



## 8. SAFETY ELEMENT

*These suggested revisions to the draft goals, policies and actions are based on input provided by staff, community members, the General Plan Subcommittee and the Planning Commission, and are shown in italics and track changes. For policies and actions with suggested revisions, they are listed below the original draft language that was published in July for comparison purposes.*

### GOALS AND POLICIES

#### EMERGENCY READINESS AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

<b>GOAL S-1</b>	Minimize potential damage to life, environment, and property through timely, well-prepared, and well-coordinated emergency preparedness, response plans, and programs.
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### POLICIES

#### Policy S-P1.1

**Emergency Readiness.** Maintain the City's emergency readiness and response capabilities, especially regarding hazardous materials spills, natural gas pipeline ruptures, fire hazards, wildland fire risk, earthquakes, pandemics, and flooding due to dam failure, tsunami, peak storms, levee failure, and critical incidents.

***Emergency Readiness.** Maintain the City's emergency readiness and response capabilities, especially regarding hazardous materials spills, natural gas pipeline ruptures, fire hazards, wildland fire risk, earthquakes, pandemics, and flooding due to dam failure, tsunami, peak storms, levee failure, and critical incidents.*

*Focus primarily on areas identified by the City as underserved and most vulnerable to loss of life and property due to proximity to hazardous incidences, and work to ensure funding is available to these communities as a key component of emergency readiness.*

#### Policy S-P1.2

**Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.** The San Mateo County Multijurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2021, is incorporated by reference into this Safety Element in accordance with Assembly Bill 2140.

***Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.** The San Mateo County Multijurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2021, along with any future updates or amendments, is incorporated by reference into this Safety Element in accordance with Assembly Bill 2140.*

**Policy S-P1.3**

**Location of Critical Facilities.** When locating critical facilities, such as hospitals, schools, fire, police, emergency service facilities, and utilities, avoid areas subject to slope failure, wildland fire, flooding, sea level rise, and other hazards and prioritize access to and from disadvantaged communities that are underserved by existing facilities.

*Location of Critical Facilities. When locating critical facilities, such as hospitals, schools, fire, police, emergency service facilities, and other utility infrastructure, avoid areas subject to slope failure, wildland fire, flooding, sea level rise, and other hazards, to the extent feasible, and prioritize access to and from disadvantaged communities that are underserved by existing facilities.*

**Policy S-P1.4**

**Multiple Egress Points.** Require new development in any hazard area to provide multiple points of emergency access (ingress and egress).

**Policy S-P1.5**

**Emergency Planning Document Coordination.** Pursue integration of the City's existing safety and emergency management documents with one another, including this Safety Element, the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and other related documents.

**Policy S-P1.6**

**Emergency Infrastructure and Equipment.** Maintain and fund the City's emergency operations center in a full functional state of readiness. Designate a back-up Emergency Operations Center with communications redundancies.

**Policy S-P1.7**

**Defensible Design.** Require all developments, including parks and public places, to incorporate measures to provide a safe environment through the application of crime prevention through design principles, such as orienting buildings to the street and providing adequate lighting and sight lines.

*Defensible Design. Require that new development support effective law enforcement and fire protection by promoting a safe and accessible public realm for all, including investing in social gathering spaces, enhancing lighting and safety in public spaces through community-led planning, and ensuring adequate property maintenance. Require all developments, including parks and public places, to incorporate measures to provide a safe environment through the application of crime prevention through design principles, such as orienting buildings to the street and providing adequate lighting and sight lines.*

**Policy S-P1.8**

**Response Times.** When reviewing and analyzing roadway improvements, consider how emergency response times can be maintained and improved, including the availability of alternative routes.

*Response Times. When reviewing and analyzing roadway improvements, consider how emergency response times can be maintained and improved, including the availability of alternative routes without reducing roadway user safety.*

**Policy S-P1.9**

**Local Utility Cooperation.** Work with local utility operators to identify if and when a public safety power shutoff (PSPS) may be necessary to reduce hazard risks in San Mateo and/or the surrounding area, and support publication of advanced notification and resources to residents in the City to help them prepare.

***Local Utility Cooperation.** Work with local utility operators to coordinate any disruption in services, such as ~~to identify if and when~~ a public safety power shutoff (PSPS) or other disruption that may be necessary to reduce hazard risks in San Mateo and/or the surrounding area, and support publication of advanced notification and resources to residents in the City, particularly disadvantaged communities, to help them prepare.*

**Policy S-P1.10**

**Disaster Recovery.** Ensure that the City government continues to operate during and after hazard events and is able to provide resources and guidance to people and institutions in San Mateo to aid them in recovery and reconstruction following the end of the hazard event.

**Policy S-P1.11**

**Evacuation Education.** Include information about safe and effective evacuation as part of all natural hazard awareness, prevention, and community education and training efforts. Share information about how to prepare for evacuations, potential evacuation routes and shelter locations, how to receive notifications, and other relevant topics.

**Policy S-P1.12**

**Inclusive Outreach.** Notify the community of potential hazards affecting their neighborhood. Use outreach and engagement methods that encourage broad representation and are culturally sensitive, particularly for historically underserved communities.

**ACTIONS**

**Action S-A1.1**

**Evacuation Routes.** Maintain adequate evacuation routes as identified by arterial streets shown in the Circulation Element, [Figure C-2](#). Evaluate each evacuation route's feasibility using a range of hazard criteria. Update this map on a regular basis to reflect changing conditions and State requirements for evacuation routes.

**Action S-A1.2**

**Regular Updates.** Update the Safety Element with each Housing Element update, or every eight years, as necessary to meet state and local requirements.

**Action S-A1.3**

**Automatic and Mutual Aid Agreements.** Participate in mutual aid agreements with other local jurisdictions to provide coordinated regional responses, as necessary, to fire, flood, earthquake, critical incidents, and other hazard events in San Mateo and the surrounding area. Work with local jurisdictions to share resources and develop regional plans to implement disaster mitigation and resilience strategies such as government continuity, emergency operations centers and communications redundancies.

**Action S-A1.4**      **Rebuilding Priorities.** Establish rebuilding priorities and procedures in the event of a major disaster to expedite reconstruction and enhance access to funding opportunities.

***Rebuilding Priorities.** Establish rebuilding priorities and procedures in the event of a major disaster to expedite reconstruction and enhance access to funding opportunities with special emphasis on equity priority communities that are more vulnerable to climate hazards.*

**Action S-A1.5**      **Resilient Power Systems.** Explore the feasibility of on-site power generation and storage on City facilities to reduce reliance on regional power infrastructure in case of a hazard-caused power outage.

**Action S-A1.6**      **Public Safety Outreach.** Develop a public safety education program to increase public awareness of potential hazards, City's emergency readiness and response program, and evacuation routes. Target public education programs to segments of the community that are most vulnerable to hazards and safety risks.

**Action S-A1.7**      **Community Training.** Collaborate with SMCFD to provide emergency preparedness trainings to maintain and expand existing Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)s.

**Action S-A1.8**      **Emergency Infrastructure and Equipment.** Put systems in place to ensure that traffic lights at major intersections, communications and radio infrastructure, and other critical infrastructure continues to function in the event of localized power outage. Repair any damaged sets of infrastructure or equipment as needed to continue City operations.

**Action S-A1.9**      **Continuity of Operations.** Regularly review, update, and implement as needed the San Mateo Continuing of Operations/Continuity of Government Plan.

***Continuity of Operations.** Regularly review, update, and implement ~~as needed~~ the San Mateo Continui~~ng~~ty of Operations/Continuity of Government Plan.*

**Action S-A1.10**      **Response Time Study.** Conduct a Response Time Study to provide a data-driven understanding of how future roadway safety improvements could impact emergency response times and use this information to adjust proposed roadway improvements as needed.

**Action S-A1.11**      **Emergency Notification System.** Develop an emergency notification system (e.g. SMC Alert) for flood-prone neighborhoods and businesses before, during, and after a climate hazard event and assist in their evacuation, if needed. This includes coordination with the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (OneShoreline) on its early flood warning notification system.

***Emergency Notification System.** Develop an emergency notification system (e.g. SMC Alert) for flood-prone neighborhoods and businesses before, during, and*

after a climate hazard event, ~~and to~~ assist ~~in their~~with evacuation ~~and other support activities, if needed.~~ This includes coordination with the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (OneShoreline) on its early flood warning notification system.

## GEOTECHNICAL HAZARDS

**GOAL S-2** Take steps to protect the community from unreasonable risk to life and property caused by seismic and geologic hazards.

### POLICIES

- Policy S-P2.1** **Geologic Hazards.** Require site specific geotechnical and engineering studies, subject to the review and approval of the delegated City Engineer and Building Official, for development proposed on sites identified in [Figure S-1](#) as having moderate or high potential for ground failure. Permit development in areas of potential geologic hazards only where it can be demonstrated that the project will not be endangered by, nor contribute to, the hazardous condition on the site or on adjacent properties.
- Policy S-P2.2** **Landslides and Erosion Control.** Reduce landslides and erosion in existing and new development through continuing education of design professionals on mitigation strategies. Control measures shall retain natural topographic and physical features of the site if feasible.
- Policy S-P2.3** **Unreinforced Masonry Buildings.** Encourage modifications of existing unreinforced masonry buildings, and similar unsafe building conditions to reduce the associated life safety hazards from ground shaking during earthquakes, as shown on [Figure S-2](#). Require structural modifications to be designed to be in character with the existing architectural style.
- Policy S-P2.4** **Liquefaction.** Use the best-available liquefaction mapping data to avoid siting and locating new public facilities and infrastructure in areas susceptible to liquefaction, as shown in [Figure S-1](#).

### ACTIONS

- Action S-A2.1** **Seismic Shaking Mapping.** Consult with a geology specialist to update the City's geologic hazard mapping, documenting the areas within ~~the~~ City with moderate or high potential for liquefaction or ground failure, as shown in [Figure S-1](#).
- Action S-A2.2** **Incentives for Seismic Upgrades.** Develop and implement a program to provide financial incentives and education to building owners to support seismic upgrades.
- Action S-A2.3** **Seismic Stability.** Review the seismic stability of the City's assets and infrastructure, such as City Hall, recreational facilities, roadways, and bridges

and identify improvements necessary to enhance each facility's ability to withstand geologic hazards, up to and including a full replacement of the facility.

**Recommended New Action**

**Unreinforced Masonry Buildings.** Establish an inventory of unreinforced masonry building in the City and work with the property owners to upgrade the buildings to meet minimum safety and building code requirements.

FLOOD HAZARDS

**GOAL S-3** Protect the community from unreasonable risk to life and property caused by flood hazards.

POLICIES

**Policy S-P3.1** **Development within Floodplains.** Protect new development within a floodplain by requiring new habitable floor area to be above the applicable floodwater elevation or by incorporating other flood-proofing measures consistent with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations and the City of San Mateo's Floodplain Management Ordinance.

ACTIONS

**Action S-A3.1** **Floodplain Ordinance Update.** Update the Floodplain Management Ordinance, including to align with FEMA and OneShoreline recommendations and to update construction cost value information.

**Action S-A3.2** **Flood Risk Mapping Data.** Regularly update mapping data pertaining to the 100-year and 500-year floodplains as mapped by FEMA as well as dams and levee failure as information becomes available.

**Action S-A3.3** **Community Rating System.** Undertake efforts that increase the City's rating under FEMA's Community Rating System, such as expanding and improving Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping capacity, developing a flood early warning system, and creating a Flood Emergency Action Plan.

**Action S-A3.4** **Early Flood Warning.** Collaborate with OneShoreline to provide early flood warning for flood-prone areas of the city through OneShoreline's stream monitoring station and notification system, as needed.

***Early Flood Warning.** Collaborate with OneShoreline to provide early flood warning for flood-prone areas of the city through OneShoreline's stream monitoring station and notification system, ~~as needed~~.*

## SEA LEVEL RISE

<b>GOAL S-4</b>	Develop regionally-coordinated sea level rise adaptation measures and programs.
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### POLICIES

**Policy S-P4.1** **Sea Level Rise Planning.** Integrate sea level rise planning into all relevant City processes, including General Plan amendments, Specific Plans, zoning ordinance updates, capital projects, and review and approval of new development and substantial retrofits.

**Policy S-P4.2** **Sea Level Rise Protection.** Ensure that new development, substantial retrofits, critical facilities, and City-owned buildings and infrastructure are planned and designed to accommodate climate change hazards, including increases in flooding, sea level rise, and rising groundwater.

***Sea Level Rise Protection.** Ensure that new development, substantial retrofits, critical facilities, and City-owned buildings and existing and future flood control infrastructure are planned and designed to accommodate climate change hazards, including increases in flooding, sea level rise, and rising groundwater.*

**Policy S-P4.3** **Rising Groundwater Protection.** Ensure new development and substantial retrofits are protected from rising groundwater levels based on best available science.

**Policy S-P4.4** **Natural Infrastructure.** Prioritize the use of nature-based solutions and natural infrastructure in sea level rise adaptation strategies.

***Natural Infrastructure.** PrioritizeConsider the use of nature-based solutions and natural infrastructure in sea level rise adaptation strategies.*

**Policy S-P4.5** **OneShoreline Coordination.** Coordinate with OneShoreline to develop and implement coordinated approaches to sea level rise with other San Mateo County jurisdictions.

### ACTIONS

**Action S-A4.1** **Sea Level Rise Data.** Identify sea level rise projections, consistent with OneShoreline recommendations, to define the extent of areas vulnerable to sea level rise in the city. Use this data in planning efforts and to evaluate all private and public development applications to ensure projects are protected from sea level rise hazards over the life of the project.

***Climate Change Adaptation Plan Sea-Level-Rise-Data.** IdentifyAssess sea level rise projections, consistent with OneShoreline recommendations, to identify define the extent of areas vulnerable to sea level rise in the city, and develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan that sets a comprehensive strategy and*



*includes planning and design standards for climate risk protection. Use [this plan](#) ~~this data in planning efforts and~~ to evaluate ~~all private and public~~ development applications to ensure projects are protected from sea level rise hazards over the life of the project ~~and to assess public infrastructure needs for adequate protection.~~*

**Action S-A4.2**

**Sea Level Rise Monitoring.** Continue to review and use the best available sea level rise science and projections and regularly identify natural resources, development, infrastructure, and communities that are vulnerable to sea level rise impacts, including impacts from rising groundwater. Use this information to continue to develop or adjust planning and adaptation strategies.

***Sea Level Rise Monitoring.** ~~Continue-Commit~~ to review and use the best available sea level rise science and projections and regularly identify natural resources, development, infrastructure, and communities that are vulnerable to sea level rise impacts, including impacts from rising groundwater. Use this information to continue to develop or adjust planning and adaptation strategies.*

**Action S-A4.3**

**City Sea Level Rise Staff.** Identify City staff who will be responsible for leading the City's sea level rise planning efforts, coordinating with outside agencies, and coordinating with City departments on preparing and planning for sea level rise.

*~~City Sea Level Rise Staff. Identify City staff who will be responsible for leading the City's sea level rise planning efforts, coordinating with outside agencies, and coordinating with City departments on preparing and planning for sea level rise.~~*  
*<Adoption of a Climate Change Adaptation Plan (Action A-A4.1) will include an implementation plan that covers this topic; thus this action is not necessary.>*

**Action S-A4.4**

**Rising Groundwater Coordination.** Coordinate with OneShoreline, local jurisdictions, and regional and state agencies to study and enforce requirements related to rising groundwater levels caused by sea level rise.

**Action S-A4.5**

**Natural Infrastructure.** Use or restore natural features and ecosystem processes where feasible and appropriate as a preferred approach to the placement of hard shoreline protection when implementing sea level rise adaptation strategies.

**Action S-A4.6**

**Removal of Hard Infrastructure.** Remove existing shoreline or creek bank protective devices when the structure(s) requiring protection are redeveloped, removed, or no longer require a protective device.

*~~Removal of Hard Infrastructure. Remove existing shoreline or creek bank protective devices when the structure(s) requiring protection are redeveloped, removed, or no longer require a protective device.~~* *<Redundant with Action S-A4.5>*

**Recommended New Actions**



**Sea Level Overlay Zone.** Study the feasibility of establishing a sea level rise overlay zone which would allow for the creation of adaptation policies, rules, or construction codes unique to this area.

**Sea Level Rise Funding.** Study options for establishing dedicated General Fund dollars to support efforts to address sea level rise, including sufficiently supporting OneShoreline.

## WILDFIRE HAZARDS

**GOAL S-5** Maintain adequate fire and life safety protection from wildland fires.

### POLICIES

- Policy S-P5.1** **Wildland Fire Protection.** Require all development in and adjacent to designated wildland fire areas to provide access and defensible space in accordance with California Codes and local ordinances.
- Policy S-P5.2** **Wildland-Urban Interface.** Coordinate with the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department to ensure that new construction in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) is in full compliance with all applicable sections of the California Building Standards Code, Title 24.
- Wildland-Urban Interface.** *Continue to coordinate with the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department to ensure that new construction in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) is in full compliance with all applicable sections of the California Building Standards Code, Title 24.*
- Policy S-P5.3** **Hillside Vegetation Stability.** Stabilize, and as feasible re-vegetate, burned slopes following a wildfire event to reduce landslide and debris flows risk.
- Policy S-P5.4** **Fire Risk Mapping.** Coordinate with the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department to consistently update any mapping data showing fire extent in San Mateo using CAL FIRE data and local wildland fire risk maps indicating the locations and extents of Fire Hazard Severity Zones, Local Responsibility Areas, and the Wildland-Urban Interface. Use this mapping data to inform decisions about existing risk and future land uses throughout the City and share these maps widely on the City website, published handouts and flyers, and in-person and virtual education events.
- Policy S-P5.5** **Firefighting Infrastructure.** Coordinate with the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department to ensure adequate firefighting infrastructure, including road and building clearance for firefighting vehicles and clear and legible street signage throughout the community.
- Policy S-P5.6** **Peakload Water Supply.** Seek to ensure that the California Water Service Company and the Estero Municipal Improvement District provide and maintain a water supply and distribution system which provides an adequate static

pressure to deliver the minimum fire hydrant flow to all areas of the City, except where a lesser flow is acceptable as determined by the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department.

**Policy S-P5.7**

**Facilities Planning.** Place all new public facilities or relocate existing public facilities outside of identified fire hazard risk areas as feasible. Appropriately retrofit public facilities to mitigate fire risk.

**Policy S-P5.8**

**Land Use Management for Fire Risks.** Maintain all City-owned public lands to reduce fuel loads, establish appropriately-placed fire breaks/defensible space, and educate all property owners in the City on proper landscape maintenance and firescaping standards to reduce the risk of fire hazards.

**Policy S-P5.9**

**Wildland Fire Vulnerability.** Consider all improvements at Sugarloaf Mountain and Laurelwood Park in the context of the area's high fire risk, and include wildfire mitigation components in projects when feasible.

**ACTIONS**

**Action S-A5.1**

**Tree Trimming.** Trim and maintain the trees in the City's urban forest on a regular basis to clear them of any loose branches or debris that could serve as fuel in a fire event.

*Tree MaintenanceTrimming. Collaborate with the SMCFD to maintain City-owned trees in a manner that does not contribute to fire danger, in accordance with current Best Management Practices. Trim and maintain the trees in the City's urban forest on a regular basis to clear them of any loose branches or debris that could serve as fuel in a fire event.*

**Action S-A5.2**

**Fire-Safe Education.** Work with the San Mateo Fire Department and seek funding to develop a fire-safe education program that provides information and awareness to community members about defensive space, fire-resistant landscaping and construction, evacuation preparation, and other wildfire education topics.

**Action S-A5.3**

**Fire Hazard History.** Include an historical record of any significant fire events that have occurred in San Mateo or the surrounding area in all updates to the City's Safety Element.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

**GOAL S-6**

Protect the community's health, safety, and welfare relating to the use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials.

## POLICIES

- Policy S-P6.1**      **County Cooperation.** Cooperate with the County of San Mateo and San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department in the regulation of hazardous materials and transportation of such material in San Mateo. Share hazardous materials management enforcement with San Mateo County and San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department.
- Policy S-P6.2**      **County Hazardous Waste Management Plan.** Adopt by reference all goals, policies, implementation measures, and supporting data contained in the San Mateo County Hazardous Waste Management Plan. Make amendments, as necessary, to suit local needs and issues.
- Policy S-P6.3**      **Transportation Routes.** Restrict the transportation of hazardous materials and waste to truck routes designated in Circulation Policy C-P6.5, and limit such transportation to non-commute hours.
- Policy S-P6.4**      **Hazardous Waste Management Facilities Location.** Regulate the location and operation of new hazardous waste management facilities.
- Policy S-P6.5**      **Design of Hazardous Waste Management Facilities.** Require the following features and mitigation measures in the design of proposed hazardous waste management facilities to minimize potential health, safety, and aesthetic impacts on surrounding properties and occupants:
- a. For sites located in areas subject to flooding or inundation as shown on Figures S-3 and 4, require facilities to have a surface elevation at least 1.5 feet above the maximum flood water level for areas containing hazardous substances or to be flood-proofed in some other manner suitable to the City.
  - b. Require facilities to provide for full on-site containment of maximum permitted quantities of hazardous substances, including protection of storm drain or sanitary sewer inlets from accidental entry of hazardous materials.
  - c. Require facilities to provide separate storage and/or treatment of potentially reactive substances, including separate spill containment vessels. Require that storage of hazardous gasses provides for adequate filtration and neutralization devices to prohibit accidental release of toxic substances.
  - d. Require that all storage and treatment occur within an enclosed structure.
  - e. Require new facilities be sited as far away as possible within the project site from sensitive receptors such as homes, schools, playgrounds, sports fields, childcare centers, senior centers, and long-term health care facilities.
- Policy S-P6.6**      **Risk Assessment.** Require the preparation of a risk assessment to determine site suitability for applications for hazardous waste management facilities,

establishing the distance requirements from public assembly, residential, or immobile population and recreational areas or structures; impacts from seismic, geologic, and flood hazards; fire hazards; impacts on wetlands, endangered species, air quality, and emergency response capabilities; and proximity to major transport routes.

**Policy S-P6.7**

**Contaminated Sites.** Require the cleanup of contaminated sites, including those indicated on the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List published by the Department of Toxic Substance Control and/or other agencies such as the San Mateo County Health Department and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, in conjunction with substantial site development or redevelopment, where feasible.

**Policy S-P6.8**

**Cost Recovery.** Require San Mateo County businesses which generate hazardous waste or applicants for hazardous waste management facilities to pay necessary costs for implementation of Hazardous Waste Management Plans and for application costs, and to pay for costs associated with emergency response services in the event of a hazardous material release, to the extent permitted by law.

**ACTIONS**

**Action S-A6.1**

**Shared Data.** Regularly coordinate with San Mateo County to collect data on businesses that store hazardous substances to share with local emergency service providers, including the Police Department and San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department, as well as the Public Works Department for the wastewater source control program.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY SUPPLY**

**GOAL S-7**

Promote the development of a clean energy supply, state-of-the-art technology, and telecommunications facilities that benefit the public.

*Promote the development of a clean energy supply, ~~state-of-the-art~~ energy efficient technology, and telecommunications facilities that benefit all members of the community. ~~the public.~~*

**POLICIES**

**Policy S-P7.1**

**Clean Energy.** Support the advancement of a carbon neutral energy supply.

**Policy S-P7.2**

**Building Electrification.** Promote electrification for new and existing building stock.

**Policy S-P7.3**

**Energy Resilience.** Continue to require new development projects to incorporate solar energy systems and battery storage into their projects (Building Integrated Photo-Voltaic / BIPV) and encourage existing development to incorporate solar energy systems.

***Energy Resilience.** Continue to require new development projects to incorporate energy efficiency measures, electric appliances, solar energy systems and battery storage into their projects (Building Integrated Photo-Voltaic/BIPV) and encourage existing development to incorporate solar energy systems.*

**Policy S-P7.4**

**Service Improvement and Expansion.** Seek to ensure adequate energy and communication systems to serve existing and future needs while minimizing impacts on existing and future residents through the following policies:

- a. Require all new developments to underground lines and provide underground connections when feasible.
- b. Balance the need for cellular coverage with the desire to minimize visual impacts of cellular facilities, antennas, and equipment shelters.
- ~~b. *Balance the need for* Cellular coverage *for all areas of the City should be prioritized while with the desire to* appropriately minimizing visual impacts of cellular facilities, antennas, and equipment shelters.~~

**Policy S-P7.5**

**Access and Availability.** Work with service providers to support ensuring access to and availability of a wide range of state-of-the-art telecommunication systems and services for households, businesses, institutions, and public agencies in San Mateo.

**Policy S-P7.6**

**Clean Fuel Infrastructure.** Support efforts to build electric vehicle charging stations and clean fuel stations in San Mateo, including hydrogen and sustainably-sourced biofuels, as supported by market conditions.

~~***Clean-Fuel Infrastructure.** Support efforts to build electric vehicle charging stations and clean fuel stations in San Mateo, including hydrogen and sustainably-sourced biofuels, as supported by market conditions.*~~ <Reclassified as an action.>

**Recommended New Policies**

***Energy Efficient Lighting.** Encourage energy efficient lighting that protects dark skies and promotes energy conservation by minimizing light and glare from development while ensuring public health and safety.*

***Grid Resilience.** Support PG&E's efforts to improve grid resilience and capacity to meet increased electrical demand.*

***Public Wifi.** Provide high speed internet access to the public at all City facilities.*

***Energy Use.** Continue to support efforts to reduce per capita energy use.*

## ACTION

### **Action S-A7.1**

**Utility Undergrounding.** Underground electrical and communication transmission and distribution lines in residential areas and commercial frontages as funds permit.

### ***Recommended New Action***

*Clean Fuel Infrastructure. Support efforts to build electric vehicle charging stations and clean fuel stations in San Mateo, including hydrogen and sustainably-sourced biofuels, as supported by market conditions.*