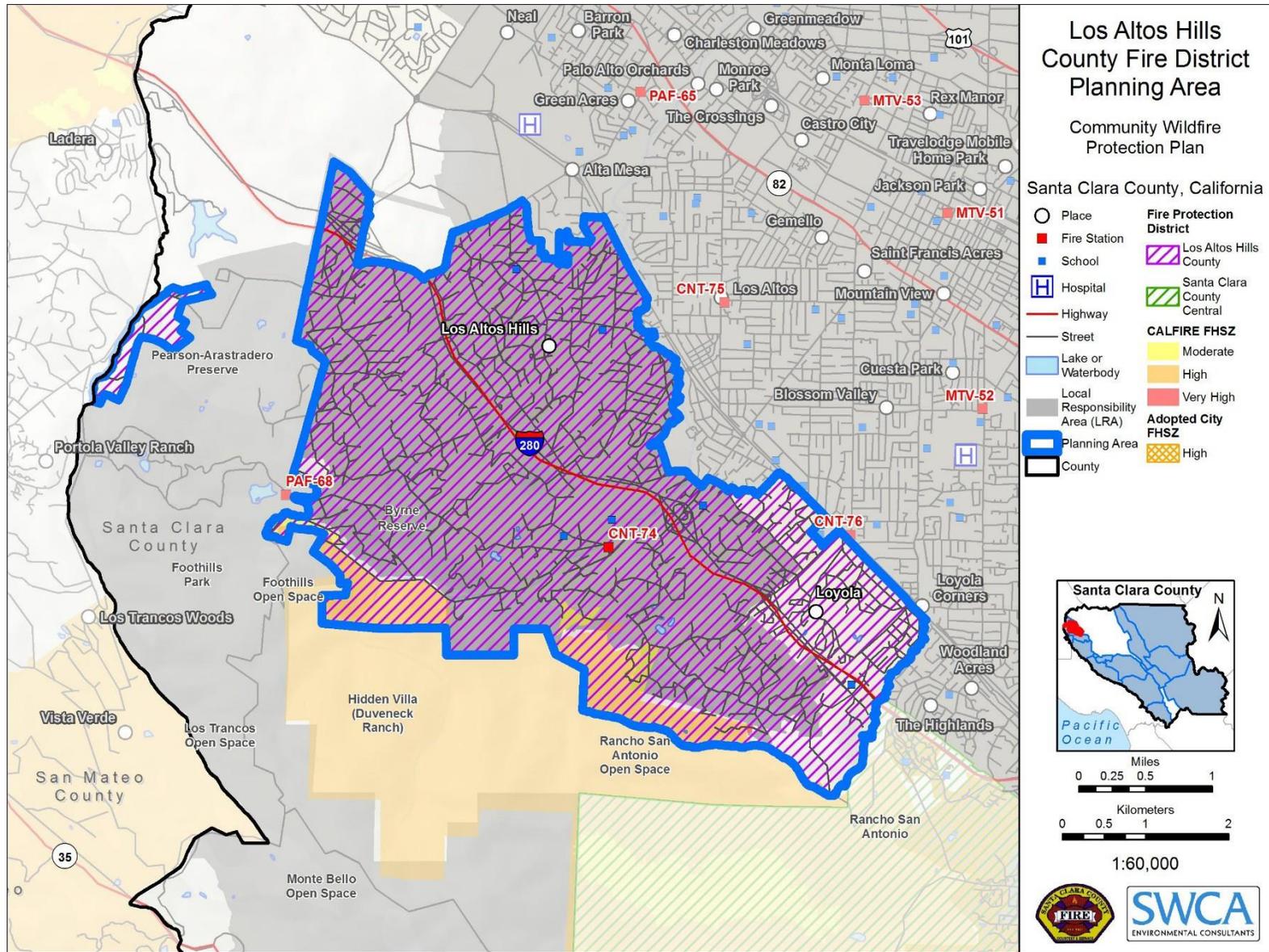
## **WUI AREA DESCRIPTION**

### *WUI AREA DEFINED*

The Los Altos Hills County-designated WUI area is located in unincorporated Los Altos Hills. The LAHCFD planning area is delineated in Figure 4.1. The WUI area is best described as a mix of interface and wildland-urban intermix, with homes scattered amongst wildland fuels.

State wildland fire and defensible space laws apply outside the city limits, but not within the city. The Town of Los Altos Hills has the authority to adopt local ordinances that level the wildland fire and defensible space regulations throughout the district.

Formal designation of WUI areas within the Town of Los Altos Hills were removed in 2016.



## ***FIRE HISTORY***

The area has experienced limited recent fire history. For additional fire history information, please see Figure 3.5 in the main Santa Clara County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) document.

## ***HAZARDOUS FUEL CHARACTERISTICS***

The Los Altos Hills planning area comprises a range of vegetation communities that differ depending upon elevation, precipitation, and slope. Chaparral vegetation is often found on south-facing slopes, where winter precipitation is relatively high, but dry summers are common. The chaparral will have long flame lengths under either moderate or extreme weather scenarios. The nature of these fuels is to burn quickly and intensely. Oak woodlands, comprised of a variety of oak species are also interspersed throughout as well as mixed conifer comprising knobcone pine and grey pine. A fire in either the mixed conifer or hardwood would likely be a surface fire with patches of active behavior and fairly low rates of spread. However, active fire behavior is possible in this vegetation type under extreme weather conditions, especially where there is high surface loading. Coastal coniferous forest communities such as redwoods and Douglas-fir are located in small pockets at lower elevations where precipitation is high, fog is common, and temperatures are moderate. Fire spread is generally limited in this fuel type, however, given the right combination of weather conditions, surface fire can be expected to burn uphill. Areas with increased fuel loading from dead and down materials may experience crowning under the right conditions. The varied vegetation composition result in LAHCFD comprising a range of wildfire hazards.

For fuel model information please refer to Section 4.6.3 and Figure 4.3 in Chapter 4 of the main CWPP document.

## ***NEIGHBORHOOD AND STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS***

The foothills that comprise LAHCFD (Figure 4.2) are characterized by steep, windy and narrow roads that pose potential ingress and egress problems for emergency response and evacuations. Some areas may be subject to slow response times for emergency response due to narrow road conditions. There are many private roads with poor maintenance that would hinder access by large emergency apparatus. Some homes have minimal turnaround space, posing a concern to emergency responders due to potential entrapment. There are a number of dead-end roads and narrow driveways, for example Moody Ct., where the SCCFD has been working with the road association to provide possible mitigation measures (e.g., clearing of roadside brush). There are a number of narrow bridges to access homes, but rated bridges are mandatory.

Most homes have moderate defensible space (at least 30 feet) but some homes do not meet the necessary 70- to 100-foot space. Most homes have non-combustible siding, but the majority have combustible decks and fencing that come into contact with wildland fuels. Some older homes have wood shake roofs and siding which put the property and neighborhood at risk (Figure 4.3). Some subdivisions (e.g. San Antonio Hills) are managed by homeowner associations (HOAs) that provide a conduit for fire prevention and public education and outreach messages regarding structural ignitability and

defensible space. A number of 7A-compliant recently-built properties are interspersed with older properties.

Many homes are located upslope from thick scrub fuels (Figure 4.4), with continuous canopies. Some homes are on steep slopes with often minimal set-back from the slope. Topography is a concern due to the influence steep slopes have on potential fire behavior.

Electrical utilities are almost exclusively provided through overhead lines, representing potential ignition sources for fires when accompanied by high winds and fire conditions.

Water is available throughout much of the area through a network of hydrants (more details in the next section – Emergency Response Capabilities).



**Figure 4.2. Los Altos Hills intermix.**



**Figure 4.3. Wood shake roof on property in Los Altos Hills.**



**Figure 4.4. Eucalyptus is common in the planning area, particularly along riparian corridors. LAHCFD provides eucalyptus removal services.**

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY**

Fire services are provided by LAHCFD in contract to the Santa Clara County Fire and Central Fire Protection District (County Fire). The LAHCFD Fire Station is located at 12355 El Monte Road on the campus of Foothill College and provides 24/7 coverage provided by three shifts, each of at least one company of four firefighters and a Battalion Chief. LAHCFD provides fire prevention and suppression services, as well as medical response and rescue.

The above contract with County Fire is a three-way agreement including the City of Los Altos, and governs the coordinated operations of two other Fire Stations located in Los Altos (shown as CNT-75 and CNT-76). Based on resource availability, both of these stations respond to emergencies in LAHCFD.

CAL FIRE provides response in the SRA and in mutual threat zones, including ground and air crews, and County Fire coordinates response as needed from neighboring jurisdictions under Mutual Aid.

Water in the LAHCFD is provided by two purveyors, Purissima Hills Water District (PHWD) and Cal Water Service (CWS). The fire district owns and maintains the hydrants in the PHWD operating area and CWS owns and maintains the hydrants in its territory. LAHCFD has provided funds to assist the water districts in ensuring adequate firefighting water flow through water main upgrading, standby generator installation, hydrant upgrading, and seismic strengthening of water tanks. In addition, the district provides fuel management activities, including the monitoring and enforcement of weed and brush abatement, residential brush/chipping (twice/year), monthly yard debris drop-off, dead tree removal program, and eucalyptus tree removal.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

LAHCFD provides information regarding chipping programs, defensible space mitigation, forest health issues, and much more. It also offer public meetings and forums to support wildfire awareness. More information can be found on its website: <https://www.lahcfd.org/programs-for-residents/>

The SCCFD Fire Prevention Division provides a comprehensive fire and life safety educational program within Los Altos Hills. More information can be found on its website:

<http://www.sccfd.org/community-outreach-safety-education/community-outreach-safetyeducation-overview>

LAHCFD provides personal emergency preparedness training for residents, support of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and related activities, support of neighborhood network program, and provision and maintenance of disaster tools and emergency supplies. More information can be found on the LAHCFD website: <https://www.lahcfd.org/preparing-for-emergencies/>

## **POLICIES, REGULATIONS, ORDINANCES, CODES**

Structures within the unincorporated County WUI planning area are covered under the County's

WUI codes:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/Iwantto/PropertyInfo/Pages/WUI.aspx>.

Residences that fall within the Town of Los Altos Hills are subject to town land use/building permit policies and ordinances:

- Los Altos Hills Municipal Code: <http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/199/Municipal-Code>
- Tree removal permit: <http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/295/Tree-Removal-Permit>
- Tree fencing requirements: <http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/181>

Recommendations for property hygiene: A landscape design plan for projects in fire-prone areas shall address fire safety and prevention. A defensible space or zone around a building or structure is required per Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4291(a) and (b). Fire-prone plant materials and highly flammable mulches must be avoided. To prevent the likelihood or severity of wildfires, create at a minimum a 30-foot fuel break area around homes using vegetation that has low flammability and is low growing. Remove dead plants and dead material from living plants in such a way so that erosion is not accelerated and flood potential increased. Trees should be kept a distance from any structure at least as wide as the mature crown. Additionally, large shrubbery under trees can create a fire ladder allowing the flames to ignite the tree foliage. Pines, junipers, cypress, and eucalyptus trees burn especially fast and should not be planted near the house.

## **HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

Community hazard assessments include ratings of community conditions compared to best practices for WUI fire mitigation. Community Hazard ratings include consideration of applicable state codes, local ordinances, and recognized best practices guidelines.

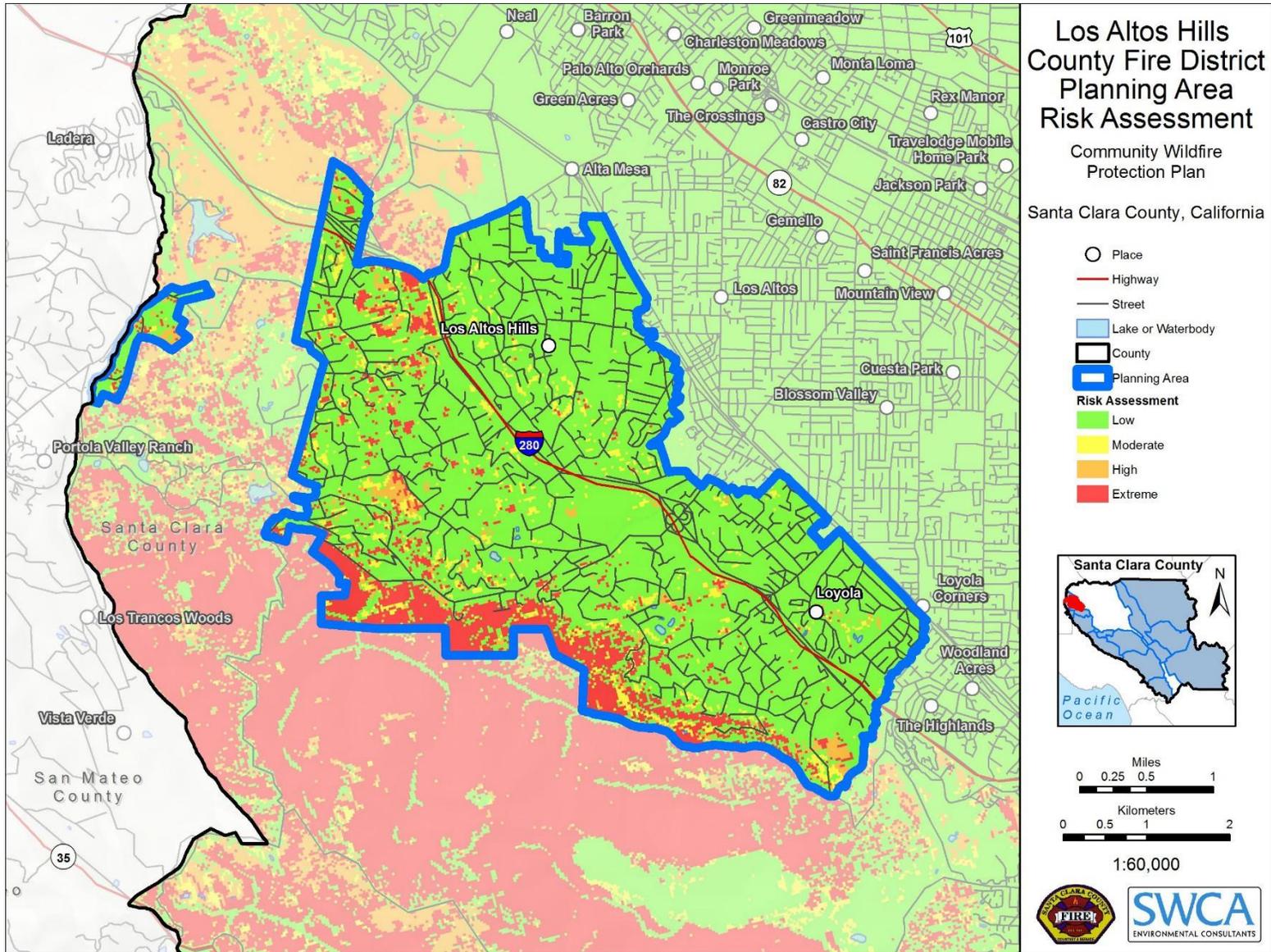
The National Fire Protection Association Standard 1144 (NFPA 1144) defines WUI hazards and risks at the community and parcel level. This plan utilizes components of NFPA 1144, California laws and local ordinances to evaluate neighborhood WUI hazard and risk. California PRC 4290 and 4291 sections address WUI community design and defensible space standards.

The NFPA 1144 community risk assessment completed for the Los Altos Hills Community assigned the WUI community a risk rating of High with a score of 88 (<40= low, >40 = moderate, >70 = High, >112 = Extreme, shown in Table 4.1). Factors that contributed to the risk are illustrated below. Averages are taken across the community for each of these parameters. Note that the elimination of the WUI map by the Town of Los Altos Hills does not change the basis for assessing fire risk and development of subsequent fire mitigation measures.

In addition to the on-the-ground hazard assessment, the CWPP also includes a Composite Fire Risk/Hazard Assessment which uses fire behavior modelling to determine potential fire behavior and is based on fuel characteristics, topography, weather, and fire history. The Composite Risk/Hazard Assessment for the planning area is shown in Figure 4.5. Note that this indicates higher levels of fire concern than the assessment in Figure 4.1. For more information on the methodology for this assessment please refer to Section 4.6.1 in Chapter 4 of the CWPP.

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Access	Two roads in and out but access still concern	+/-
	Narrow road width	-
	Surfaced road with greater than 5% grade	+
	Poor fire access, dead end spurs, lack turnaround	-
	Street signs are present, some are non-reflective	+/-
Vegetation	Adjacent fuels: Medium	+/-
	Defensible space: >30 feet <70 feet around structure	+/-
Topography within 300 feet of structure	21% to 30 %	-
Topographic features	Moderate to high concern	+/-
History of high fire occurrence	Low	+
Severe fire weather potential	Low	+
Separation of adjacent structures	Good separation	+
Roofing assembly	Class C	-
Building construction	Combustible siding and deck	-
	Building set back <30 feet to slope	-
Available fire protection	Water: hydrants present with variable pressure	+
	Response: Station <5 miles from structure	+
	Internal sprinklers: some newer 7A compliant homes	+/-
Utilities	One above and one below ground	+/-
<b>Risk Rating- High (88)</b>		

Table 4.1: Community Hazard Rating for Los Altos Hills



**Figure 4.5. Composite Risk and Hazard Assessment for LAHCFD.**

## ***PARCEL LEVEL ASSESSMENT***

A model for determining parcel level risk and effect of mitigations has been developed through this CWPP project. The model can use information available through public record for basic analysis but can be further refined with a site visit with property owner for a thorough analysis of risk score. The County will be seeking funding to fully implement this parcel level assessment in the future. The goal is for property owners to be able to use this analysis to determine the most effective steps they can take to reduce their risk. For more information refer to Chapter 4 in the countywide CWPP document.

## **IDENTIFY CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY VALUES AT RISK**

Critical utility infrastructure, such as electric power supply lines, substations, and natural gas lines, are essential to supply residents and businesses with services that are in some cases critical to health and life safety. In many parts of the study area, electric power is needed to provide heating and lighting. Wildfire is a significant threat to the electric utility supply.

The project area has several watersheds that are community values at risk. Watersheds need to be protected and maintained from catastrophic wildfire damage to prevent erosion, sedimentation and water contamination (Taylor et al. 1993). Long-term issues resulting from damage to watersheds would be increased run off, poor soil retention, and decreased water quality.

A number of community values are found within and adjacent to the planning area, including vulnerable populations located at faith-based facilities, Hidden Villa organic farm and wilderness preserve, portions of Foothills Park Open Space, Byrne Preserve, Westwind Community Barn, Juan Prado Mesa Preserve, schools, and Fremont Hills Country Club. Other community values at risk include life safety, homes and property values, infrastructure, recreation and lifestyle, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and environmental resources.

## **MITIGATION PROJECTS AND PRIORITIZATIONS**

The following project matrices have been developed by the community and Core Team to direct specific project implementation for communities in LAHCFD (Table 4.1–Table 4.4). The matrices below are tiered to the strategic goals presented in the body of the CWPP through project IDs in the first column of each matrix. The matrices are broken down into projects for addressing hazardous fuels, structural ignitability, public education and outreach and fire response capability.

A treatment map has been developed by the Core Team for fuel treatments in the area (Figure 4.6). Many of these projects have been part of ongoing planning by the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council in conjunction with public and private stakeholders. These projects are conceptual in nature and are therefore subject to change as this document undergoes future revisions.



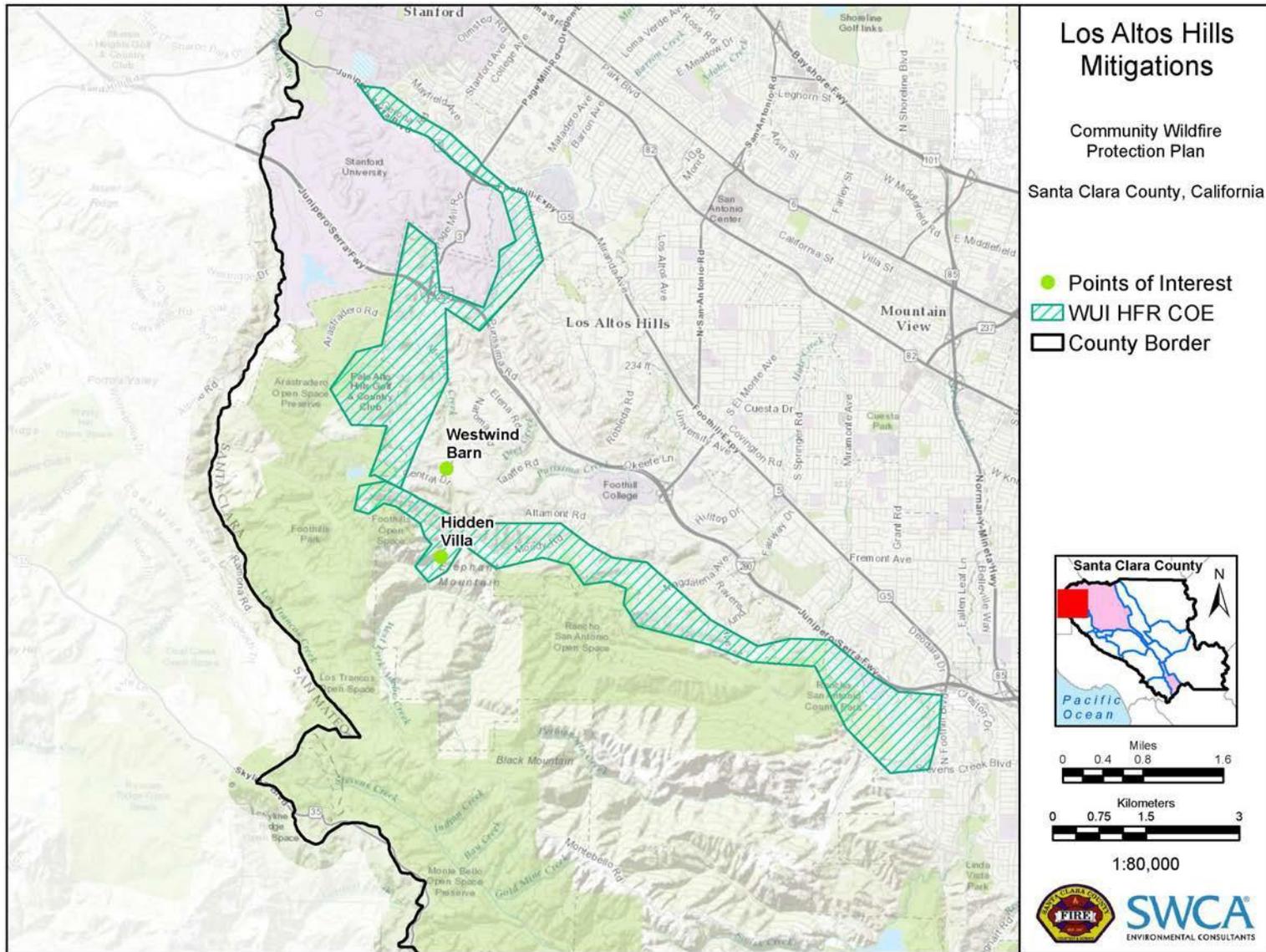


Figure 4.6. Los Altos Hills Mitigations

**Table 4.1. Recommended Fuel Reduction Projects in LAHCFD**

ID (LAH)	Project Description	Location and land ownership	Method	Serves to:	Timeline for Action	Priority (1,2,3)	Monitoring	Resources/funding sources available
<b>Strategic Goal: FR1: Incorporate single track trails into fire defense system where practical.</b>								
LAH-FR1.1	Incorporate single track trails into fire defense system where practical or where it would create effective buffer to wildfire spread.	Byrne Reserve (County Parks), Foothills Open Space (Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District [MROSD]), Rancho San Antonio (MROSD), Pearson Arastradero Preserve (City of Palo Alto), Hidden Villa (Private Organic Farm).	Strategic plan to incorporate fire defense improvements through trail management.  Detailed analysis would be needed in development of treatment location to ensure protection of natural resources.	Provide access when fires occur to reduce spread.  Enhance Community fire defense.	Ongoing-long range	1	Regular monitoring to determine project success in reducing fuel loading and enhanced access.	Grants: SRA (only on SRA lands), CA FSC; California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP); Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), FEMA, Green House Gas Reduction Fund (GHGRF)  Fund sustainability efforts through the property owner/manager, or local/state agency that is the responsible party.
<b>Strategic Goal: FR2: Work with Park and Open space to have some road width trails for better access.</b>								
LAH-FR2.1	Work with Park and Open Space to have some road width trails for better access where appropriate.	Byrne Reserve (County Parks), Foothills Open Space (MROSD), Rancho San Antonio (MROSD), Pearson Arastradero Preserve (City of Palo Alto).	Maintain road width trails for fire and park patrol vehicles where possible to facilitate access. Use trails as fuel breaks. Should incorporate a map component and use the Earthquake Clearinghouse exchange core to facilitate project development.	Protect life and property by improving access for emergency vehicles to open space areas and WUI areas adjacent to open space.	Within 2 years	1	Regular maintenance schedule should be implemented to ensure clearance levels are maintained.	Grants: SRA (only on SRA lands), CA FSC; CFIP; NRCS, FEMA, GHGRF  Fund sustainability efforts through the property owner/manager, or local/state agency that is the responsible party.
<b>Strategic Goal: FR4: Encourage use of prescribed fires where ecologically sound and feasible.</b>								
LAH-FR4.1	Encourage use of prescribed fires where ecologically sound and feasible. Air quality issues reduce the priority of this potential action.	MROSD (to be determined through MROSD Board of Directors), County Parks.	Utilize prescribed burn planning that follows agency and regulator protocols.  Closely follow plan prescriptions.	Reduce fuel loading of fine fuels and understory species to mitigate potential for intense fire behavior in the event of an unplanned ignition.	Ongoing	3	Regular monitoring needed to ensure against environmental damage and invasive species into burned areas. Monitoring to determine project success in reducing fuel loading.	Grants: CAL FIRE Vegetation Management Program, SRA (only on SRA lands), CA FSC, CFIP, NRCS

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ID (LAH)	Project Description	Location and land ownership	Method	Serves to:	Timeline for Action	Priority (1,2,3)	Monitoring	Resources/funding sources available
<b>Strategic Goal: FR10: Develop agency partnership to establish creation of hand crew for fire hazard reduction- need not be a fire crew</b>								
LAH-FR10.1	Develop agency partnership to establish creation of hand crew for fire hazard reduction-need not be a fire crew.	All agencies. Includes areas of high risk within LAHCFD as well as similar risk areas in adjacent properties (e.g. MROSD).	Establish a local based crew for use in fire defense improvement work throughout the county  Can be through private resources, contract with CCC, or Sheriff.	Primary purpose is to carry out CWPP objectives.	Within 3 years	1	Monitor cost effectiveness through benefit cost ratio approach	Grants: SRA (only on SRA lands), CA FSC; CFIP; NRCS, FEMA, GHGRF
<b>Strategic Goal: FR 11: Create Sustainable programs for creating Defensible Space at the parcel Level</b>								
LAH-FR11.1	Develop Defensible Space Programs: Community Chipping, Drive up Chipping, At Home Chipping, Fire Safe Neighborhoods, and tree removal	Private homes and structures throughout the County WUI.	Use readily available Defensible Space Literature; Encourage home owners to have courtesy inspections by local fire agencies and PG&E.	Increases the likelihood that a structure will survive a major wildfire.	Annual - Late Spring	1	Regular maintenance needed to ensure the fuel break remains clear of vegetation. Monitor for erosion and invasive species.	Utilize local funding sources such as County Fire, local government, home owner association dues, and SRA Fees. Reuse successful programs from previous years, encourage local administration and volunteers from the community to reduce administrative overhead.
<b>Los Altos Hills: Non-Tiered Projects</b>								
LAH-FR1	Develop Task Force to seek funding sources for homeowners to reduce hazard trees.	County Fire.	Fire Prevention Division to investigate homeowner concerns regarding removal of dead hazard trees.	Reduce concerns voiced at community workshops regarding costs of tree removal for hazard reduction.	Spring 2020	3	NA	SRA funds (only on SRA lands), FEMA funds, Municipal/local funds, power line grants, California Tree Mortality Task Force, State Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grants.
LAH-FR 2	Establish fuel breaks around neighborhoods identified as at risk.	MROSD (allows shaded fuel breaks per District policy), County Parks adjacent to communities. Municipal/County property abutting subdivisions. Hwy280 corridor	Shaded fuel break treatments as well as accumulated brush removal.  May include hiring private contractors.	Slow the spread of fire from open space lands Reduce the intensity of possible flame fronts.	Winter 2019	1	Regular maintenance needed to ensure the fuel break remains clear of vegetation. Monitor for erosion and invasive species.	MROSD, CAL FIRE crews and dozers - Public Works budget. Local community groups - donations and grant funding.

**Table 4.2. Recommended Public Education and Outreach Projects in LAHCFD**

ID (LAH)	Project	Presented by	Target Date	Priority (1,2,3)	Resources Needed	Serves to
<b>Strategic Goal: EO1: Educate citizens on how to achieve contemporary code compliance in retrofits/cost: benefit ratio. Provide workshops and/or demonstration site</b>						
LAH-EO1.1	Educate citizens on how to achieve contemporary WUI code compliance in retrofits/cost: benefit ratio. Provide Los Altos Hills focused workshops and/or demonstration site in LAHCFD.  Hold on weekends to increase attendance.  CAL FIRE crews will be carrying out summer inspections.	FireSafe Councils, County Fire, CAL FIRE	Within 2 years	1	Workshop expenses, personnel.  Workshop venues.  Demonstration site.  Strategize on avenues for engaging the public. Be opportunistic- engage residents following a local wildfire or at existing well- attended events- i.e. annual BBQ, Pancake Breakfasts, Open days offered by Fire Departments.	Increase compliance with County code. Reduce fire risk level for individual parcels and community as a whole.
<b>Strategic Goal: EO2: Analyze playing with fire ignitions and focus education programs at vicinity schools.</b>						
LAH-EO2.1	Analyze playing with fire ignitions and fireworks safety and focus education programs at Los Altos Hills schools or youth organizations. Focus at youth and children.	Los Altos Hills School District, County Fire, CAL FIRE, municipal fire Departments Fire Safe Council	Within 1 year	1	School liaison Materials for presentations Personnel Video processing, could utilize You Tube platform Could be a college student project	Adds to existing programs provided by County Fire and Fire Safe Council targeted at school age children. Reduces number of ignitions.
LAH-EO2.2	Implement firework bans and increase enforcement during high fire danger periods.	Sheriff's Department in conjunction with County Fire	Within 1 year	1	Sheriff's Department resources	Reduce concerns voiced by community members regarding firework safety in the WUI.
<b>Strategic goal EO3: Organize a community group made up of residents and agency personnel to develop materials and communicate relevant defensible space messages. Could coordinate with fire departments or FSC.</b>						
LAH-EO3.1	Develop Homeowner guide for homes located in LAHCFD.	Local Home Owner Association	Spring 2020	2	Funding to develop and print copies of the handbook. Volunteers to help distribute and explain the document.	Give Residents detailed and locally specific tools that they can use to improve preparedness.
LAH-EO3.2	Neighbor teach neighbor program.	Local residents in conjunction with SCCFSC	Spring 2020	1	Sustainable funding needed for FSC to provide training to willing neighbors to teach their neighbors defensible space and Firewise practices.	Provide a grassroots level of training to residents on how to achieve defensible space and Firewise practices. Builds community interest and capacity for wildfire preparedness.

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ID (LAH)	Project	Presented by	Target Date	Priority (1,2,3)	Resources Needed	Serves to
<b>Strategic Goal: EO12: Promote and increase the use of prescribed burning as a fuels reduction method. Gain public support for using prescribed burns to reduce fuel loads and to improve ecosystem health through a pilot burn project and demonstration site. Consider developing informational material for distribution at natural areas or via email distribution lists.</b>						
LAH-EO 121	Implement a public outreach campaign regarding the use of prescribed fire for natural resource management and fuel reduction in open space areas.	CAL FIRE/ MROSD	Within 2 years	2	Prescribed burn prescription, type-6 engines, hand crews, equipment. Research and costs of producing, printing, and distributing paper informational flyer.	Protect communities and infrastructure by reducing fuel loads.

**Table 4.3. Recommended Fire Fighting Capability Projects in LAHCFD**

ID	Project Description	Fire Department/ Agency	Benefits of the Project to the community	Timeline	Priority (1,2,3)	Resources/ funding sources available
<b>Strategic goal FC13: Develop a coordinated approach between fire jurisdictions and water supply agencies to identify needed improvements to the water distribution system, initially focusing on areas of highest wildfire hazard.</b>						
LAH-FC13.1	Develop a coordinated approach between fire jurisdictions and water supply agencies to identify needed improvements to the water distribution system, initially focusing on areas of highest wildfire hazard and lowest hydrant flow.	County Fire, CAL FIRE, Fire Safe Council, Cal Water, Purissima Hills Water District	Improve fire-fighting response if water is more readily available or closest locations could be identified on a GIS map on a tablet/computer.	Within 2 years	1	County Fire
<b>Strategic goal FC8: Where road systems are antiquated and do not provide for proper evacuation or two-way flow, require removal of obstructions or upgrade to minimum 2 lanes road system over time</b>						
LAH-FC8.1	Widening roads.	Benefits Fire Agencies that deploy smaller trucks.	Facilitates evacuation and response times. Hurdle would be the number of private roads in the planning area.	multi-year Project	1	Local Road Association
<b>Strategic goal FC11: Investigate and potentially install Fire Detection Robots to alert departments of a fire start in remote areas.</b>						
LAH-FC11.1	Early Warning Wildfire Detection System on open space lands.	Benefits all Fire Agencies	This benefits the areas covered by the cameras. Fire can be detected early, data is recorded and can be used for later analysis, and fires in progress can be monitored.	Within 2 years	1	There is currently about \$30,000 being held by the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council to continue this phase of the project.

**Table 4.4. Recommendations for Structural Ignitability Projects in LAHCFD**

ID (LAH)	Project	Presented by	Programs Available	Description	Contact	Priority (1,2,3) /Date
<b>Strategic Goal- SI 1: Retrofit/eliminate flammable roofs</b>						
LAH-SI1.1	Retrofit/Eliminate flammable roofs.	County Planning in conjunction with County Fire and municipalities	FEMA grants	Require elimination of all flammable roofs through attrition or time deadline,	County Planning	1/ By 2030
LAH-SI1.2	WUI Fire Protection Workshops.	SCCFSC  All residents would be encouraged to participate	Firewise, agency outreach personnel, Ready-Set-Go. Tailor to specific risk/hazards in each community,	Offer hands-on workshops to highlight individual home vulnerabilities and how-to techniques to reduce ignitability of common structural elements.	SCCFSC Firewise personnel, CAL FIRE	1/ongoing in 2019
<b>Strategic Goal- SI4: Adopt common defensible space standards throughout the county.</b> <b>and</b> <b>Strategic Goal- SI 19: Create a countywide defensible space ordinance for parcels below certain size acreage (parcel size: i.e. 2 acres?), if not cleared by owner then county will clear. Could be tied to County weed abatement program.</b>						
LAH-SI4.1  and  LAH-SI9.1	Stronger Defensible Space regulations.	Regional Fire Marshals. To be adopted locally in the 2016 CFC cycle	Based on existing state laws and standards.	New emphasis on maintenance. Presented in plain language and a logical progression. Eliminate current jurisdictional limitations.	Regional Fire Marshals	1/ Spring 2019
<b>Strategic Goal: SI15 Adopt landscape standards for recommended plant landscape materials</b> <b>Strategic Goal: SI16- Develop landscape contractor maintenance program for “Right Plant-- Right Place” and maintenance</b>						
LAH-SI16	Develop a fire safe education program for landscaping crews.	Town of Los Altos Hills	‘SelectTree’ application which helps to identify appropriate trees for your region, weather and fire hazard. <a href="https://selecttree.calpoly.edu/">https://selecttree.calpoly.edu/</a>  Follow model by Diablo Fire Safe Council to develop a Firewise tree list.	Hold day-long workshops 2-3 times a year that landscapers could attend at a small cost but then they could receive certification in Firewise landscaping.  Firewise USA  Ready-Set-Go	Town of Los Altos Hills SCCFSC	3/ Spring 2020
<b>Strategic Goal SI7: Promote Firewise Community recognition program countywide; consider SCL amendments to Fire wise; partner with CERT and Neighborhood Watch.</b>						
LAH-SI7.1	Firewise Communities	Establish and support a new Firewise Communities Group	Firewise Communities USA	Give residents ownership of the fire problem, provide resources and information necessary to inform and prepare the community for fire.	Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council , CAL FIRE	2/Fall 2017

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