

# 29. KENSINGTON POLICE PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

---

## 29.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINT OF CONTACT

### Primary Point of Contact

Tony Constantouros, District General Manager  
217 Arlington Ave  
Kensington, CA 94707  
Telephone: 510-526-4141  
e-mail Address:  
tconstantouros@kensingtoncalifornia.org

### Alternate Point of Contact

Ricky Hull, Chief of Police  
217 Arlington Ave  
Kensington, CA 94707  
Telephone: 510-526-4141  
e-mail Address:  
rhull@kensingtoncalifornia.org

## 29.2 JURISDICTION PROFILE

### 29.2.1 Overview

The Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District (KPPCSD) provides police protection, waste collection, and park services to the unincorporated community of Kensington. KPPCSD was formed in 1946 as the Kensington Police District under the Health and Safety Code. The District expanded its services to include park and recreation services in 1955. In 1981, voters approved adding trash collection and disposal. In 1993, voters approved changing the name of the District to Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District.

The District currently serves a population of approximately 5,000, covering a land area of approximately one square mile in west Contra Costa County, bordered by the cities of Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, and Tilden Park. It employs three administrative and ten law enforcement personnel. District operations are funded primarily by property taxes with some additional funds from refuse collection, and fees for services. The population and thus District revenues and services are stable from year to year with periodic cost of living adjustments. The District will continue to provide law enforcement protection to the community as well as provide park and recreational services and solid waste collection. The District is governed by five unpaid board members elected into office by the community to serve staggered four year terms.

The KPPCSD assumes responsibility for the adoption of this plan and the District General Manager will oversee its implementation.

### 29.2.2 Assets

Table 29-1 summarizes the critical assets of the district and their value.

**Table 29-1. Special Purpose District Assets**

Asset	Value
<b>Property</b>	
10-acres (park)	\$2,808,347
<b>Critical Infrastructure and Equipment</b>	
Police cars	\$238,212
Equipment	\$88,599
DUI Trailer	\$10,000
Amateur Radio Equipment	\$2,500
Office Equipment	\$148,475
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$487,786</b>
<b>Critical Facilities</b>	
The Community Center- This building is also designated as an evacuation shelter	\$550,000
Building E-Currently leased to the Kensington Community Council for recreational programs	\$450,000
Improvements	\$618,818
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,618,818</b>

## 29.3 CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

### 29.3.1 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities

Jurisdictions develop plans and programs and implement rules and regulations to protect and serve residents. When effectively prepared and administered, these plans, programs and regulations can support the implementation of mitigation actions. The following existing codes, ordinances, policies, programs or plans are applicable to this hazard mitigation plan:

- **California Department of Public Health**
- **California and US Environmental Protection Agencies**
- **California Code of Regulations**
- **Federal Endangered Species Act**
- **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**
- **Contra Costa County Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan**
- **City of El Cerrito Emergency Operations Plan**—Kensington Annex dated February 2007
- **Kensington Community Center Remodel Proposal** by Glass Associates, Inc., dated August 2016

### 29.3.2 Fiscal, Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Fiscal capability is an indicator of a jurisdiction’s ability to fulfill the financial needs associated with hazard mitigation projects. An assessment of fiscal capabilities is presented in Table 29-2. Administrative and technical capabilities represent a jurisdiction’s staffing resources for carrying out the mitigation strategy. An assessment of administrative and technical capabilities is presented in Table 29-3.

### 29.3.3 Education and Outreach Capabilities

Outreach and education capability identifies the connection between government and community members, which opens a dialogue needed for a more resilient community. An assessment of education and outreach capabilities is presented in Table 29-4.

**Table 29-2. Fiscal Capability**

Financial Resource	Accessible or Eligible to Use?
Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes
Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes	Yes
User Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas or Electric Service	No
Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds	Yes
Incur Debt through Special Tax Bonds	No
Incur Debt through Private Activity Bonds	No
State-Sponsored Grant Programs	Yes
Development Impact Fees for Homebuyers or Developers	No
Federal Grant Programs	Yes
Other	No

**Table 29-3. Administrative and Technical Capability**

Staff/Personnel Resource	Available?	Department/Agency/Position
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	No	
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	No	
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	No	
Staff with training in benefit/cost analysis	No	
Surveyors	No	
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS applications	No	
Scientist familiar with natural hazards in local area	No	
Emergency manager	Yes	District General Manager
Grant writers	No	
Other	No	

**Table 29-4. Education and Outreach**

Criterion	Response
Do you have a Public Information Officer or Communications Office?	No
Do you have personnel skilled or trained in website development?	Yes
Do you have hazard mitigation information available on your website? • If yes, please briefly describe	No N/A
Do you utilize social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach? • If yes, please briefly describe	No N/A
Do you have any citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation? • If yes, please briefly specify	Yes Kensington Public Safety Council
Do you have any other programs already in place that could be used to communicate hazard-related information? • If yes, please briefly describe	Yes District website & mailing list, PD mailing list, KARO/ECHO Amateur Radio Group
Do you have any established warning systems for hazard events? • If yes, please briefly describe	Yes County Community Warning System

### 29.3.4 Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change

Given the uncertainties associated with how hazard risk may change with a changing climate, a jurisdiction’s ability to track such changes and adapt as needed is an important component of the mitigation strategy. Table 29-5 summarizes the District’s adaptive capacity for climate change.

<b>Table 29-5. Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change</b>	
<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Jurisdiction Rating<sup>a</sup></b>
<b>Technical Capacity</b>	
<b>Jurisdiction-level understanding of potential climate change impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Medium
<b>Jurisdiction-level monitoring of climate change impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Technical resources to assess proposed strategies for feasibility and externalities</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Jurisdiction-level capacity for development of greenhouse gas emissions inventory</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Capital planning and land use decisions informed by potential climate impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Participation in regional groups addressing climate risks</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Implementation Capacity</b>	
<b>Clear authority/mandate to consider climate change impacts during public decision-making processes</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Medium
<b>Identified strategies for greenhouse gas mitigation efforts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: County Community Power participation in utilization of solar power available on grid</i>	Low
<b>Identified strategies for adaptation to impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Champions for climate action in local government departments</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Medium
<b>Political support for implementing climate change adaptation strategies</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Financial resources devoted to climate change adaptation</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Local authority over sectors likely to be negative impacted</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Public Capacity</b>	
<b>Local residents knowledge of and understanding of climate risk</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Medium
<b>Local residents support of adaptation efforts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: The District and County are getting started on these efforts.</i>	Medium
<b>Local residents’ capacity to adapt to climate impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Medium
<b>Local economy current capacity to adapt to climate impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low
<b>Local ecosystems capacity to adapt to climate impacts</b> <i>Comments/Additional Information: None provided</i>	Low

a. High = Capacity exists and is in use; Medium = Capacity may exist, but is not used or could use some improvement; Low = Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement; Unsure= Not enough information is known to assign a rating.

## 29.4 INTEGRATION WITH OTHER PLANNING INITIATIVES

The information on hazards, risk, vulnerability and mitigation contained in this hazard mitigation plan is based on the best available data. Plan integration is the incorporation of this information into other relevant planning mechanisms, such as general planning and capital facilities planning. It includes the integration of natural hazard information and mitigation policies, principles and actions into local planning mechanisms and vice versa. Additionally, plan integration is achieved through the involvement of key staff and community officials in collaboratively planning for hazard mitigation.

### 29.4.1 Existing Integration

In the performance period since adoption of the previous hazard mitigation plan, the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District made progress on integrating hazard mitigation goals, objectives and actions into other planning initiatives. The following plans and programs currently integrate components of the hazard mitigation strategy:

- **Park Grounds Fuel Reduction**—This ongoing effort has been working to reduce the wildfire fuel load in the District parkland. A combination of volunteer workers, grant funded professionals, and commercial resources contributors have worked over the last several years to remove flammable or otherwise unwanted vegetation, trimmed up trees to reduce “ladder effects”. The group has used grants from Diablo Fire Safe Council to remove dying and dangerous trees.
- **Kensington Public Safety Council**—The group presents talks on how to prepare for earthquakes and other hazards likely to occur in this area. These cover both human and pet preparedness. There is a Wildfire talk every spring prior to the fire season.

Resources listed in Section 29.11 were used to provide information on hazard events and local capabilities within the jurisdiction.

### 29.4.2 Opportunities for Future Integration

As this hazard mitigation plan is implemented, the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District will use information from the plan as the best available science and data on natural hazards. The capability assessment presented in this annex identifies codes, plans and programs that provide opportunities for integration. The area-wide and local action plans developed for this hazard mitigation plan include actions related to plan integration, and progress on these actions will be reported through the progress reporting process described in Volume 1. New opportunities for integration also will be identified as part of the annual progress report.

- **District Emergency Operations Plan**—At this time a revision of the District Emergency Operations Plan is planned for March 2018. It will reference this LHMP and use Risk Information developed in this document.

## 29.5 JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC NATURAL HAZARD EVENT HISTORY

Table 29-6 lists past occurrences of natural hazards for which specific damage was recorded in the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District. Other hazard events that broadly affected the entire planning area, including the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, are listed in the risk assessments in Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan. Kensington hasn’t had any hazard events since 2007. However, given its proximity to the Hayward Fault and the fire-fuel-loaded East Bay Regional Park, Kensington is at significant risk of natural hazard events: earthquakes and fires. Figure 25-1 approximates the boundaries of Kensington in green. It shows fire risk in pale red and the Hayward Fault area in gray.

**Table 29-6. Natural Hazard Events**

Type of Event	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Date	Damage Assessment
Earthquake	NA	10/30/2007	No estimates available
Wildfire	NA	10/20/1991	No damage in Kensington/Fire stopped at Berkeley border
Earthquake	FEMA-845	10/17/1989	\$1,000,000

Source: [myplan.caloes.ca.gov/](http://myplan.caloes.ca.gov/)



**Figure 29-1. Approximate Boundaries of Kensington with Fire and Earthquake Risk Areas**

## 29.6 JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC VULNERABILITIES

Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan provides complete risk assessments for each identified hazard of concern. Noted vulnerabilities within the district include the following:

- The KPPCSD administration office, police department, and fire department are on the Hayward Fault.
- 50 homes and an elementary school are located on the Wildland Urban Interface of Kensington and Tilden Park
- Most of Kensington is in a danger zone for Wildfire, Earthquake Shaking, Soil Liquefaction, or combinations of these events.
- Kensington has several neighborhoods on dead-end roads that have no alternative exit routes if the connecting end of the road is impassable.

## 29.7 HAZARD RISK RANKING

Table 29-7 presents a local ranking for the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District of all hazards of concern for which Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan provides complete risk assessments. This ranking summarizes how hazards vary for this jurisdiction. As described in detail in Volume 1, the ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard, along with its potential impacts on people, property and the economy.

**Table 29-7. Hazard Risk Ranking**

Rank	Hazard Type	Risk Rating Score (Probability x Impact)	Category
1	Earthquake	54	High
1	Wildfire	54	High
1	Landslide	54	High
2	Flood	6	Medium
2	Severe weather	6	Medium
2	Drought	6	Medium
3	Water Storage Tank Failure	3	Low
3	Sea level rise	0	None
3	Tsunami	0	None

## 29.8 STATUS OF PREVIOUS PLAN ACTIONS

Table 29-8 summarizes the actions that were recommended in the previous version of the hazard mitigation plan and their implementation status at the time this update was prepared.

**Table 29-8. Status of Previous Plan Actions**

Action Item	Completed	Removed; No Longer Feasible	Carried Over to Plan Update	
			Check if Yes	Enter Action #
<b>1—Structural Engineers Analysis of Community Center</b> <i>Comment: An Architect has been selected to provide improvements to the Community Center. A structural analysis is included in the contract.</i>			✓	KPPCSD-3
<b>2—Structural Retrofit of Community Center</b> <i>Comment: An Architect has been selected to provide improvements to the Community Center. Seismic upgrades are included in the contract to be signed.</i>			✓	KPPCSD-3
<b>3—Structural Engineers Analysis of Annex Building</b> <i>Comment: The Annex Building cannot be upgraded for a reasonable cost.</i>		✓		
<b>4—Structural Retrofit of Annex Building</b> <i>Comment: The Annex Building cannot be upgraded for a reasonable cost</i>		✓		
<b>5—Fuel Reduction along EBRPD border</b> <i>Comment: Fuel reduction efforts continue along the southern portion of the EBRPD border. Grant applications are planned to support the creation of a firebreak on the northern portion of this Wildland Urban Interface.</i>			✓	KPPCSD-7
<b>6—Utility undergrounding</b> <i>Comment: The cost of undergrounding of power and communication lines exceeds the benefits gained.</i>		✓		
<b>7—Support County-wide initiatives identified in the 2011 Hazard Mitigation Plan.</b> <i>Comment: The 2011 Initiatives that are relevant to Kensington are still guiding current mitigation efforts as are those updates/revisions that were made as part of the plan update process.</i>	✓			
<b>8—Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in the 2011 Hazard Mitigation Plan.</b> <i>Comment: KPPCSD continues to support the plan maintenance protocol of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.</i>	✓		✓	KPPCSD-2
<b>9—Integrate Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Safety Element of the General Plan</b> <i>Comment: The Safety Element of the General Plan was amended in June 2011 to incorporate the LHMP by reference.</i>	✓			



## 29.9 HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN AND EVALUATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Table 29-9 lists the actions that make up the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District hazard mitigation action plan. Table 29-10 identifies the priority for each action. Table 29-11 summarizes the mitigation actions by hazard of concern and mitigation type.

**Table 29-9. Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Matrix**

Applies to new or existing assets	Hazards Mitigated	Objectives Met	Responsible Agency <sup>a</sup>	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
<b>KPPCSD-1</b> — Where appropriate (feasible and cost-effective), support retrofitting or relocation of structures in high hazard areas, prioritizing structures that have experienced repetitive losses and/or are impacted by hazards ranked as “high” (earthquake, wildfire, landslide).						
Existing	Earthquake, Wildfire, Landslide, Flood and Severe Weather	11, 15	*KPPCSD & County	High	PDM, HMGP	Short-term
<b>KPPCSD-2</b> — Actively participate in the plan maintenance protocols outlined in Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan. Conduct annual Town Hall meetings to involve the public. Publish the plan on the District website.						
New and Existing	All hazards assessed by this plan	16	KPPCSD	Low	Staff Time, General Funds	Ongoing
<b>KPPCSD-3</b> —Conduct Community Center Earthquake Retrofit to preserve structure usability after an earthquake.						
Existing	Earthquake	1, 2, 6, 7, 15, 18	KPPCSD	Medium	KPPCSD, EBRPD Measure WW, KCC, PDM	Short-term
<b>KPPCSD-4</b> — Add grey and rain water recovery system to Community Center and Building E.						
Existing	Drought	13, 17, 18	KPPCSD	Low	KPPCSD	Short-term
<b>KPPCSD-5</b> — Provide public information classes and information on irrigation systems, low-water plantings, defensible space options and other alternatives appropriate for the mitigation of drought and wildfire hazards.						
Existing	Drought, Wildfire	3, 6, 17, 18	KPPCSD	Low	KPPCSD	Ongoing
<b>KPPCSD-6</b> — Develop a post-disaster action plan, including grant funding and debris removal, that will address all hazards ranked as “high” or “medium,” excluding drought (earthquake, wildfire, landslide, flood, severe weather).						
Existing	Earthquake, Wildfire, Landslide, Flood, and Severe Weather	1, 2, 13, 18	*KPPCSD, County	Medium	HMGP	Short-term
<b>KPPCSD-7</b> — Implement fuel reduction programs in the park and along the EBRPD Wildland Urban Interface. Use completed and ongoing work to illustrate proper Defensible Space techniques and Fire-wise plantings.						
Existing	Wildfire	1, 3, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18	KPPCSD	Low	DFSC, PDM, HMGP	Ongoing
<b>KPPCSD-8</b> —Create and maintain a log of the impacts of unplanned events that disrupt normal activities.						
Existing	Natural Disasters, Infrastructure issues, Human caused issues	3, 6, 8, 12, 13	KPPCSD	Low	KPPCSD	Ongoing
<b>KPPCSD-9</b> —Provide Amateur and FR—S radio training along with the purchase of an Amateur radio for each of the six CERT areas plus a spare.						
Existing	All Hazards	2, 4, 13, 18	KPPCSD	Low	PDM, HMGP	Short-term
<b>KPPCSD-10</b> —Mitigate unplanned water release from EBMUD storage tank at Spruce St. & Grizzly Peak Blvd, also Berkeley Park.						
New	Flood	3, 6,	*EBMUD, KPPCSD	High	PDM, HMGP	Long-term
<b>KPPCSD-11</b> —Support the Kensington Public Safety Council educational talks for the community on disaster awareness, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.						
Existing	All Hazards	3, 6, 12, 17	KPPCSD	Low	Staff Time	Ongoing

a. Where multiple responsible agencies are listed, an asterisk (\*) identifies the lead agency.



**Table 29-10. Mitigation Action Priority**

Action #	# of Objectives Met	Benefits	Costs	Do Benefits Equal or Exceed Costs?	Is Project Grant-Eligible?	Can Project Be Funded Under Existing Programs/Budgets?	Implementation Priority <sup>a</sup>	Grant Pursuit Priority <sup>a</sup>
KPPCSD-1	8	High	High	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	High
KPPCSD-2	3	Low	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High	Low
KPPCSD-3	6	High	High	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	High
KPPCSD-4	2	High	Low	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	High
KPPCSD-5	4	High	Low	Yes	No	No	Low	Low
KPPCSD-6	4	High	Medium	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	Medium
KPPCSD-7	8	High	High	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	High
KPPCSD-8	5	High	Low	Yes	No	Yes	Medium	Low
KPPCSD-9	4	High	Low	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	Low
KPPCSD-10	2	High	High	Yes	Yes	No	Medium	Medium
KPPCSD-11	4	High	Low	Yes	No	Yes	Low	Low

a. See the introduction to this volume for explanation of priorities.

**Table 29-11. Analysis of Mitigation Actions**

Hazard Type	Action Addressing Hazard, by Mitigation Type <sup>a</sup>							
	Prevention	Property Protection	Public Education and Awareness	Natural Resource Protection	Emergency Services	Structural Projects	Climate Resilient	Community Capacity Building
<b>All hazards</b>		1, 3	8, 11		9	3		2, 6, 8, 9
<b>Dam and Levee failure</b>		10	11			10		
<b>Drought</b>			5, 11	4, 7			4, 5	5
<b>Earthquake</b>	6	1, 3	11		6			
<b>Flood</b>	6							
<b>Landslide</b>	6		8, 11		6, 9			
<b>Severe weather</b>	6				8, 9			
<b>Tsunami</b>								
<b>Wildfire</b>	6, 7, 11	11	7, 11	7, 11	6, 9			

a. See the introduction to this volume for explanation of mitigation types.

## 29.10 FUTURE NEEDS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND RISK/VULNERABILITY

The District needs to develop GIS capability to have access to, and develop an understanding of faults, topography, vegetation density, etc.

## 29.11 REVIEW AND INCORPORATION OF RESOURCES FOR THIS ANNEX

The following technical reports, plans, and regulatory mechanisms were reviewed for this annex.

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan Annex Development Tool-kit**—The tool-kit was used to support the development of this annex including past hazard events, noted vulnerabilities, risk ranking and action development.
- **District Assets Valuation**—The District Assets Valuation information was developed for insurance purposes. It is the most recent valuation available.
- **Kensington Community Center Upgrade**—The Kensington Community Center Upgrade proposal is in the final stage of development by the Architectural firm chosen for the project. The two principal topics are Seismic Retrofitting and Updates for ADA compliance.
- **KPPCSD Emergency Operations Plan**—The District EOP is an appendix of the El Cerrito plan. It was reviewed for pertinent information to be included in this annex.