

## 11 SAFETY ELEMENT

### *A. Introduction*

The Safety Element identifies and evaluates natural and urban safety hazards in Los Gatos, both existing and potential. It establishes policies and actions to reduce or abate these hazards to protect Town residents and visitors. Additionally, this Element guides the Town when participating in resolving safety issues that are regional in character, or otherwise beyond the immediate control of the Town. The safety concerns identified in this Element have been divided into the following categories:

- ◆ Geologic Hazards, including earthquakes, ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslides
- ◆ Urban and Wildland Fire Hazards
- ◆ Flood and Inundation Hazards
- ◆ Hazardous Materials Management
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery

Each category is divided into the following two sections:

- ◆ **Background Information:** A description of current risks based on each hazard category.
- ◆ **Goals, Policies, and Actions:** A list of goals, policies, and action statements that provide guidance on reducing the risks associated with the hazards identified in this Element.

The Safety Element also describes police and fire protection services for Los Gatos.

### *B. Geologic Hazards*

The San Francisco Bay Area is in one of the most active seismic regions in the United States. Each year, low and moderate magnitude earthquakes occurring in or near the San Francisco Bay Area are felt by residents of Los Gatos.

## 1. Background Information

### a. Earthquake Hazards

The law requires the California Geological Survey (CGS) to establish regulatory zones (known as Earthquake Fault Zones or Alquist-Priolo Zones) around the surface traces of active faults and to issue maps to all affected cities, counties, and State agencies for use in planning and controlling development. Figure SAF-1 shows the approximate location of the major fault zones in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The principal fault zones in the Bay region are the San Andreas fault zone, which traverses the Town, and the Hayward and Calaveras fault zones. The San Andreas, Hayward, and Calaveras fault zones are responsible for several large historic earthquakes with ground rupture and all three are associated with well-defined zones of seismic activity. Secondary fault zones, including the Sargent, Berrocal, Shannon, and Monte Vista fault zones, traverse the Town. These fault zones are part of the Southwest Santa Clara Valley Thrust Belt and are generally believed to be connected to the San Andreas fault zone. The San Andreas Fault is the potential source for larger earthquakes that will affect the Town.

### b. Ground Shaking

Los Gatos is within a seismically active region and earthquakes have the potential to cause ground shaking of significant magnitude. Any slip along all or part of a fault surface releases accumulated energy that radiates in all directions away from the source, in the form of earthquake waves. Associated ground shaking varies in intensity depending on the severity of earthquake activity, proximity to that activity and local soil and geological conditions. Because Los Gatos is within the “near source” zone of both the San Andreas and Monte Vista Faults, the Town is subject to particularly strong ground shaking effects.

### c. Seismic Hazards

The CGS and United States Geological Survey (USGS) identify liquefaction, landslides, and ground failure as seismic hazards associated with earthquakes.



As illustrated on Figure SAF-2, these hazards influence patterns of development in California, including Los Gatos.

*i. Liquefaction*

Liquefaction is the process by which the strength and stiffness of saturated soil is reduced by ground shaking. It is defined as the transformation of a granular material, such as sand and gravel, from a solid state into a liquefied state, as a consequence of increased pore-water pressure. Structures which are constructed on soils which are prone to liquefaction are subject to damage and possible collapse as a result of settlement and lateral spreading due to liquefaction. Most of the liquefaction zones are minimal in size and skirt the Town limits.

*ii. Landslides and Ground Failure*

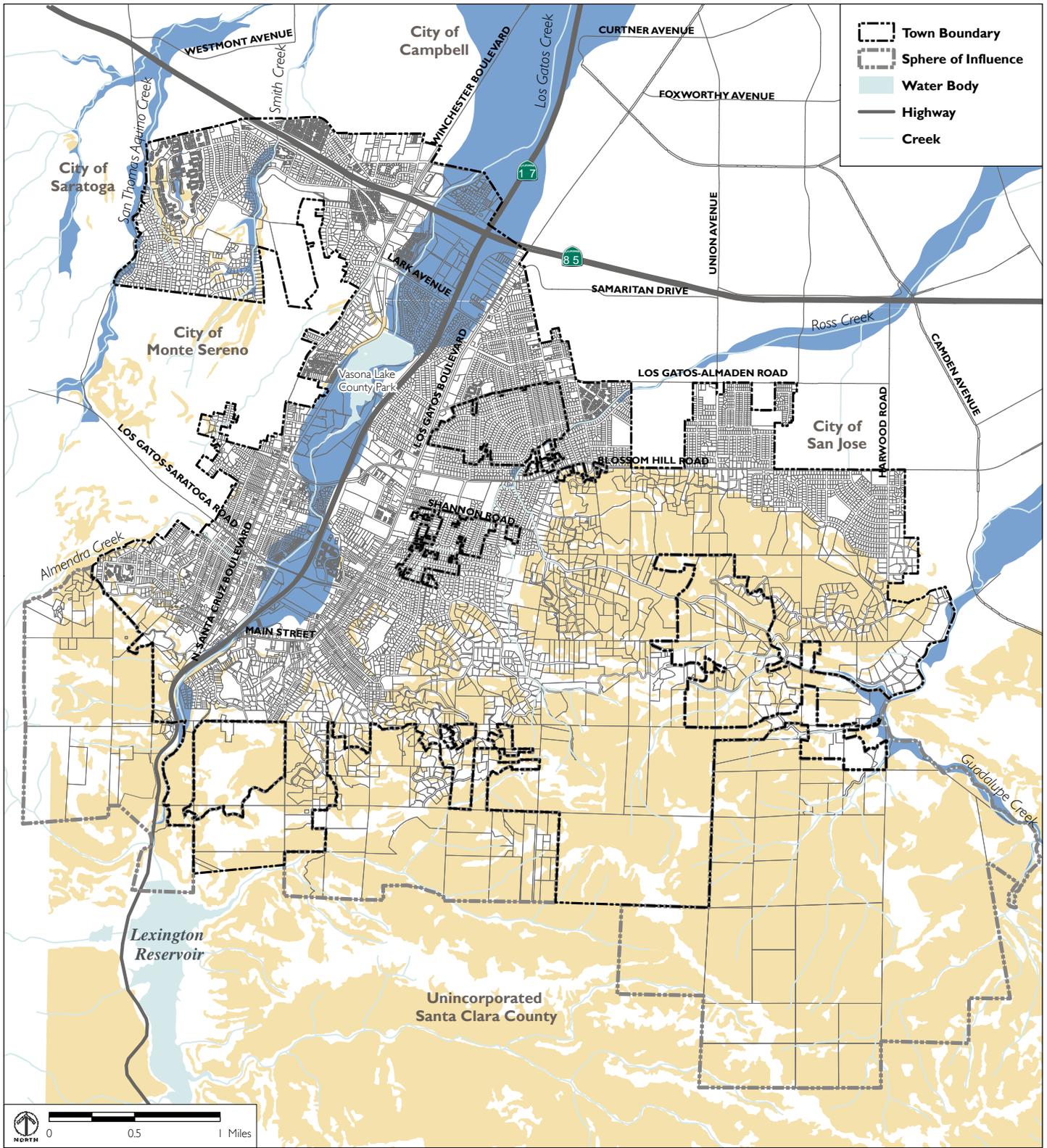
Landslides and slope instability are characterized by the movement of soils and surficial deposits and bedrock down steep slopes. This movement results from wet weather, adverse structures, seismic shaking, and/or improper grading and drainage. Because Los Gatos includes portions of the steep foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, there is a potential for landslides throughout much of the southern and eastern portions of the Town and extending as far north as Blossom Hill Road. Landslide potential is minimal in the gently sloping west central and northernmost portions of the Town.

*d. Expansive Soils*

Certain types of soils have characteristics that make them more susceptible to geotechnical hazards, such as erosion and expansion. Identifying local soil types and understanding their associated characteristics help cities to establish appropriate engineering and construction standards for new buildings and remodeling. The primary soil types in the Los Gatos area are clay and clay loam.

*i. Shrink-Swell Potential*

Certain types of soil are inherently expansive, meaning they expand and contract significantly as their water content fluctuates. This dynamic, known as



Source: California Geologic Survey, 2002.

- Liquefaction Zone
- Landslide Zone

FIGURE SAF-2  
 SEISMIC HAZARDS

“shrink-swell potential,” can cause seasonal uplifting of structural foundations and roads, accompanied by significant and often dangerous cracking. It follows that soils with high shrink-swell potential have limitations as substrates for engineering and construction purposes.

*ii. Erosion Potential*

The potential for erosion generally increases with steepness of slope, rainfall and in areas where the protective soil and/or vegetation cover has been removed by fire or grading. Due to the varied topography of Los Gatos, the erosion potential within the Town ranges from low to very high. The potential for erosion in Los Gatos is highest in the eastern, southern, and south-western areas of the Town. Erosion potential decreases toward the center of town, and is non-existent in the flat areas just east of the Highway 17 corridor. However, erosion potential is high to very high in the areas surrounding the north end of the Los Gatos Creek corridor.

**2. Goals, Policies, and Actions**

<b>Goal SAF-1</b>	<b>To minimize exposure to geologic hazards, including slope instability, subsidence, and expansive soils, and to seismic hazards, including groundshaking, fault rupture, liquefaction and landslides.</b>
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**Policies**

- Policy SAF-1.1    Require reliable evaluations of the existing geologic conditions of sites proposed for development where conditions indicate the possibility of weak supporting soils or geologic structures.
- Policy SAF-1.2    Restrict new development and redevelopment based on the levels of acceptable risk and potential severity of geologic hazards.
- Policy SAF-1.3    Preserve as open space property that is unbuildable due to geologic conditions.

- Policy SAF-1.4 Buildings and structures required for emergency services shall have sufficient resistance to withstand a major earthquake.
- Policy SAF-1.5 Provide incentives for seismic retrofits of structures.
- Policy SAF-1.6 Require geological investigations for any development or project as mandated by the State or deemed warranted by the Town.
- Policy SAF-1.7 As part of development review, the developer shall have a qualified geologic/geotechnical consultant fill out the Town Geologic Hazards Checklist to show that potential hazards have been identified and that proposed structures, including grading (cuts and fills), will be designed to resist potential earthquake effects.
- Policy SAF-1.8 Require preparation of a report from an engineering geologist and/or geotechnical engineer that discusses the geologic, seismic, and geotechnical engineering conditions and potential hazards for developments in hazard zones mapped by the State or identified by the Town, as shown in Figures SAF-1 and SAF-2.
- Policy SAF-1.9 Enforce the California Building Code seismic safety restrictions. Require fault investigations for structures for human habitation and all critical facilities. Investigation may include field investigations. Reports shall include appropriate design measures to mitigate potential fault ground rupture/deformation to acceptable levels, and shall be reviewed by the Town.
- Policy SAF-1.10 Require geologic and geotechnical reports and Town review during the development review process for projects with significant grading, potential erosion and sedimentation hazards.

- Policy SAF-1.11 Require geologic and geotechnical reports to specify construction methods to protect the proposed project, as well as existing residences in the vicinity, from identified hazards.
- Policy SAF-1.12 Retain private buildings and maintain public buildings whose use and function are essential in response to a major earthquake.

**Actions**

- Action SAF-1.1 Periodically update the Town's geologic, seismic, and geotechnical maps.
- Action SAF-1.2 Periodically identify and retest, if needed, those bridges whose destruction would cause serious access problems after an earthquake.
- Action SAF-1.3 Work with facility owners to periodically ensure that all buildings and structures in Town whose uses and functions are essential in response to a major earthquake are safe.
- Action SAF-1.4 Amend the Town Code to reduce the permitted gradient for roads in areas determined to be high risk landslide or fault zones.
- Action SAF-1.5 Update the Town's earthquake preparedness information packet, keep it current on an ongoing basis and develop and implement effective means to disseminate it to Town residents and businesses.
- Action SAF-1.6 Create and adopt a Geologic Hazards Checklist to be utilized during the development review process.

*C. Urban and Wildland Fires*

The Town of Los Gatos is susceptible to threat from both urban and wildland fires. There are several factors that influence the potential for fire hazard, including population growth, vegetation, topography, and weather.

**1. Background Information**

Santa Clara County has a high potential for devastating wildland fires. Based on a “Fire Hazard Severity Zone” map developed by the California Department of Forestry (CDF), the majority of the County is identified within the “high” fire severity zone, with smaller portions of the County within the “moderate” and “very high” fire severity zones. Figure SAF-3 illustrates the fire hazard severity zones in the Los Gatos area.

The Town’s Emergency Operations Plan identifies wildfire risk as a seasonal risk in the winter/spring months. However, the types of vegetation and typically high moisture content generally reduce the wildfire risk in the area. During drought years winds blow from the east, dry out the hillsides, and increase the wildfire potential. The CDF categorizes vegetation based on the following “fuel loading” characteristics: Light (grasslands), Medium (light scrub brush) and Heavy (timber and heavy scrub brush).

**2. Goals, Policies, and Actions**

<b>Goal SAF-2</b>	<b>To incorporate fire safety precautions as an integral consideration in planning development.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-2.1 New development located in or adjacent to fire hazard areas shall be designed and sited to minimize hazards to life and property. Utilize fire preventive site design, access, fire-safe landscaping, and building materials, and incorporate fire suppression techniques.

Policy SAF-2.2 Encourage fire safety improvements for existing homes and commercial buildings.

Policy SAF-2.3 During the development review process, carefully consider the adequacy of water storage for fire protection.

Policy SAF-2.4 Provide secondary emergency access that will not increase traffic for homes in areas identified as Very High Fire Hazard Areas on the Town's Wildland Fire Severity Zone Map.

**Action**

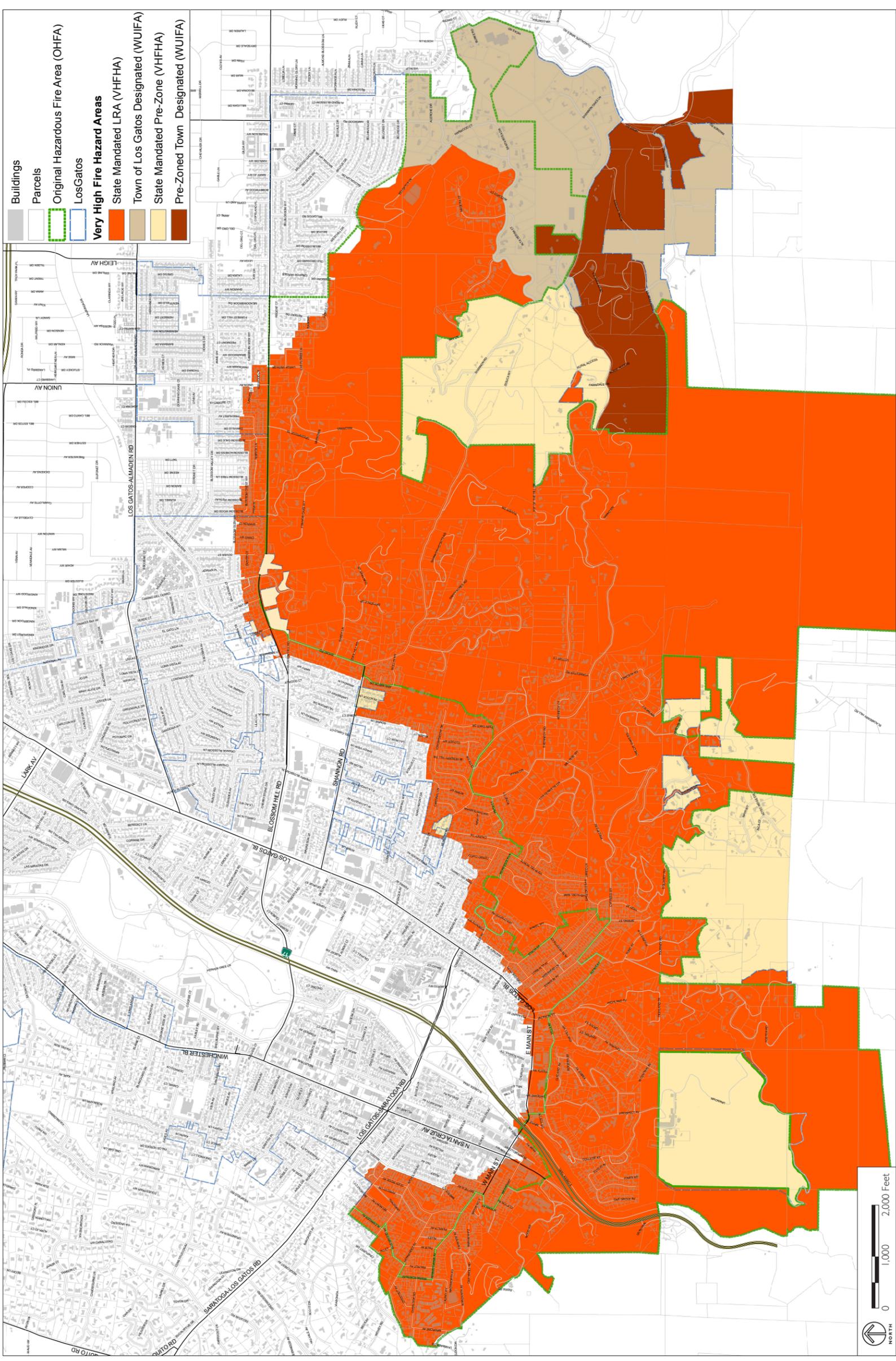
Action SAF-2.1 Adopt procedures whereby the public will continually be made aware of the Town's policies regarding safety hazards and be conveniently supplied with information, including notification of residents of fire emergency plans for their area.

<b>Goal SAF-3</b>	<b>To reduce the potential for injuries, damage to property, economic and social displacement, and loss of life resulting from fire hazards.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-3.1 Minimize exposure to wildland and urban fire hazards through rapid emergency response; proactive code enforcement; public education programs; use of modern fire prevention measures; quick, safe access for emergency equipment and evacuation; and emergency management preparation.

Policy SAF-3.2 Encourage neighborhood fire emergency planning for isolated areas.



Source: Town of Los Gatos and Santa Clara County Fire Department, 2009.



- Policy SAF-3.3 Ensure emergency fire and medical services are available and ensure adequate water supply for fire emergencies.
- Policy SAF-3.4 Restrict development in areas with inadequate water flow.
- Policy SAF-3.5 Control excessive buildup of flammable vegetative material.

**Actions**

- Action SAF-3.1 Identify the characteristics of the total water supply available in the event of an emergency.
- Action SAF-3.2 Develop and maintain evacuation plans for high risk fire hazard areas.
- Action SAF-3.3 Coordinate with Santa Clara County Fire Department to develop and distribute fire prevention preparedness educational information, including evacuation plans, for residents.

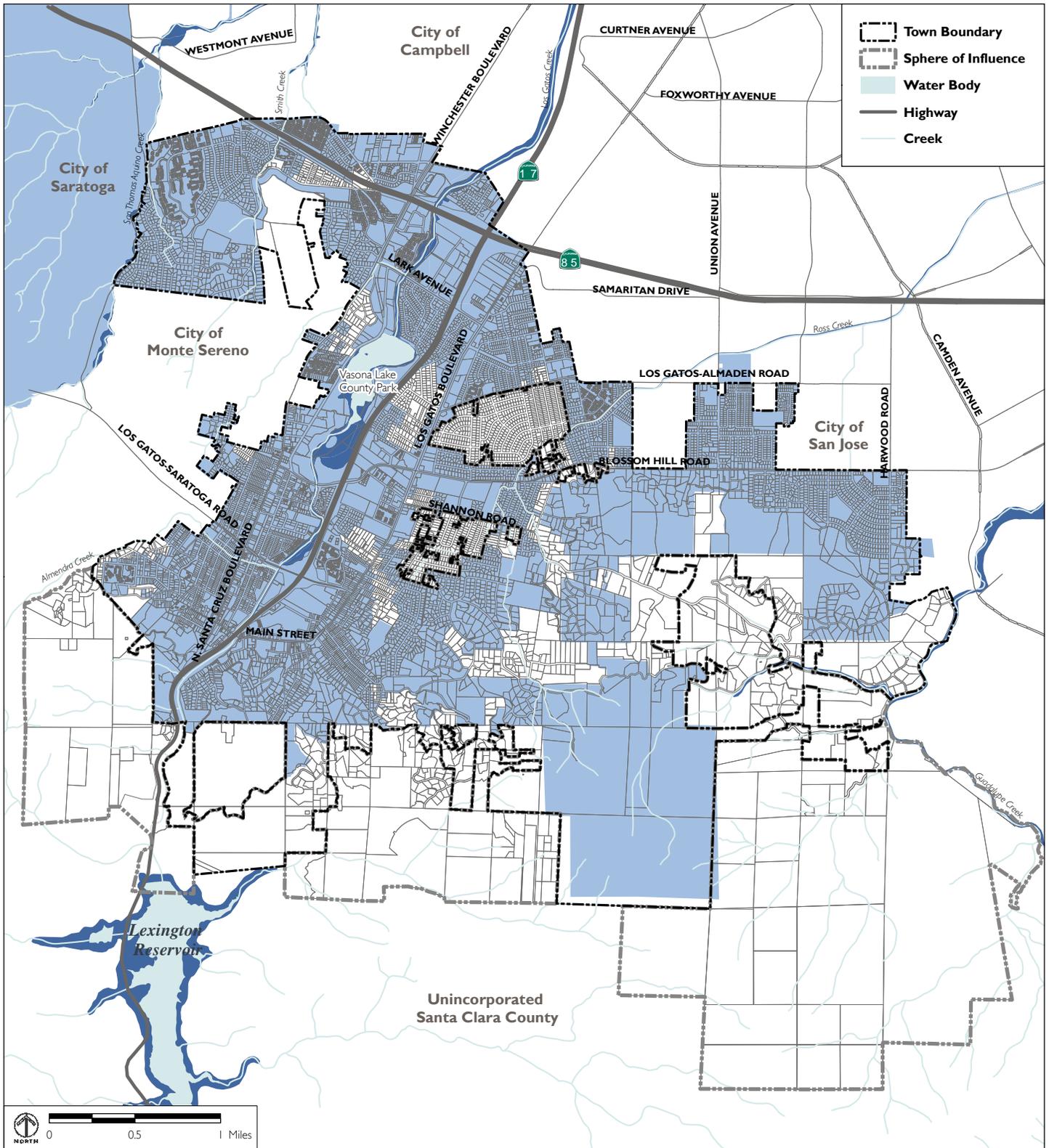
***D. Flooding and Inundation***

The Town of Los Gatos is required to identify flood hazard zones and establish policies to avoid or minimize risks of flooding.

**1. Background Information**

**a. Flood Zones**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has mapped floodplains in several portions of the Town, which are illustrated in Figure SAF-4. According to National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) floodplain mapping, portions of the Town west of Highway 17 and adjacent to Los Gatos Creek, San Tomas Aquinos Creek, Smith Creek and Ross Creek are located within the 100-year floodplain and other areas of the Town are within the 500-year



Source: DC&E, 2010; Town of Los Gatos, 2009; Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2009.

- 100-year flood zone
- 500-year flood zone

FIGURE SAF-4  
 FEMA FLOOD ZONES

floodplain. Shallow flooding along some streets can be expected during significant storm events.

The Parks and Public Works Department has a storm response program. After a storm event, flooded areas are evaluated to determine the reason for flooding. Fortunately, due to its topography and local reservoirs, the Town has not been as severely impacted by flooding as nearby communities.

b. Dam Inundation

The Town Emergency Operations Plan (discussed below in Section F) identifies the Lexington Reservoir, which is contained by the James J. Lenihan Dam, the third largest reservoir in the County. Although the SCVWD maintains that the dam has the ability to withstand significant earthquakes, the potential inundation zone in the event of failure is significant. Potential dam inundation areas in the Town are illustrated in Figure SAF-5.

2. Goals, Policies, and Actions

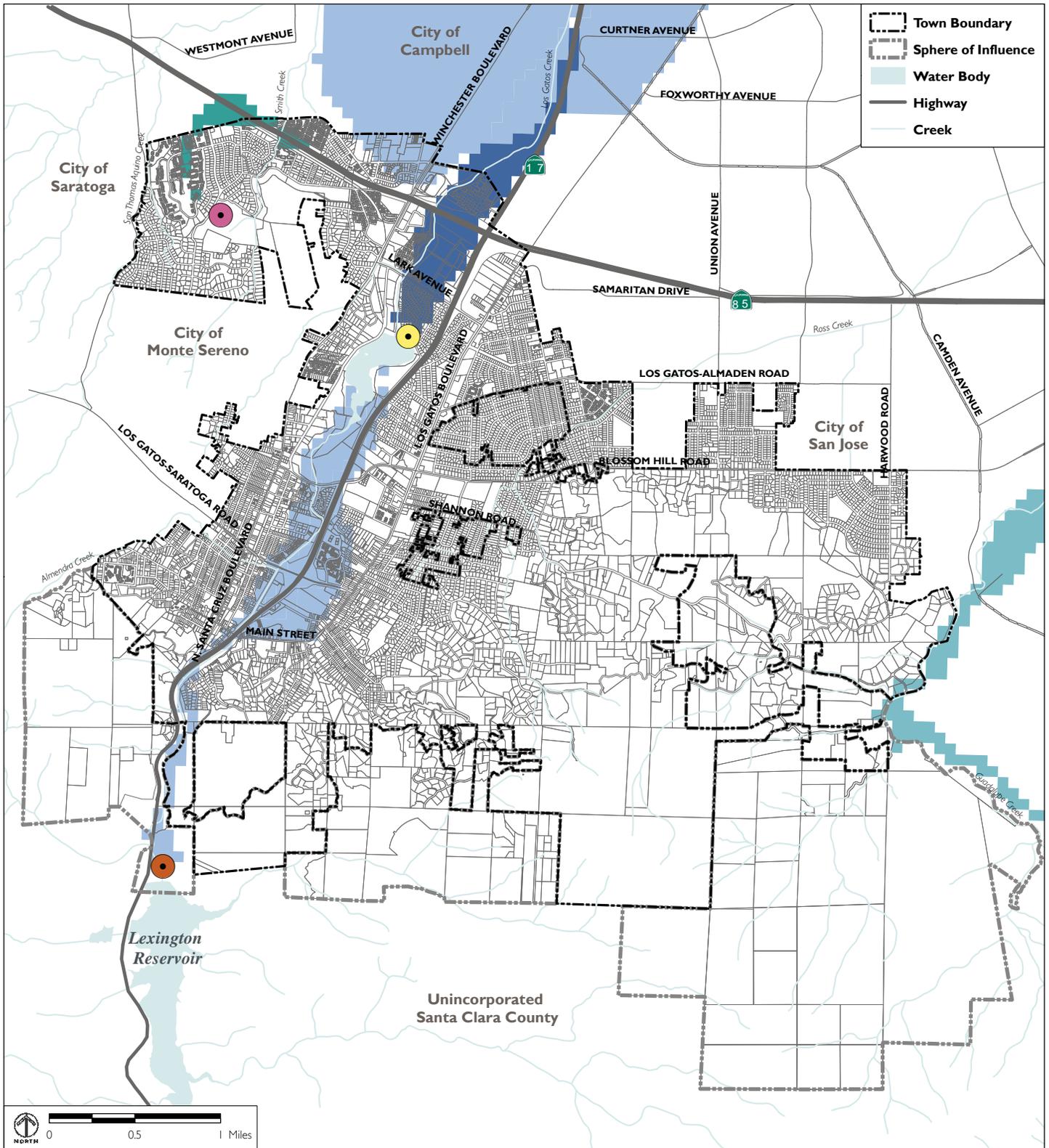
<b>Goal SAF-4</b>	<b>To reduce the potential for injuries, damage to property, economic and social displacement, and loss of life resulting from flood hazards.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-4.1 Adopt designated floodways for all major streams utilizing the full floodplain concept as a first priority and the modified floodplain concept as a second priority for floodplain development.

Policy SAF-4.2 Limit the intensity of land use in floodplain areas.

Policy SAF-4.3 Require site planning and building design to address identified flood and inundation hazards.



Note: Guadalupe Dam is located outside of the bounds of this map.  
 Source: Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), 1995.

- | Dams and Reservoir  | Dam Inundation Area |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| James J. Lenihan    | Lenihan Dam         |
| Rinconada Reservoir | Lenihan/Vasona Dam  |
| Vasona Percol       | Guadalupe Dam       |
|                     | Rinconada Reservoir |

FIGURE SAF-5

DAMS AND DAM INUNDATION AREAS

- Policy SAF-4.4 Require development in FEMA designated 100-year flood zones in the Los Gatos area, as shown in Figure SAF-4 or most current FEMA mapping, to meet federal standards.
- Policy SAF-4.5 Obtain fee title to all land required to be dedicated for flood protection.
- Policy SAF-4.6 Require major new development and redevelopment to provide mitigation to ensure that the cumulative rate of peak stormwater run-off is maintained at pre-development levels.

**Actions**

- Action SAF-4.1 Annually review all areas subject to flooding as identified by FEMA or the State Department of Water Resources, as required by AB 162.
- Action SAF-4.2 Adopt floodplain zoning to prevent inappropriate development in areas subject to flooding.
- Action SAF-4.3 Coordinate with Santa Clara Valley Water District, (SCVWD) FEMA, and/or the State Department of Water Resources to develop and distribute flood hazard preparedness educational information, including evacuation plans, for residents.

*E. Hazardous Materials*

A material is considered hazardous if it has been designated as such by a federal, State, or local agency, or if it has characteristics defined as hazardous by such an agency (see below). The Santa Clara County Fire District issues Hazardous Materials Permits to all businesses handling such materials in the Town. While these permits help track hazardous materials use in the Town,

this Element of the General Plan addresses broader issues related to hazards associated with hazardous materials.

### **1. Background Information**

The California Code of Regulations defines a hazardous material as a substance that, because of physical or chemical properties, quantity, concentration, or other characteristics, may cause either an increase in mortality or an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating illness; or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed of, or otherwise managed.

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) has the authority and responsibility to establish a unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management and regulatory program, commonly referred to as the Unified Program. The purpose of the Unified Program is to consolidate and coordinate six different hazardous materials and hazardous waste programs, and to ensure that they are consistently implemented throughout the State.

#### **a. Hazardous Sites**

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the SCVWD have identified hazardous sites and established programs for cleanup and prevention of further site contamination. The RWQCB tracks data about underground fuel tanks, fuel pipelines and public drinking water supplies. The RWQCB also tracks the cleanup progress of identified sites, and grants case closure when the cleanup has been adequately completed.

The Town is located within the Santa Clara Valley Groundwater Subbasin. Although a large number of Superfund sites are located within the Subbasin, there are few groundwater quality impacts from the chemical contamination on these sites. Overall, the SCVWD's groundwater protection programs have been effective in protecting the groundwater basin from contamination.

#### **b. Hazardous Materials Transport**

Transportation of hazardous materials and wastes is regulated by the California Code of Regulations, Title 26. The California Department of Transporta-

tion (DOT) is the primary regulatory authority for the interstate transport of hazardous materials and establishes safe handling procedures for packaging, marking, labeling, routing, etc. The California Highway Patrol and the DOT enforce federal and State regulations and respond to hazardous materials transportation emergencies. Emergency responses are coordinated as necessary between federal, State and local governmental authorities and private entities through a State-mandated Emergency Management Plan.

Major transportation routes within the Town include Highway 17 and Highway 85, surface streets and the Southern Pacific Railroad. These transportation routes are used to transport hazardous materials from suppliers to users. Transportation accidents involving hazardous materials could occur on any of the routes, potentially resulting in explosions, physical contact by emergency response personnel, environmental degradation and exposure to the public via airborne exposure.

c. Hazardous Waste Disposal

Landfills can have adverse impacts on surrounding properties, soils and the groundwater below the landfill. The adverse impacts associated with these facilities is related to the kind of materials disposed of in them, which can consist of both non-hazardous (Class III), hazardous waste (Class I), or a combination of both (Class II). The Guadalupe Landfill, a Class III facility serving the Town of Los Gatos, is located at 15999 Guadalupe Mines Road in the City of San Jose.

Santa Clara County has implemented a free household hazardous waste disposal program for paint, solvents, batteries and other common household hazardous materials. Convenient drop-off locations and times are offered throughout the County of Santa Clara. The nearest drop-off locations to the Town are located in the adjacent City of San Jose. Hazardous waste can also be disposed of at West Valley Collection and Recycling (WVCR). WVCR accepts common household wastes, as well as used motor oil and oil filters, aerosol cans and E-waste, which includes: batteries, televisions, computer equipment, and other electronic devices.

## 2. Goals, Policies, and Actions

<b>Goal SAF-5</b>	<b>To reduce the potential for injuries, damage to property, economic and social displacement, and loss of life resulting from hazards related to hazardous materials.</b>
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### Policies

- Policy SAF-5.1 Work with public agencies and private organizations to prevent the introduction of hazardous materials into the water and air supply.
- Policy SAF-5.2 Phase I site assessments shall be required for all sites where property is suspected of containing any toxins.
- Policy SAF-5.3 Support Santa Clara County Fire Department in monitoring the storage of hazardous materials.

### Actions

- Action SAF-5.1 Identify businesses within the Los Gatos area that use hazardous materials.
- Action SAF-5.2 Maintain an inventory of all businesses that store or use hazardous materials.

### *F. Emergency Response and Disaster Preparedness*

All communities must prepare for unexpected disasters. The Emergency Response and Disaster Preparedness section of this Element establishes policies which will aid the Town in preparing for, responding to and recovering from such unexpected events.

## 1. Background Information

The Town of Los Gatos adopted a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in March 2009. The EOP identifies the existing hazards within the Town, provides guidance and education on effective and skillful emergency response techniques, and ensures the most effective allocation of resources for protection of people and property in time of an emergency. The EOP includes the following topic areas:

- ◆ Earthquakes
- ◆ Wildfires
- ◆ Floods
- ◆ Dam failure
- ◆ Heat wave
- ◆ Public health hazards
- ◆ Hazardous materials
- ◆ Terrorism/weapons of mass destruction

The EOP is intended to help the Town prevent disasters where and when possible; reduce the vulnerability of residents to any disasters that cannot be prevented; establish capabilities for protecting citizens from the effects of disasters; respond effectively to the actual occurrence of disasters; and provide for recovery in the aftermath of any emergency involving extensive damage. In general, the EOP establishes emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies and general procedures, and provides for coordination of planning efforts of the various emergency staff and service elements utilizing the Standardized Emergency Management System.

The EOP identifies the Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as the location from which centralized emergency management would be performed during a major emergency or disaster, including receiving and disseminating information, maintaining contact with other EOCs and providing instructions to the public. The EOC is located at the Police Operations Building on Los Gatos Boulevard.

## 2. Goals, Policies, and Actions

<b>Goal SAF-6</b>	<b>To reduce the potential for injuries, damage to property, economic and social displacement, and loss of life resulting from emergencies.</b>
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**Policy**

Policy SAF-6.1 Maintain up-to-date preparedness and response plans for fire, flood, earthquake, hazardous materials, and other emergencies.

**Actions**

Action SAF-6.1 Adopt specific design criteria for street identification signs, including street names and numbers in rural areas, and change existing signs to comply.

Action SAF-6.2 Update as needed, communication tools to encourage disaster preparedness for neighborhoods, and make it available to all residents.

Action SAF-6.3 Regularly update the Town's Emergency Management Plan and make available to residents and businesses.

***G. Fire Protection Service***

In May of 1970, the Los Gatos Fire Department merged with the Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District. At the time of the merger, Los Gatos had 27 paid firefighters. The Central Fire Protection District was formed through the consolidation of numerous Fire Districts. Following these mergers, the Central Fire Protection District was renamed the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

**1. Background Information**

The Santa Clara County Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency response services to the Town of Los Gatos. The Town works with the Department to protect Town residents and property from injury and damage resulting from fire hazards. The Department is a California Fire Protection District serving more than 226,000 residents and approximately 100 square miles of territory within the communities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Saratoga,

and the adjacent unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County. The Santa Clara County Fire Department provides the following services:

- ◆ Fire suppression
- ◆ Emergency medical response
- ◆ Rescue activities
- ◆ Building plan review
- ◆ Code enforcement
- ◆ Hazardous materials regulation
- ◆ Fire and life safety inspections for new construction, commercial businesses, multi-family residential buildings, and schools
- ◆ Community preparedness program
- ◆ Emergency medical services
- ◆ Public education

The support services division maintains fire stations and other facilities, vehicles and fire apparatus, general supplies, and communications systems.

a. Operations Division

The Operations Division is comprised of four sections: Fire Suppression, Fire Investigation, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Hazardous Materials Response (Hazmat). Operations is also responsible for Rescues and the Special Operations Task Force. In the wake of terrorist events in the United States, the Department created the Special Operations Task Force (SOTF) to be better equipped and able to respond to major disasters, such as terrorist attacks and bomb threats, as well as incidents of a less intentional nature, such as natural disasters, confined space and collapse rescues, and hazmat incidents. The SOTF is comprised of the crews of Engine 2 and Hazmat 2 from Seven Springs station, Truck 5 from Winchester station, and Rescue 3 from Los Gatos station. While the department already had hazmat and rescue capabilities, the SOTF is designed to both extend and integrate these capabilities. The SOTF trains for technical rescue and body recovery at incidents involving hazardous and/or biological materials, as well as confined space or structure collapse rescues.

b. Fire Prevention Division

The Fire Prevention Division provides fire and life safety and hazardous materials inspection services for building construction, annual building inspection, and hazardous materials regulation. The Fire Prevention Division provides a comprehensive fire and life safety plan review for land development, new building construction, interior remodel projects, fire suppression and fire alarm systems. In addition, periodic construction inspections are performed to ensure that completed projects conform to both state and local fire safety regulations.

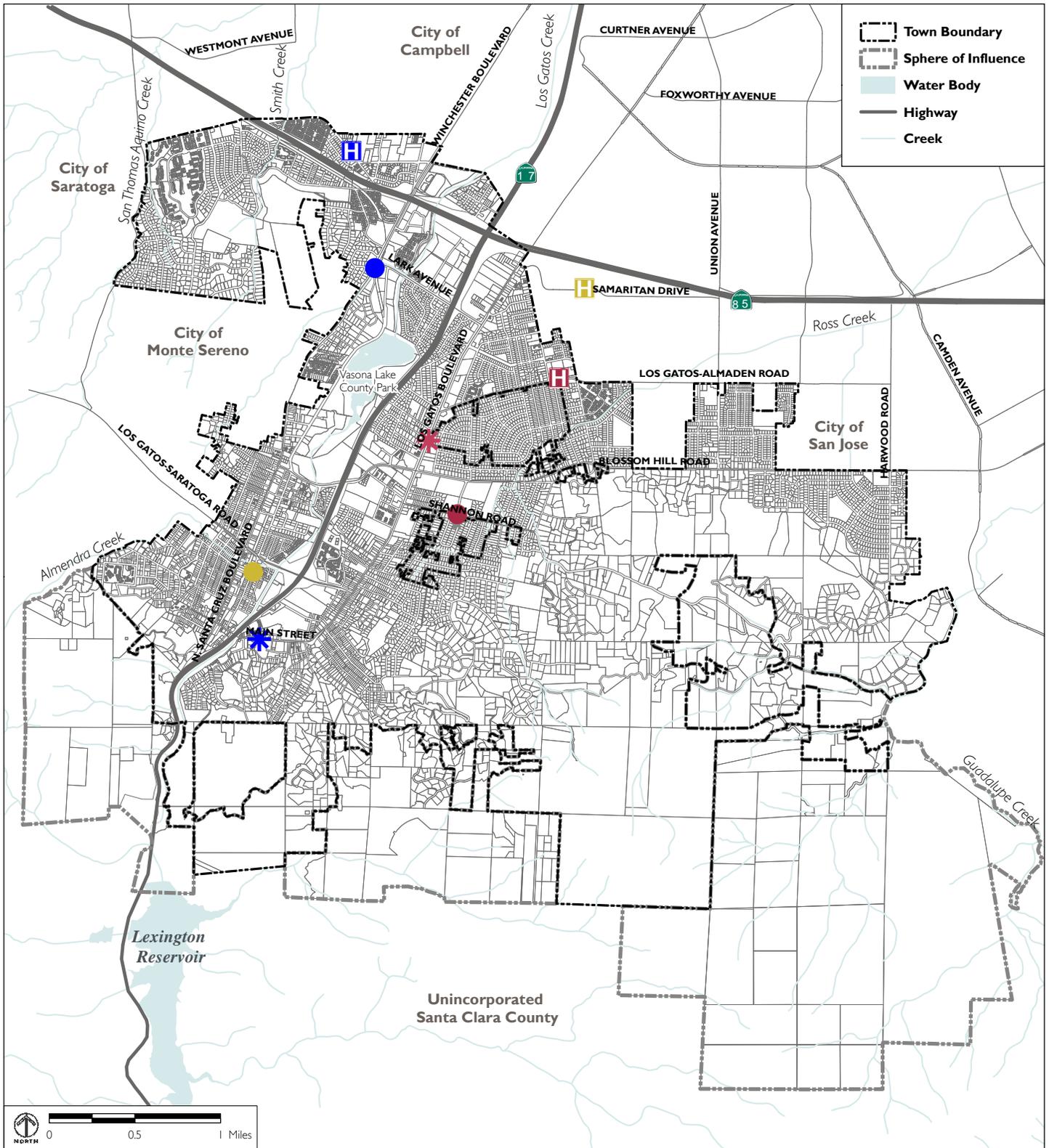
c. Public Education Program

The Santa Clara County Fire Department offers a comprehensive Public Fire and Life Safety Education Program. Under the direction of the Deputy Chief of Training, this program is managed by a staff of two full-time employees and is delivered through specially trained County Fire personnel. Public education programs and services include, but are not limited to, bicycle safety, CPR/First Aid, Carbon Monoxide Detectors, Disaster Preparedness and CERT Training, Fire and Life Safety Programs, Dealing with Heat, and Disabled, and Special Needs Services.

d. Facilities and Equipment

The Santa Clara County Fire Department has 17 fire stations, an administrative headquarters, a maintenance facility, and five other support facilities. Three fire stations are located within the Town of Los Gatos. These stations include the University, Winchester, and Shannon fire stations and are shown on Figure SAF-6. The Redwood and Quito stations located adjacent to Los Gatos also provide fire protection services to the Town.

Each station serving the Town provides emergency medical service (EMS), Advanced Life Support (ALS), and responds to all types of fires (wildland, structure, vehicle, etc).



Source: Town of Los Gatos, 2008.

- |                                    |                         |   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| El Camino Hospital                 | Winchester Fire Station | Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department Headquarters |
| Mission Oaks Hospital              | Shannon Fire Station    | Police Operations Building                            |
| Good Samaritan Hospital (San Jose) | Los Gatos Fire Station  |   |

FIGURE SAF-6

e. Service Standards

The Santa Clara County Fire Department has the following service standards:

- ◆ First unit shall arrive on scene in less than seven minutes from dispatch of alarm at least 90 percent of the time.
- ◆ Second unit shall arrive on scene in less than nine minutes from dispatch of alarm at least 90 percent of the time.
- ◆ Remaining units shall arrive on scene in less than 15 minutes from dispatch of alarm at least 90 percent of the time.
- ◆ A fire company with at least one paramedic shall arrive on scene in less than seven minutes from dispatch of alarm no less than 90 percent of the time.

2. Goals, Policies, and Actions

<b>Goal SAF-7</b>	<b>Provide adequate fire protection and emergency medical response services to Town residents.</b>
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**Policies**

- Policy SAF-7.1 Work with the Santa Clara County Fire Department to ensure that first response travel time is maintained and enhanced where possible.
- Policy SAF-7.2 Work with the Santa Clara County Fire Department to continue to increase the emergency response facilities and personnel necessary to meet residential and employment growth in the Town.
- Policy SAF-7.3 New development shall be required to incorporate adequate emergency water flow, fire resistant design and materials and evacuation routes.

Policy SAF-7.4 New development shall be accessible to emergency vehicles and shall not impede the ability of service providers to provide adequate emergency response.

<b>Goal SAF-8 Promote coordination between land use planning and fire protection.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-8.1 Build and require roadways that are adequate in terms of width, radius and grade to accommodate Santa Clara County Fire Department fire-fighting apparatus, while maintaining Los Gatos's neighborhoods and small-town character.

Policy SAF-8.2 Identify and mitigate fire hazards during the project review and approval process.

Policy SAF-8.3 New development shall satisfy fire flow and hydrant requirements and other fire-related design requirements as established by the Town and recommended by the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

Policy SAF-8.4 Encourage the installation of interior emergency sprinkler systems, fire-safe building materials, early warning systems and sufficient water supply systems for fire suppression in new development and remodels.

Policy SAF-8.5 Work with the Santa Clara County Fire Department to plan fire station locations to maintain or enhance current response levels.

Policy SAF-8.6 Identify and secure secondary emergency access in new and, when feasible, existing development in locations that are identified as Very High Fire Hazard Areas on the Town's Wildland Fire Severity Zone Map.

#### *H. Police Service*

Police protection for the Town of Los Gatos is provided by the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department. The Town is characterized as a relatively safe community with limited crime.

##### **1. Background Information**

The Los Gatos Police Department was established in 1926 and provides police protection services to the Town of Los Gatos. In 1995, the Town entered into a contract with the neighboring City of Monte Sereno to provide police protection services to this community. This ultimately resulted in renaming the Police Department the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department. The police department serves a combined population of approximately 35,000 residents, and even more when including the workforce of and visitors to Los Gatos. The department provides the following core services:

- ◆ Response to emergency and non-emergency calls for service from quality of life issues to property crimes and crimes against persons.
- ◆ Identification of criminal activity, including the thorough investigation and prosecution of crimes.
- ◆ Dispatch and records services.
- ◆ Recruiting, hiring and training of personnel.
- ◆ Crime prevention and community outreach.
- ◆ Traffic safety and enforcement, including safe routes to school, bike rodeos, helmet usage, and placement of radar trailers throughout the community.
- ◆ Maintenance of lost or stolen property, records, and criminal evidence.

- ◆ Community problem-solving and engagement.
- ◆ School Resource Officer services.
- ◆ Administration and fiscal management.

a. Facilities

The Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department has two primary locations in Los Gatos. The Town’s Civic Center complex serves as headquarters for police administration, records and dispatch. The new Police Operations building, which was completed in October 2009, houses police operations, including patrol operations, the investigations unit, and evidence storage. The operations captain, patrol sergeants, evidence technician and other support personnel are located at this site. The Police Operations building also houses a briefing room, training room, prisoner processing facility and Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The location of existing and proposed police facilities is shown in Figure SAF-6.

b. Service Standards

The Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department has a performance objective of “providing a safe environment through timely response and police assistance.” The department categorizes calls as Priority One, Priority Two, or Priority Three. Priority One calls involve either a serious emergency or public safety hazard. Priority Two calls are those that require immediate response, but are not an emergency. Priority Three calls are all non-emergency calls. While most calls responded to by the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department relate to incidences of vandalism, domestic disputes, theft and burglary, the department does receive and respond to crimes of violence, including robbery, sexual assault, violent assault, and murder.

2. Goals, Policies, and Actions

<b>Goal SAF-9</b>	<b>To reduce the potential for injuries, damage to property, economic and social displacement, and loss of life resulting from crime.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-9.1 Support the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department to maintain adequate police staffing, performance levels, and facilities that serve the Town's existing and future population.

Policy SAF-9.2 Pursue community policing and other crime prevention measures for increased public safety.

<b>Goal SAF-10 Promote coordination between land use planning and law enforcement.</b>
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**Policies**

Policy SAF-10.1 Emphasize the use of physical site planning as an effective means of preventing crime. Open spaces, landscaping, parking lots, parks, play areas and other public spaces shall be designed with maximum possible visual and aural exposure to community residents.

Policy SAF-10.2 Identify and mitigate law enforcement hazards during the project review and approval process.