SECTION I – INTRODUCTION

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I. **OVERVIEW**

It is impossible to predict exactly when natural disasters will occur, or the extent to which they will affect Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD). However, with careful planning and collaboration among district personnel, public agencies, private sector organizations, and community members, it is possible to minimize the losses that can result from these natural disasters. The Hazard Mitigation Plan is the first step in this process.

The ultimate purpose of the plan is to determine practical and cost effective strategies to mitigate our most common and worst case scenario hazards to protect our campuses, district and the community. This will be done in partnership with the federal, state, county and city governments; the two colleges within the district and district office. In the end, the work done on this plan can save lives, prevent injuries, prevent damage to property and the environment and save millions of dollars in public assistance.

A. **PARTICIPANTS**

The RSCCD Hazard Mitigation Team was formed to jointly develop this plan. Letters outlining the Hazard Mitigation Project and invitation to all named participates were sent prior to the kick off meeting held on April 2, 2015. The Team representatives were selected from the following organizations:

- RSCCD
- City of Santa Ana
- City of Orange
- County of Orange
- State of California Office of Emergency Services (OES)
- Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce
- Orange Chamber of Commerce
- American Red Cross Orange County Chapter
- Coast Community College District

District and college invitees included representatives from the district office, two colleges, and other educational and child care sites owned by the district including:

**District Office**

- Assistant Vice Chancellor, Fiscal Services
- Director of District Construction
- Risk Manager
- Chief, District Safety & Security
- Executive Director of Child Care Services
- Admissions/Records Specialist III
- Plan Writer
Santa Ana Community College
- Lt. District Safety & Security
- Vice President Administrative Services
- Dean of Instruction Continuing Education
- Facilities Manager
- Assistant Dean, Criminal Justice Academies
- Student Representative, Associated Student Government
- Associated Student Government Representative

Santiago Canyon Community College
- Lt., District Safety & Security
- Vice President Administrative Services
- Vice President Continuing Education
- Facilities Manager
- Assistant Dean Criminal Justice Academies

Additional members consisting of City Emergency Managers, City Planners, Police and Fire Department representatives were invited. These members supplied RSCCD Team with their city General Plans including the Safety Elements, Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), and Hazard Mitigation Plans from those agencies that had completed one. This group includes the general public and the following:

City of Santa Ana
- City Planner
- Emergency Manager

City of Orange
- Orange Police Sgt./Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- Orange Fire Department
- City Planner

County of Orange
- Emergency Management Bureau

State of California
- Office of Emergency Services

Community Groups
- American Red Cross

Business Groups
- Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce
- Orange Chamber of Commerce
General Public/General District
- Communication via the RSCCD Website
- RSCCD Emergency Preparedness Team
- RSCCD Students

Engineering/Mapping Services Contractor
- MMI Engineering

Individuals for the Hazard Mitigation Team (Team) were selected based on their expertise and knowledge of the district, campuses, city, planning, emergency management, public safety and community knowledge in relation to information required in the plan development process.

The Team representatives were extremely helpful in the initial planning process. Orange County had completed their Hazard Mitigation Plan update in 2010. Neither of the two cities with district facilities had approved Hazard Mitigation plans. The City of Orange wrote a planning grant in 2013 and hopes of developing a plan within the next two years. The City of Santa Ana had a draft of a plan but it was never approved by the State, Federal government or the City of Santa Ana.

B. HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING SCHEDULE

The 18 month long FEMA planning grant will complete the writing of the plan in 14 months leaving time to edit the plan.

The project was broken into 7 Phases. Meetings have been scheduled every other month on the second Thursday of each month at the District Office conference rooms.
The geographic area incorporated in this plan includes the district’s owned facilities which are all located in the Cities of Santa Ana and Orange, all located within Orange County, California.

The district’s entire service area is located in central and north Orange County. Orange County is immediately adjacent to and south of Los Angeles County and north of San Diego County. Orange County has a population of over three million residents and is the eighth largest economy in the world.

The area’s topographic characteristics and associated threats include the Newport-Inglewood, San Andreas, Whittier and San Joaquin Hills Earthquake Faults; alluvial soils prone to liquefaction; and low-lying flood prone areas mostly as a result of the Santa Ana River. The area is prone to Santa Ana winds and is in the Prado Dam inundation zone.

II. PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

Throughout history, RSCCD has dealt with various natural hazards affecting the area. Photos, journal entries, and newspapers from the 1800s, 1900s and early 2000s show that the residents of the area dealt with earthquakes, liquefaction, fires, flooding, and severe coastal storms resulting in flooding and high winds.

Although there were fewer people in the area, the natural hazards adversely affected the lives of those who depended on the land, climate and tourism for their income and well-being. As the population continues to increase, the exposure to natural hazards creates an even higher risk than previously experienced. As the population at the campuses and district complex increase, the expectations on RSCCD and other government agencies following a disaster becomes greater.

Orange County is the second most populous county in California and the most populated state in the United States. Orange County has over three million people. Its population is greater than the population of 29 of this country’s states. RSCCD enrolls more than 40,000 students. With Orange County’s dense population and the large number of individuals on each of the campuses, disaster impacts can be devastating; therefore, every effort must be taken to mitigate the natural hazards identified in this plan.

The district is in the heart of Orange County, home of one of the state’s oldest community colleges, Santa Ana College, and also one of its newest, Santiago Canyon College. Centered in a growing and dynamic area, the district serves a population of more than 700,000 residents in the communities of Anaheim Hills, Orange, Santa Ana, Villa Park and portions of Anaheim, Costa Mesa, Irvine, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove and Tustin.

Encompassing 24 percent of Orange County's total area (193 square miles), the district maintains seven sites with hundreds of buildings. In addition to Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College, these include the Centennial and Orange Continuing Education Centers, the Digital Media Center, the Orange County Sheriff's Regional Training Academy and the District Operations Center.
Student Headcount (Fall 2013)
College Credit 25,138
Non-Credit 29,862
Total 55,000

In addition to the enrolled students, the child care sites have over 900 children that the district is responsible for their safety.

The area offers the benefits of living in a Mediterranean type of climate. RSCCD service area is characterized by the unique and attractive landscape coupled with world-famous tourist attractions. However, the potential impacts of natural hazards associated with the terrain and large numbers of college students make the environment and population vulnerable to natural disasters. The college’s large events like graduations, football games, swap meets and special events increase the population of the campuses and therefore will increase the impact of a disaster.

Orange County experienced destructive flooding, winter storms and in some cases water spouts six times in the 1990s (1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1998) in 2001 and again in the winter of 2010/11. The county sought and received Presidential Disaster Declarations to obtain federal assistance for recovery efforts in 1992, 1993, 1995, 1998, and again in 2010/11 for winter storms. In 1997/1998 and 2001 only a State Proclamation was received. Wildfires have been more prominent since 2000 in inland Orange County. Orange County operates as one entity during disasters through the Orange County Operational Area as required in the State of California Standardized Emergency Management System. If the RSCCD service area is not impacted, it supplies its facilities as shelters, Local Assistance Centers, Pointes of Dispensing, staging areas and other uses as part of the Orange County Operational Area response. So what disasters impact Orange County will in turn impact the RSCCD personnel, resources and facilities.

RSCCD is an official member of the Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMU) and is a fully recognized partner in mitigation and prevention, preparedness (including coordinating plans, training and exercises), response and recovery operations. To ensure RSCCD is doing all it can to mitigate and prevent disasters at its sites, this Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is being developed. Within the planning process, RSCCD will research hazards, effectively evaluate the vulnerability of each of the sites and examine and agree on mitigation strategies. The RSCCD plan writer will enlist the district personnel, campuses, faculty, students and public input on hazard mitigation issues while educating them on the district’s hazards and vulnerabilities. The planning progression will be documented throughout the process. Public involvement is critical in the planning process.

A. PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
As the costs of damage from natural disasters continues to increase, the community realizes the importance of identifying effective ways to reduce vulnerability. A hazard mitigation plan will assist our communities in reducing risk by identifying resources, information, and strategies for risk reduction, while helping to guide and coordinate mitigation activities throughout RSCCD.
The Plan provides a set of strategies intended to do the following: reduce risk from natural hazards, provide education and outreach programs, foster the development of partnerships, and implement preventative activities.

Resources and information within the Mitigation Plan:

- Establish a basis for coordination and collaboration among participating agencies and public entities
- Identify hazards and assess their vulnerability to the district facilities
- Identify and prioritize future mitigation strategies or projects and determine ways to fund and implement them

The hazard mitigation plan works in conjunction with other RSCCD plans, including the district’s Emergency Operations Plans, Campus Emergency Plans and district facility planning documents.

Natural hazards impact populations, campuses, property, the environment, and the economy of RSCCD service area which in turn impacts the district staff, faculty and students as well as its ability to continue operations. Earthquakes, flooding, fires, dam failure, and high winds have exposed RSCCD to the financial and emotional costs of recovering after natural disasters. The risk associated with natural hazards increases as more people move to areas affected by them.

In the district’s service area, which is essentially “built-out” (i.e., has little or no vacant land remaining for development), population density continues to increase when low-density housing is replaced with medium and high-density development projects. This increases the need for additional campuses and classrooms. The campuses are mostly built out and most new development will have to include mid- or high-rise buildings or demolishing old structures and replacing them with new facilities. This again increases the population density at the campuses making prevention and mitigation even more critical.

The inevitability of natural hazards, and the growing population and activity within the study area create an urgent need to develop strategies, coordinate resources, and increase public awareness to reduce risk and prevent loss from future natural hazard events. Identifying the risks posed by natural hazards, and developing strategies to reduce the impact of a hazard event can assist in protecting life and property of citizens and communities. All of this will be coordinated with the county and cities where the campuses and district offices are located.
B. PLAN CONTENTS
RSCCD Hazard Mitigation Plan includes resources and information to assist the district, the public and private sector organizations, the college community (students, faculty, staff) and other parties interested in future mitigation planning. This plan outlines actions taken to direct the District-wide efforts in risk reduction and loss prevention caused by natural hazard events. The strategies focused on a multitude of natural hazard issues with primary mitigating efforts.

C. PARTICIPATING AGENCIES
California’s Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) requires counties to form an Operational Area consisting of all public agencies (county, cities, and special districts and school districts). The Operational Area agencies work together to mitigate and prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

RSCCD is an official member of the Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) whose membership includes the county, 34 cities within the county, special districts, school districts and other organizations approved by the group (universities, utilities, federal sites within the county, American Red Cross non-profits, etc.). OCEMO members are emergency managers representing their various agencies who are knowledgeable in hazards and threats. OCEMO members assisted in the plan development by contributing relative information, mapping, and copies of their plans for use in research. OCEMO members (county, cities, school districts, and special districts totaling 113 public agencies) were all invited to participate on the planning team at the April 2, 2015 OCEMO meeting.

The Orange County Operational Area places a high priority on disaster prevention and mitigation. The Orange County Hazard Mitigation Plan and State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) have been key resources utilized in the development of this plan.

The development of this plan was a collaborative effort with cooperation between the District, its local stakeholders, the campuses. The district office networked with the cities, county, State Office of Emergency Services (OES) Hazard Mitigation Division and with the assistance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation publications. The planning process was an example of cooperation in an educational entity and the process was a model for future Hazard Mitigation endeavors.

Public participation played a key role in the development of the goals and strategies. Interviews were conducted with stakeholders District-wide, and included cities, county, special districts, and the public. Public workshops were held which outline the threats, strategies and planning process and requested input from all stakeholders. The invitees included service area residents and District community at large. RSCCD Hazard Mitigation Team guided the plan development process and utilized the recommendations and suggestions from the public workshops when determining and prioritizing mitigation strategies.

RSCCD would like to acknowledge RSCCD Hazard Mitigation Planning Team for their commitment and dedication throughout the planning process. This plan took 14 months to complete and consists of hundreds of work-hours of research and writing to develop. The experience and knowledge of these individuals were critical in the development of the plan. The following individuals are to be commended:
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I. Introduction

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III. PLAN MISSION AND GOALS

A. MISSION
The mission of RSCCD Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is to promote sound public policy designed to protect students, faculty, staff and visitors. RSCCD will develop a formal process for prioritizing the mitigation projects by determining the district’s Critical Facilities, Community Critical Facilities threatened by natural hazards. This can be achieved by identifying hazards and strategies, increasing public awareness, documenting the resources for risk reduction, and providing a review and maintenance process to guide the district towards building a safer, more sustainable community.

B. HAZARD MITIGATION GOALS
The plan goals describe the overall direction that the district and campuses can take to work toward mitigating risks from natural hazards. The goals are stepping-stones between the broad direction of the mission statement and the specific recommendations outlined in the strategies. The Plan goals help to guide direction of future activities aimed at reducing risk and preventing loss from natural hazards. The goals listed here serve as checkpoints as agencies and organizations begin implementing mitigation action items.

PROTECT LIFE, PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Implement activities that assist in protecting lives by making the district, college facilities and their infrastructure more resistant to losses from natural hazards.

Reduce losses and repetitive damages from chronic hazard events while promoting insurance coverage for catastrophic hazards. Improve hazard assessment information to make recommendations for discouraging new development in high hazard areas, building with the hazards in mind, and encouraging preventative measures for existing development in areas vulnerable to natural hazards. When development does occur, ensure all planners are familiar with updated building codes and the National Flood Insurance Program and their recommendations. (Cities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, not districts.)

STRENGTHEN EMERGENCY SERVICES
Establish policies to ensure mitigation projects are outlined in the plan for critical facilities, services, and infrastructure. Strengthen emergency operations by increasing collaboration and coordination among the campuses, the district and other public agencies. Coordinate and integrate natural hazard mitigation activities, where appropriate, with emergency operations plans and procedures.

PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS
Develop and implement education and outreach programs to increase public awareness of the risks associated with natural hazards. Provide information on tools, partnership opportunities, and funding resources to assist in implementing mitigation activities.

Even with mitigation being a priority, the district should continue the disaster preparedness programs including Building Captains, Command Posts, Campus Emergency Operations Centers (C-EOCs), Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) and other programs in place. The
district should train these teams on the hazards, vulnerability, and future mitigation plans. Ask for their input on mitigation strategies. And most importantly, be aware of what facilities may be vulnerable in what types of disasters so these facilities are not utilized by the public.

**CREATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Strengthen communication and coordinate participation among and within the campuses, public agencies and the public for district facilities to gain a vested interest in implementation. Encourage leadership within public and private sector organizations to prioritize and implement local and regional hazard mitigation activities.

RSCCD will participate in the countywide mitigation efforts. They will partner with the cities where their facilities are located and with countywide and regional efforts. The district works with the Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) with mitigation and preparedness issues and through the Orange County Operational Area for response and recovery operations.

**PROMOTE NATURAL SYSTEMS**

Balance natural resource management and land use planning with natural hazard mitigation to protect life, property, and the environment. Preserve, rehabilitate, and enhance natural systems to serve natural hazard mitigation functions.

**UNDERSTAND NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)**

This plan will research the district requirements related to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Cities are active participants of the NFIP community colleges are not.

**C. HAZARD SPECIFIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Hazard-specific information on the natural hazards is addressed in this Plan. Flooding occurs with regularity and was the most common type of disaster for the district’s area in the 1990’s and during the long drought of the 2000’s, wildfires have become the most common disaster. This can be forecasted through historic evidence and scientific methods. Catastrophic hazards do not occur with the frequency of flooding and wildfires, but when they do occur, they have devastating impacts on life, property, and the environment. In Southern California, because of its geology and terrain, earthquakes, floods, wildfires, landslides and high winds have the potential to be catastrophic. Earthquakes with Santa Ana winds and/or fires would be the most catastrophic natural event. The hazards and their mitigation goals addressed in the Plan include:

**EARTHQUAKE**

**Goals**

- Identify at-risk structures and promote seismic retrofitting of any buildings that do not meet current building codes
- Minimize losses to critical facilities from earthquakes and liquefaction by seismically retrofitting unstable structures
- Develop a Non-Structural Hazard Mitigation Program which would include standards that campuses and the district would follow
- Ensure earthquake preparedness education remains a priority
- Pursue funding sources to accomplish these goals and objectives
- Minimize economic loss to the local agency, state and federal governments
Objectives

- Provide education on non-structural hazard mitigation to the campuses
- Identify critical facilities like the campus and district Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), Health Offices, Security Offices, child care facilities and ensure these facilities are structurally sound and all non-structural hazards have been secured

FLOOD/STORM

Goals

- Eliminate to the greatest degree possible, the risk from flood hazards to life, property, public investment, and social order
- Support a flood control system on the campuses and district complex which are able to support the permitted land uses while preserving the public’s safety
- Identify and upgrade existing deficient flood control systems on campuses and at the district complex
- Pursue funding sources to reduce the costs of flood control
- Minimize losses to critical facilities from flooding
- Minimize losses to existing and future structures within the 100 year flood zone
- Minimize economic loss to public agencies, the public, and recovery costs to FEMA and Cal OES from floods

Objectives

- Upgrade campus flood protection systems
- Educate district and campus on emergency flood protection measures
- Work with the cities and county to upgrade flood protection systems that impact the district

DAM FAILURE

Goals

- Identify dam failure prone areas on and surrounding the campuses
- Enhance warning systems to provide quick and effective notifications of an impending dam failure
- Ensure dam failure preparedness education remains a priority
- Pursue funding sources to accomplish these goals and objectives

Objectives

- Review all warning systems to ensure that adequate coverage exists for all campuses and the district complex
- Upgrade warning systems to add/improve coverage

WINDSTORMS/SEVERE WEATHER

Goals

- Determine who the stakeholders are in windstorm damage
- Determine how communications between stakeholders can be established to coordinate windstorm prevention
- Decide how the district and campuses can participate in windstorm damage prevention
Pursue funding sources to accomplish these goals and objectives

Objectives
- Work together with stakeholders to educate the district and campuses on proper tree pruning to reduce windstorm related power outages
- Establish a list of critical facilities on the campuses to determine if they have backup power to be able to continue operations should a commercial power failure occur

D. ORGANIZATION OF STRATEGIES
The strategies listed in this plan are activities in which the district, campuses and public can be engaged to reduce risk. Each strategy includes an estimate of the time line for implementation. Some strategies are activities that the district and its campuses may implement with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. Other strategies may require new or additional resources, and may take up to 10 years to completely implement.

The strategies are listed at the end of each of the hazard section of the plan. A strategy matrix is located in the Plan Maintenance Section lists all of the strategies in the plan. Data collection, research, and the public participation process resulted in the development of these strategies. This has all been documented throughout the plan. Each strategy listed in this plan includes the following information:

IDENTIFY A COORDINATING OR LEAD ORGANIZATION FOR EACH STRATEGY
The coordinating organization is the district or a specific campus and a department. The assignment will be to the most appropriate department able to address a natural hazard, or that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, or oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Coordinating organizations may include District Facilities, District Maintenance & Operations, a city or the county agencies that are capable of or responsible for implementing activities and programs. Some hazards are managed by county, state and federal government agencies and the district has no control over them. In those cases, the district will work with the agency and make recommendations for improvements. The district and campuses can conduct individual projects or work in conjunction with their city, county, state and federal agencies to mitigate hazards.

ESTIMATE A TIME LINE
Each strategy includes an estimate of the time line for implementation. Some strategies are activities which agencies are capable of implementing with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. Other strategies may require new or additional resources or authorities, and may take up to 10 years to implement.

IDENTIFY RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTATION
Each strategy includes identifying ideas and potential resources for implementation, which may include grant programs or human resources. The Plan Maintenance Matrix includes the section within the mitigation plan where this information can be found.

PLAN GOALS ADDRESSED
The plan goals addressed by each strategy are included as a way to monitor and evaluate how well the Mitigation Plan is achieving plan goals once implementation begins. The plan goals are organized into the following five areas:
- Protect Life and Property
- Strengthen Emergency Services
- Promote Public Awareness
- Create Partnerships for Implementation
- Preserve, Rehabilitate and Enhance Natural Systems
- Meet National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Requirements

**IDENTIFY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

Partner organizations are agencies or public/private sector businesses that may be able to assist in the implementation of strategies by providing relevant resources to the coordinating organization. The partner organizations listed in the Resource Directory of RSCCD Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan are potential partners recommended by the Team, but were not necessarily contacted during the development of the plan.

**RECOGNIZE REASONABLE CONSTRAINTS**

Constraints may apply to some of the strategies. These constraints may be a lack of district staff, expertise, lack of funding, or vested property rights which might expose the district to legal action as a result of adverse impacts on private property.

Since the 2008 stock market crash and subsequent economic down turn, RSCCD has had to deal with less revenue. This plan attempted to take into consideration these tough economic times and reduced revenue. Although the economy is improving, no one really knows for sure the State of California’s and United States long term economic future. This makes estimating time frames for projects extremely difficult. The RSCCD staff used their best knowledge available and their years of experience but many variables are out of their control.

**FUNDING SOURCES**

For each mitigation strategy, the Team listed the most likely funding source or sources.

**COST ESTIMATE**

For each mitigation action item the facilities personnel did a cost estimate based on their experience and knowledge. For some action items, where cost estimates were not available, gathering cost estimates was one of the implementation phase goals.

**BENEFITS: LOSSES AVOIDED**

The one criterion that must be part of the evaluation and prioritization process is benefit-cost review. The planning team considered the benefits that would result from a mitigation action versus the cost. Benefits included losses avoided, such as the number and value of structures and infrastructure protected by the action and the population protected from injury and loss of life. Benefits, such as quality of life were also included in the review.

**PRIORITY**

The planning team put together a list of actions that were acceptable and practical for addressing the problems identified in the risk assessment. They then needed a system to prioritize the action items for implementation. Action items were prioritized by numerical ranking; high, medium, or low designation; the evaluation and prioritization process helped the planning team weigh the pros and cons of different action alternatives. RSCCD used the FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Handbook from March 2013, worksheet 6.1 to facilitate this process.
E. PLANNING AREA
RSCCD Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan covers 7 sites located in two cities in central and north Orange County.

The Rancho Santiago Community College District is a multi-college district that includes:
- Rancho Santiago Community College District Office
- Santa Ana Community College
- Santiago Canyon Community College
- Centennial Education Center
- Digital Media Center
- Orange Education Center (Adult Education)
- OC Sheriff Regional Training Academy

The service area includes:
- 40,000 students
- 700,000 residents
- 193 square miles
- Includes nine coastal communities: Anaheim Hills, Orange, Santa Ana, Villa Park and Portions of Anaheim, Costa Mesa, Irvine, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove and Tustin.

This plan provides a framework for planning for natural hazards. The resources, background information, goals and recommendations lay groundwork for local mitigation plans and partnerships.

F. NATURAL HAZARD LAND USE POLICY IN CALIFORNIA
Planning for natural hazards is an integral element of every city’s and county’s land use planning program within the State of California. All California cities and counties have General Plans and implement ordinances that comply with statewide planning regulations.

The continuing challenge faced by local officials and state government is to keep the network of local plans effective in responding to the changing conditions and needs of California’s diverse communities, particularly in light of the very active seismic region in which we live and increasing population.

This is particularly true in the case of planning for natural hazards where communities must balance development pressures with detailed information on the nature and extent of hazards. The cities, the RSCCD service area are almost entirely built out and most of the future decisions will be on rebuilding, not new developments. This also is true of RSCCD sites. Land in north central Orange County is extremely expensive and open space is almost nonexistent.

Planning for natural hazards required our Hazard Mitigation Planning Team to list assets of RSCCD, review policies which guide the development in hazard areas, research hazards and their impacts, and determine strategies to mitigate the natural hazards. This research includes the compendium of hazards facing the community, the built environment at risk, the public
property that may be damaged by hazard events and most of all, the people who attend college in the shadow of these hazards.

Since this plan is for a community college district and not a city or county, a few of the critical documents that will be utilized to write the plan include:

**TABLE 2: CITY, COUNTY AND STATE DOCUMENTS UTILIZED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/County</th>
<th>General Plan</th>
<th>Safety Element</th>
<th>Hazard Mitigation Plan</th>
<th>Website and Other Documents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Santa Ana</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>No Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Orange</td>
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<td>No Plan</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Orange</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of California</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

G. SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN

RSCCD will take responsibility for the development and implementation of risk reduction strategies and policies. RSCCD, however, is not alone. Partners and resources exist at the county, regional, state and federal levels. Numerous California state agencies and Federal agencies have a role in natural hazards and natural hazard mitigation. Some of the key agencies include:

- The California Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and the administration of federal funds after a major disaster declaration. Cal OES will also assist jurisdictions in preparing their Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans and their website has outstanding resources to assist in the process including a Hazard Mitigation section.
- The Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) gathers information about earthquakes, integrates this information on earthquake phenomena, and communicates this to the general public to increase earthquake awareness, reduce economic losses, and save lives.
- The California Division of Mines and Geology (DMG) is responsible for geologic hazard characterization, public education, the development of partnerships aimed at reducing risk, and exceptions (based on science-based refinement and inundation zone delineation) to state-mandated zone restrictions.
- The California Division of Water Resources (DWR) plans, designs, constructs, operates, and maintains the State Water Project; regulates dams; provides flood protection and assists in emergency management. It also educates the public, and serves local water needs by providing technical assistance.
- The California Division of Forestry (CDF) is responsible for all aspects of wildland fire protection on state lands, and administers forest practices regulations on non-federal lands. The Urban Fire section of the Plan relies extensively on data provided by and available from the CDF’s website.
- The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides maps, educational information, and flood prevention requirements.
H. PLAN METHODOLOGY
Information in this hazard mitigation plan is based on research from a variety of sources including the RSCCD campuses, cities, as well as the County of Orange. The Hazard Mitigation Team assisted in conducting data research and analysis, participated in planning team meetings and public workshops, and developed the final mitigation plan. The research methods and various contributions utilized in preparing the plan are briefly described below.

I. INPUT FROM THE HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM
The Hazard Mitigation Planning Team convened eight times and included two special meetings/forums with the public to guide the development of the plan. The Team played an integral role in developing the mission, goals, and strategies for the mitigation plan.

J. STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS
RSCCD staff conducted dozens of interviews with individuals and specialists from organizations interested in natural hazards planning. The interviews identified common concerns related to natural hazards and identified key activities to reduce risk from natural hazards. Stakeholders interviewed for the plan included representatives from:

- Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO)
- Orange County Agencies: Emergency Management, Planning Department and Public Works Department
- Cities of Santa Ana and Orange
- California Office of Emergency Services (OES)
- United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- University of California, Irvine (UCI)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Army Corps of Engineers

K. STATE AND FEDERAL GUIDELINES FOR MITIGATION PLANS
Following are the federal requirements for approval of a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Open public involvement, with public meetings that introduce the process and project requirements
- The public must be afforded opportunities for involvement in identifying and assessing risk, drafting a plan, and public input into the mitigation strategies
- Campus and community cooperation, with opportunity for other local government agencies, the business community, educational institutions, and non-profits to participate in the process
- Incorporation of local documents, including city and county General Plans, Safety Elements, Zoning Ordinances, Building Codes, Hazard Mitigation Plans and other pertinent documents

The following components must be part of the planning process:
Rancho Santiago Community College District

I. Introduction

- Complete documentation of the planning process
- A detailed risk assessment on hazard exposures in the community
- A comprehensive mitigation strategy, which describes the goals and objectives, including proposed strategies, programs and actions that can be implemented to reduce or minimize long-term vulnerabilities
- A plan maintenance process, which describes the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating and updating the Plan and integration of the Hazard Mitigation Plan into other planning mechanisms
- Formal adoption by RSCCD Board of Trustees
- Plan review by both California OES and FEMA.

These requirements are spelled out in greater detail in the following sections of the plan and supporting documentation.

RSCCD Plan Writer and staff examined existing mitigation plans from around the country, current FEMA hazard mitigation planning standards and the State of California Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Guidance.

Other reference materials consisted of county and city mitigation plans, including:

- California State Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan
- County of Orange Hazard Mitigation Plan
- City of Newport Beach Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Huntington Beach Hazard Mitigation Plan
L. PLAN WRITER EXPERIENCE
RSCCD hired an experienced plan writer to develop this plan. The plan writer was a professional Emergency Manager for 31 years leading the City of Huntington Beach Emergency Management & Homeland Security Office. This Emergency Manager had her own consulting company for six years. As a City of Huntington Beach employee she developed the Huntington Beach/Fountain Valley Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in 2003/04. The plan included the cities of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley as well as the Fountain Valley School District, Huntington Beach City School District, Huntington Beach Unified High School District and Ocean View School District.

The plan writer also worked for Coast Community College District (CCCD) for 18 months developing the Golden West College Emergency Response Planning documents followed by a 2 year contract to develop the CCCD Hazard Mitigation Plan, the first approved Community College District plan in California. In 2012 the plan writer updated the City of Mission Viejo Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. With plan writer’s experience in the geography and history of the local area and having worked with local school districts, community college districts, cities, county, state and federal government, this was an excellent match for the RSCCD.

M. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
The adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 6, Section 15306 of the California Environmental Quality Act which states that basic data collection and research which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from further review. Additionally, the Hazard Mitigation Plan is only a study that identifies, among other things, mitigation strategies that the local jurisdiction has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

IV. CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT
The RSCCD Hazard Mitigation Team assessed the planning and regulatory, administrative and technical, as well as the educational ability that could be utilized to support mitigation implementation. The Capability Assessment table below provides a summary of the various district departments, city and county capabilities available to support this plan including the technical contract with MMI Engineering.
## TABLE 3: RSCCD CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Departments</th>
<th>Policy or Plan</th>
<th>Ability to Support Mitigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Risk Management            | Hazard Mitigation Project Lead         | ▪ Tracks and maintains hazard mitigation plan  
▪ Manages the district's insurance program  
▪ Access to placing information on the website to ensure public participation  
▪ Local champion for Hazard Mitigation education |
| District Safety and Security | Emergency Plan                         | ▪ Provides disaster preparedness education to employees  
▪ Develops the Districts Emergency Plan  
▪ Liaison's with all Orange County cities, the county, Cal OES, and FEMA for preparedness, response and recovery  
▪ Local champion for emergency preparedness |
| Director of District Construction | New Construction                     | ▪ Manages new buildings and construction  
▪ Works with bond issues  
▪ Local champion for mitigation in new construction |
| Facilities Department      | Facilities                              | ▪ Manages all aspects of facilities planning and maintenance  
▪ Manages some construction projects  
▪ Works with Bond issues  
▪ Local champion for mitigation in upgrading older facilities |
| MMI Engineering            | Mapping                                 | ▪ Updates and maintains the maps for this plan  
| Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) & Orange City Fire Department | Fire Codes                             | ▪ Fire protection  
▪ Rescue, Emergency Medical and Hazardous Materials  
▪ Fire ISO Rating  
▪ Fire safety education  
▪ Local champion for fire mitigation and prevention |
| Santa Ana and Orange PDs   | Law Enforcement                         | Emergency response and preparedness; crime prevention; Orange PD is the lead for emergency management for the City of Orange |
| City/County Planners       | Land use, Bldg., Codes, Flood          | NFIP, CRS, Floodplain Ordinance, Building Codes, Storm Water |
| Child Development Services | Dependent Care of Children              | Manages all aspects of 4 child care centers |
| American Red Cross         | Preparedness, Response and Recovery    | ▪ Community preparedness education resources  
▪ Community mass care/shelter/canteen services  
▪ Community partner resources |
FISCAL MITIGATION CAPABILITIES

The following table lists the District’s fiscal mitigation capabilities that could be utilized to support mitigation implementation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Resources</th>
<th>Accessible/Eligible to Use (yes/no)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District General Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Improvements Project funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authority to levy bonds for specific purposes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees for educational and other services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incur debt through general obligation bonds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incur debt through specific tax bonds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incur debt through private activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMA Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMA Post-Disaster Hazard Mitigation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public and Private Partnerships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Red Cross – Partnerships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the list of resources outside the district government including contact information and websites, see Appendix A, the Resource Directory. All of these resources were used to develop this plan and will continue to be used to implement the mitigation strategies.
V. PLAN LAYOUT

Each section of the mitigation plan provides information and resources to assist people in understanding RSCCD and the hazard-related issues facing the district complex and campuses. Combined, the sections of the plan work together to create a document that guides the mission to reduce risk and prevent loss from future natural hazard events.

The structure of the plan enables the review of the entire plan or specific sections of interest. It also allows RSCCD staff to review and update sections when new data becomes available. The ability to update individual sections of the mitigation plan places less of a financial burden on RSCCD. Decision-makers can allocate funding and staff resources to selected pieces in need of review, thereby avoiding a full update, which can be costly and time-consuming. New data can be easily incorporated, resulting in a natural hazards mitigation plan that remains current and relevant. Ultimately, the entire plan will be reviewed and updated every five years.

This team chose to develop Part IV – Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Mitigation Strategies. In RSCCD plan, hazards are researched, the vulnerability to RSCCD facilities is discussed, and the mitigation strategies are listed and ranked all in one section by hazard. Each hazard is set up as its own individual sub-section, i.e. Earthquake. This way if someone wants to learn more about a hazard, for example, Dam Failure, they can find out all the risks, vulnerabilities and mitigation strategies in one sub-section.

The Section IV. Hazards and Strategies is made up of:
- IV-A Multi-Hazard Strategies
- IV-B Earthquake
- IV-C Flood/Storm
- IV-D Dam Failure
- IV-E Fire
- IV-F Windstorms/Severe Weather
VI. Plan Summary

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION AND CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT
The Plan Introduction includes: an overview of the plan and introduction of the RSCCD; organization of the plan; participating agencies and Team members; plan mission, goals and objectives; acknowledgements, distribution list, and plan adoption resolutions.

SECTION II: DISTRICT PROFILE
The District Profile section of the plan includes a profile and statistics of RSCCD including the population demographics. The district’s two large community colleges and other sites are outlined in the District Profile along with layout maps of the campuses.

SECTION III: RISK ASSESSMENT
Risk Assessment includes sections how RSCCD identified and profiled hazards, assessed vulnerability, agency asset lists, as well as how the potential losses were estimated. The district’s high occupancy facilities were identified along with, dependent care facilities and critical facilities used to manage disasters.

SECTION IV: HAZARDS, VULNERABILITIES AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES
The five natural hazards studied for this plan are: earthquake, flood/storm, dam failure, high winds, and fire (both wildland and urban). Included is a comprehensive study of each hazard and how it impacts RSCCD facilities followed by an assessment of vulnerability of the district’s facilities and the mitigation strategies for each hazard. This section is made up of five sub-documents, one for each hazard. This makes the plan easier to read and understand.
   PART A: Multi-Hazard Strategies
   PART B: Earthquake
   PART C: Floods/Storms
   PART D: Dam Failure
   PART E: Fire
   PART F: Windstorms/Severe Weather

SECTION V: PLANNING PROCESS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
This section of the plan describes the meetings, discussions, interviews, community forums, Cal OES and FEMA approval process, crosswalk, and board resolutions.

SECTION VI: PLAN MAINTENANCE
A plan for maintaining this document has been developed to ensure it remains a living document. It includes monitoring the plan, evaluating, updating and plan follow-up. This section shows how RSCCD will deal with the subject of hazard mitigation in the future.

SECTION VII: APPENDICES
The appendices include: strategy for voting on mitigation strategy priorities, list of exhibits, plan resource directory, list of acronyms and a glossary.
   PART A: Resource Directory
   PART B: Cost/Benefit Analysis
   PART C: Acronyms
   PART D: Glossary
PART E: Major California Disasters Since 1950

VII. PLAN DISTRIBUTION

The plan will be copied and distributed to the following partners:

- Rancho Santiago Community College District
  - Board of Trustees/Clerk of the Board
  - District Chancellor
  - Vice Chancellor of Business Operations & Fiscal Services
  - Assistant Vice Chancellor, Facilities Planning
  - Risk Manager
  - Chief, District Safety & Security

- Santa Ana Community College
  - Lt., District Safety & Security
  - Vice President Administrative Services
  - Vice President Continuing Education
  - Facilities Manager

- Santiago Canyon Community College
  - Lt., District Safety & Security
  - Vice President of Administrative Services
  - Vice President of Continuing Education
  - Facilities Manager

- City of Santa Ana Emergency Manager
- City of Orange Emergency Manager
- County of Orange Emergency Manager
- State of California Office of Emergency Services (OES)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Plan Writer
### VIII. GRANT AWARD

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services hereby designates Cal OES, hereby makes a Grant Award of funds to the following:

1. **Grant Recipient:** Rancho Santiago Community College District
2. **Implementing Agency:** Rancho Santiago Community College District
3. **Implementing Agency Address:** 2323 North Broadway, Santa Ana, 92706-1540
4. **Location of Project:** Santa Ana
5. **Disaster/Program Title:** FY14 PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION Competitive Grant Award

<table>
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<th>Grant Year</th>
<th>Fund Source</th>
<th>A. State</th>
<th>B. Federal</th>
<th>C. Total</th>
<th>D. Cash Match</th>
<th>E. In Kind Match</th>
<th>F. Total Match</th>
<th>G. Total Project Cost</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

13. This Grant Award consists of this title page, the application for the grant, which is attached and made a part hereto, and the Assurance/Certifications. I hereby certify I am vested with the authority to enter into this Grant Award Agreement, and have the approval of the City/County Financial Officer, City Manager, County Administrator, Governing Board Chair, or other Approving Body. The Grant Recipient agrees that all funds received pursuant to this agreement will be spent exclusively on the purposes specified in the Grant Award. The Grant Recipient accepts this Grant Award and agrees to administer the grant project in accordance with the Grant Award as well as all applicable state and federal laws, audit requirements, federal program guidelines, and Cal OES policy and program guidance. The Grant Recipient further agrees that the allocation of funds may be contingent on the enactment of the State Budget.

14. **Official Authorized to Sign for Applicant/Grant Recipient:** Paul Rodriguez, Ph.D.

| Name:       | Paul Rodriguez, Ph.D. |
| Title:      | Chancellor            |
| Telephone:  | (714) 480-7460        |
| FAX:        | (714) 796-5915        |
| Email:      | Rxraa2@rsccd.edu       |
| Payment Mailing Address: 2323 North Broadway, City: Santa Ana, Zip: 92706-1540 |
| Date:       | 2/10/15               |
| Signature:  |                      |

Yr./Chaper: 2014-15 / 25/14  PCA No: 14824  Fed Cat #: 97.017  Project: #40  Title: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive Grant  Project No: PDMS  Amount: $74,995.00  Grant Award Face Sheet – Cal OES 2-101 (Revised 7/23/2013)
IX. PLAN RESOLUTIONS

The plan was approved by Cal OES and FEMA and then adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Rancho Santiago Community College District. The district adoption is the final step in the planning process.

Insert plan resolution here after:
1. State OES approves the plan
2. FEMA approves the plan
3. RSCCD Board of Trustees approves the plan