



**NEVADA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**STAFF REPORT**

**APPLICANT:** Nevada County

**HEARING DATE:** January 9, 2020

**FILE NO:** PLN19-0064; GPT19-0002; EIS19-0005

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**PROJECT:** Recommendation to the Board of Supervisor for proposed amendments to the Nevada County General Plan Chapter 10, Safety Element.

**LOCATION:** Unincorporated area of Nevada County

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER:** N/A

**PROJECT PLANNER:** Sadie Caldas, Associate Planner

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Draft Board Resolution and Initial Study / Negative Declaration (EIS19-0005)
2. Draft Board Resolution and Safety Element Update (GPT19-0002)
3. Draft Safety Element with Track Changes
4. Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Assessment
5. Public and Agency Comments

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- I. Environmental Action: Recommend that the Board of Supervisors after reviewing and considering the proposed Negative Declaration, adopt the attached draft Resolution approving the proposed Negative Declaration (EIS19-0005), finding that the adoption reflects their independent judgment that the project will not result in a physical change to the environment (*Attachment 1*).
  - II. Project Action: Recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached draft Resolution approving the proposed amendments to the Nevada County General Plan Chapter 10, Safety Element update (GPT19-0002) (*Attachment 2*).
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**STAFF COMMENT:**

**Background**

According to *General Plan Guidelines* by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), the purpose of a general plan is to guide land use planning decisions. Land use projects, zoning ordinances and specific area plans are required to conform to the County's General Plan. State law requires that the general plan takes a long-term perspective, since it is a guide that may be in

place over several years and affects current and future generations. The Safety Element applies to all unincorporated areas of Nevada County that are governed by Nevada County, which includes privately-owned parcels in all zoning districts and General Plan designations. The project area excludes incorporated cities, and state and federal lands in Nevada County.

The last update to the Safety Element occurred in 2014. This update is required pursuant to Government Code Section 65302(g), upon the County's recent adoption of the Housing Element (2019) and the 2017 update to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (adopted in 2018). This code section has requirements for what a Safety Element must contain and when updates are required. The draft Safety Element has been prepared to meet the requirements of Government Code Section 65302(g).

### **Project Description**

The project being proposed is for an update to the General Plan's Safety Element (Chapter 10). The draft Safety Element is being presented to the Planning Commission for consideration and a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Safety Element addresses potential and existing hazards in the County, which are outlined in the following categories: Emergency Preparedness, Geological Hazards/Seismic Activity, Flood Hazards, Airport and Military Airspace Hazards, Hazardous Material and Mining Hazards, Public Safety Services and Facilities, Fire Hazards and Protection, and Severe Weather Hazards. Senate Bill 379 (approved in 2015) requires that the risks of climate change are identified in the Safety Element update, and Senate Bill 1000 (approved in 2016) requires that environmental justice policies and goals are integrated into elements of the General Plan. To comply with these requirements, two additional categories for Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation, and Environmental Justice have been added to the Safety Element. Throughout the rest of the Safety Element there have been several other revisions, to include but not limited to: 1) updating the data, information and references with more current sources; 2) incorporating additional language to comply with new and/or amended California State Laws; 3) revising policies where progress has been made or where changes in situations have occurred; and 4) incorporating the 2017 Local Hazards Mitigation Plan. With these updates, additional information on the following topics has been included: statutory requirements, land use influences, Nevada County evacuation notification categories, earthquakes, subsidence, dam failure, mining hazards, wildland fires, fire protection plans and programs, power outages, and severe weather hazards. The goals, policies and programs in the Safety Element have been updated to reflect the current discussion and hazards in the Safety Element revisions.

Among several sections that have been updated to include more relevant information, the draft Safety Element removed specific details and requirements that are in policies and regulations that can frequently change. By referencing these requirements instead of listing the specific details of the requirements, the Safety Element will maintain relevancy and can be utilized appropriately as a long-term policy guide. Specifically, there are several proposed revisions to the fire protection policies that include specific requirements of the Nevada County Defensible Space Standards. Instead of listing all of the defensible space requirements in the Safety Element, the draft has proposed policies that require application and enforcement of these regulations. Therefore, as fire safety standards are updated over time, the Safety Element will stay current with a reference to these regulations and it will not have policies that become outdated.

### **Relationship to Government Code Sections**

The following State of California Government Code Sections directly relate to the proposed Safety Element update:

- Section 65302(g) establishes the requirements of the contents of a Safety Element.
- Section 65302(g)(3) requires that upon the next revision of the Housing Element update on or after January 1, 2014, the Safety Element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address fire risks for land classified as state responsibility areas and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones.
- Section 65302(g)(4) requires that upon the next revision to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan on or after January 1, 2017, the Safety Element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies.
- Section 65302(g)(7) requires that the County consults with the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation and the Office of Emergency Services prior to revising the Safety Element.
- Section 65302(g)(8)(h)(1) requires that an environmental justice goals, policies and objectives are integrated into elements of the General Plan.
- Section 65302.5 requires that the draft Safety Element is submitted to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to review and provide recommendations. The section requires that the Board of Supervisors for the County shall consider the recommendations and communicate in writing to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection if any of the recommendations are not accepted. This section also requires that the draft Safety Element is submitted to the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation and that the legislative body shall consider the findings made by the division.
- Section 65302.6 authorizes counties to adopt a local hazard mitigation plan with its safety element.
- Section 65302(g)(5) requires that after this revision to the Safety Element, the Safety Element shall be reviewed upon each revision to the Housing Element or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, but not less than once every eight years.

### **Proposed Amendments**

The draft Safety Element and the attached version with track changes (Attachment 3) has all of the proposed revisions to the Safety Element. The list of proposed amendments below is a brief summary of revisions to each category in the Safety Element.

#### 1. Introduction and Setting

- Provided the purpose of the Safety Element and added Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation, and Environmental Justice to the list of categories.

2. Statutory Requirements

- This section has been added to the Safety Element to explain statutory requirements by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation.

3. Emergency Preparedness

- Land Use Influences – Discussion on Land Use Influences has been added.
- Emergency Plans and Guides – Hazards from the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) have been updated in the Emergency Plans and Guides discussion, along with minor text edits and the removal of expired information/dates.
- Emergency Notification System – Minor text edits and updated information.
- Evacuation Planning – Minor text edits and additional information on local roads.
- Nevada County Evacuation Notification Categories – This section was added to provide information on evacuation notification categories and rescue services.
- Policies – Several policy updates have been made.

4. Geological Hazards/Seismic Activity

- Avalanches – No changes.
- Landslides, Debris and Mud Flows – Minor text amendments and additional information on soil and infrastructure hazards have been included.
- Earthquakes – Updated this section to more current information.
- Subsidence – This section was added to discuss hazards from subsidence, with descriptions of areas that are more prone to risks, including mining sites, karst, and the drawdown of groundwater.
- Policies – Redundant and impractical policies were removed.

5. Flood Hazards

- Flooding – Minor text amendments and added information on frequency, causes of flooding, and impacts.
- Dam Failure – There have been several revisions to this section, including the categories for downstream hazard potential, a list of dams in Nevada County that have a hazard rating of high and extremely high, and discussion of additional laws and requirements in place after the failure of the Oroville Dam.
- Seiches – No changes.
- Policies – Slight text amendments to current policies and a policy has been added.

6. Airport Hazards

- Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan – Minor text amendments.
- Military Airspace Compatibility – No changes.
- Program – One program has been removed.

7. Hazardous Materials and Mining Hazards

- Minor text amendments and additional information on mining hazards.

- Policies – Text amendments have been made to existing policies and one policy has been added.
8. Public Safety Services and Facilities
- Policies and Programs – There have been text amendments to the policies in this section and the addition of two programs.
9. Fire Hazards and Protection
- Wildland Fires – There have been several revisions to this section in order to update information on hazards, causes of hazards and wildfire behavior. A figure on wildfire behavior has been added. References to past fires and the amount of damaged they caused have been removed. Discussion on the Bates Bill of 1992 and Hazard Severity Zones has been added. A list of vulnerabilities and discussion on power outages from public safety power shutoffs has been added, and outdated information has been removed.
  - Policies and Programs – There have been text amendments to existing policies and programs. New policies and programs have been added to this section and some have been combined. Outdated policies and programs have been removed.
10. Fire Safe Infrastructure
- Fire Safe Circulation – Minor text amendments and updated information.
  - Roadside Vegetation Management – Minor text amendments and updated information.
  - Emergency Water Storage – Included statement on maintenance of facilities.
  - Critical Facilities and Populations at Risk – This section has been added. A list of facilities that provide services has been included.
  - Fire Agencies and Support Organizations – Information was clarified and discussion of the Interagency Wildfire Air Attack Base, the White Cloud Helitack base, the Washington Ridge Conservation Camp, and the Fire Safe Council has been included.
  - Fire Protection Regulations – Minor text amendments.
11. Fire Protection Plans and Programs
- Federal and State Plans – Minor text amendments have been made and references to the current LHMP.
  - Community/Area Plans – Section has been removed.
  - Fire Prevention Programs – Section has been removed.
12. Severe Weather Hazards
- Wind, Lightning, Snow (Blizzards), Freezing, Heavy Rain, Drought – Several revisions to this section have been made to add current information and more detail on these hazards. Drought was added as a severe weather hazard and discussion on impacts from drought (ecosystems, agriculture, water levels, wetlands, fires, tree health) have been included. A list of incidents from 1960 to 2013 was removed.
  - Policies and Programs – An existing program has been turned into a policy.

### 13. Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation

- This category has been added to the Safety Element with discussion on how climate change and its impacts may exacerbate natural hazards, such as drought and food production, water supply, flooding, wildfire, landslides/mudflows, pests and agricultural operations.
- Policies – Policies have been added to this section to address and mitigate climate change impacts.

### 14. Environmental Justice and Vulnerable Populations

- This category has been added to the Safety Element, which includes discussion on principles of fairness, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income in the development of laws and regulations that affect every community's natural surroundings and the places that people live and work. This category discusses how vulnerable populations and communities can be impacted by land use patterns, such as inequitable exposure to pollutants, or the ability to prepare and recover from hazardous events.
- Policies – Policies have been added to this section to reduce the exposure of safety risks and increase preparedness for all populations and communities in Nevada County.

### 15. List of Acronyms

- The list of acronyms has been removed. Acronyms are identified throughout the Safety Element.

## **AGENCY REVIEW AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Planning Department staff started consultation on the Safety Element update in July 2018. The County sent local Native American tribes a request for consultation letter, pursuant to Senate Bill 18 (Burton) and Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto) in July 2018. Subsequently, Staff started consultation with local fire districts, the Community Development Agency (CDA) Departments, the County Office of Emergency Services, and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to collect feedback and start making revisions to the draft Safety Element. An updated draft of the Safety Element was completed and a letter requesting comments was distributed on October 4, 2019, to all agencies, homeowner associations, and special interest groups on the Planning Departments distribution list. In all, the request for comments was sent to 280 agencies, departments or groups. A hard copy of the draft was sent to the local public libraries and was available at the Planning Department and the Board of Supervisor's office for review. A draft of the Safety Element was also posted to the Planning Department's webpage for review. A discussion of the review by the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, and agency/public comments that the Planning Department received are outlined below, with staff comments in *italics*.

### California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection:

Due to the requirements in Government Code Section 65302.5, the draft Safety Element was sent to the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection on October 15, 2019, with a request for review. The draft Safety Element was reviewed by the Board of Forestry on November 5, 2019. The review includes an assessment to determine if the Safety Element meets the fire safety

planning requirements that are outlined in Section 65302. The assessment determined that the Safety Element update is adequate for meeting fire safety planning requirements with a few recommendations. The Board of Forestry's recommendations, along with Staff's discussion in *italics* are below:

- Recommend having local ordinances that meet or exceed Fire Safe Regulations and Certified by the Board of Forestry.

*This is currently underway by the County. Updated ordinances to meet Fire Safe Regulations were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors on December 16, 2019, and are anticipated to be reviewed by the Board for adoption in January 2020.*

- Recommend identifying a policy that requires fuel modification around homes and new subdivisions for new development.

*The County has already adopted an ordinance to require a fuel modification zone or greenbelt along all or some subdivision exterior boundaries. This is required in Nevada County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC), Section L-XVI 5.3.*

- Recommend adopting the County's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Safety Element.

*The Board of Supervisors adopted the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) on July 10, 2018, by Resolution 18-361. The LHMP has been incorporated into the Safety Element with this update and a resolution (Attachment 2) is being proposed to adopt LHMP into the Safety Element.*

- Recommend formally adopting the Hazard maps (Fire Hazard Severity Zones) by local ordinance.

*The County LUDC references the Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps and has standards based on severity zones. The severity zone maps were developed by Cal Fire in 2007. Cal Fire is working to publish a current version of the maps. Upon the State's adoption of a current version of the maps, the County Fire Planner intends to bring the updated maps to the Board of Supervisors to propose adoption.*

Cal OES (Governor's Office of Emergency Services):

- Cal OES commented that the language in the draft Safety Element meets the requirements to comply with AB 2140, which would allow the County to be considered for California Disaster Assistance Act funding.

California Geological Survey:

- Government Code Section 65302(g)(7) requires that the County consults with the California Geological Survey for Safety Element updates. Staff consulted with this agency and received comments regarding minor edits to the Geological Hazards section.

*All recommendations have been included in the revisions to the Safety Element.*

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans):

- Caltrans provided comments advising Nevada County to work with Caltrans on Climate Adaption efforts and climate risks where State Highway facilities and services would become resources.

*Based on these comments, Staff added Policy CC-10.13.5 for the County to work with State agencies on adaptation strategies to address climate change.*

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC):

- DTSC recommended that the Safety Element should include acid mine drainage in the discussion.

*Staff included discussion of acid mine drainage in the mining section of the Hazardous Materials and Mining Hazards category.*

Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC)

- NCTC provided comments stating that the policies in the draft Safety Element are consistent with the Nevada County Land Use Compatibility Plan and the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

Nevada County Information & General Services Agency (IGS)

This agency provided several comments, which are outlined below:

- IGS commented on two policies (FP-10.9.2 and FP-10.9.3) and two programs (Program FP-10.11.2 and FP-10.11.3) that should include the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services (OES).

*These policies and programs have been revised to include OES.*

- Pursue affordable residential green waste disposal opportunities/programs for the community. This is currently a barrier to more residential parcel vegetation management.

*Staff added Policy FP-10.10.5 for the County to be supportive of programs for residential green waste disposal opportunities to encourage vegetation management.*

- Working with the State, address homeowner fire insurance challenges.

*Staff added language to Policy FP-10.9.6, to include that obtaining recognition for fire safety programs may help with fire insurance challenges. Policies in the Safety Element are meant to be a guide to reduce short and long-term loss of life, injuries and damage to property from natural and human caused public safety hazards, but it would not include policies that are directed toward insurance challenges.*



- Working with OES and the Fire Safe Council, support and promote existing and new Firewise communities.

*The Safety Element has a policy (FP-10.9.4) to support and encourage communities to become certified under the Firewise Communities certification program.*

- The County needs to perform traffic analysis in combination with a fire/heat analysis to determine if there are issues with County roads that are designated as primary and secondary egress routes for evacuations, and mitigation plans should be developed to address high risk egress routes.

*There are several policies in the category for Emergency Preparedness that relate to evacuation routes. Policy EP-10.1.4 is to provide for adequate evacuation routes in areas of a high fire hazard, and Policy EP-10.1.8 is to support the development and maintenance of Countywide and local emergency evacuation plans. The policies in the Safety Element are supportive of developing evacuation plans.*

#### The Sierra Fund:

- The Sierra Fund commented on mining impacts, climate change and environmental justice. The Sierra Fund suggested that information about fish consumption advisories, water quality contamination from hydraulic mining, and smoke as another impact on climate change should be included in the Safety Element. The Sierra Fund also discussed that the California Department of Water Resources identified the City as Grass Valley as a disadvantaged community.

*Staff added discussion in the mining section of the Safety Element on hydraulic mining impacts and potential human health threats from exposure of contaminants and through consumption. Staff also included smoke as an impact to air quality in the Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation section.*

#### Nevada County Climate Action Now and Community Environmental Advocates (CEA) Foundation:

Staff received comments from these groups regarding fire protection, climate change resiliency and mitigation, environmental justice, the Energy Action Plan, and building codes. A summary of each category is discussed below:

- Fire Protection – Recommendations were made to no longer permit construction in fire-prone areas unless buildings are off grid or services by underground utilities; the County should ensure that all facilities will remain available during a shutdown; and that the County should add battery storage to the County solar system, and could use battery power for facilities to be a place for residents to gather information and charge devices.

*The General Plan identifies low density development in rural areas where there is a high fire risk. The Safety Element is meant to identify hazards in the County and does*

*not change density. Any future subdivisions or development projects requiring land use permits would have a site-specific analysis, which may require mitigation to reduce any potential impacts.*

*Discussion regarding public safety power shutoff (PSPS) events has been included in the Safety Element revisions. Policy FP-10.9.7 has also been added to support viable plans for resources during PSPS events.*

- Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation – Comments regarding climate change were that two of the policies (CC-10.13.3 and CC-10.13.4) in the Safety Element that discuss climate change and analysis, but do not include implementation or guidelines.

*Staff revised these policies to add that mitigation measures shall be implemented as feasible and that new projects shall reduce or limit impacts as feasible.*

- Environmental Justice – Comments to this section were regarding impacts from PSPS events.

*Staff included all impacts listed in this comment into the discussion of PSPS events in the Safety Element, and Policy FP-10.9.7 has also been added to support viable plans for resources during PSPS events.*

- Energy Action Plan (EAP) – Comments were to incorporate the strategies from the EAP into the Safety Element.

*Staff added discussion of the EAP in the Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation category of the Safety Element. Policy CC-10.13.6 was added to the Safety Element, identifying that the EAP shall be implemented through the support and collaboration of working groups. Program CC-10.13.1 was also added for the County to research funding, financing and partnership opportunities that would offset costs for energy efficiency appliances and infrastructure.*

- Building Codes (reach codes) – Comments requested that the County considers a “reach” code ordinance, which would adopt requirements for building codes beyond State building codes and regulations. Some of the specific recommendations were prohibiting natural gas infrastructure (with exceptions), requiring new multi-family buildings to have seventy percent (70%) electric vehicle capable spaces, tax reductions, and reduced parking in exchange for electric vehicle supply equipment being included. Comments also requested research for funding, financing and partnership opportunities to offset costs for energy efficient appliances and infrastructure.

*The LUDC Chapter V: Buildings has requirements for electric vehicle charging stations, with the purpose to implement an expedited permitting process to achieve timely cost-effective charging stations. Revisions to specific building codes and requirements would be made in the LUDC or in the California Building Code. Program CC-10.13.1 was added to the Safety Element for the County to research*

*funding, financing and partnership opportunities that would offset costs for energy efficiency appliances and infrastructure.*

#### Shingle Springs Band of the Miwok Indians

- The Tribe requested continued consultation through updates as the project progresses.

*The Tribe was sent the Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt the proposed negative declaration for the Safety Element update. The Tribe will also be notified of the Planning Commission hearing on January 9, 2020. No additional comments have been received since the request for consultation.*

#### United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC)

- The UAIC sent comments regarding how hazardous events impact cultural resources and the Tribe referenced a document with information on these hazards and protecting cultural resources. Specifically, the Tribe discussed impacts from wildfires and floods. The UAIC also requested that the environmental documents are sent to the Tribe.

*The Safety Element already has discussion regarding losses from fires, which includes cultural resources. Staff added discussion to the Flood Hazard category regarding losses to cultural resources from flooding. The General Plan, Chapter 19, has an Element on Cultural Resources to discuss preservation and protection of cultural resources. This project is only to update the Safety Element and it does not include amendments to the Cultural Resources Element. The Tribe was sent the Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt the proposed negative declaration for the Safety Element update. The Tribe will also be notified of the Planning Commission hearing on January 9, 2020. No additional comments have been received from the UAIC.*

#### Planning Commissioner Rich Johansen

- Commissioner Johansen commented that the Safety Element did not include discussion on drought, ground water sustainability, and food security.

*Staff added drought as a section in the category for Severe Weather Hazards. This section has been revised to discuss water levels, and impacts on agriculture and food-production costs. Discussion was also added to the Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation category to discuss drought, ground water, and food security, and these topics were added to the list of impacts from climate change. Policy CC-10.13.4 was updated to require that new discretionary development includes an analysis of affects to climate change and water resources. Policy CC-10.13.3 has been included with this update to identify strategies and mitigation measures to reduce climate change and risks of natural disasters, such as drought and severe weather events.*

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

The changes which are proposed to the Safety Element are strictly policy document text amendments only. The adoption of the proposed Safety Element updates would not grant any land use entitlements for development projects, and it would not cause any physical changes. Therefore, the proposed update to the Safety Element is not anticipated to create significant

impacts to environmental resources. The Nevada County Planning Department has prepared a draft initial study/negative declaration (ND) for the proposed project that was circulated for a 30-day public comment between December 6, 2019, and January 6, 2020 (Attachment 1). The Notice of Availability (NOA) was sent to all agencies, homeowner associations and special interest groups on the Planning Departments distribution list. Additionally, the initial study and proposed negative declaration were sent to the State Clearinghouse for review by the responsible state agencies, and notices for the initial study and the proposed negative declaration were posted in *The Union* and the *Sierra Sun*. As of the writing of this staff report (December 23, 2019), no written comments on the initial study/negative declaration have been received.

**SUMMARY:**

State law requires that the Safety Element is updated because of the recent updates to the Housing Element and the adoption of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. To comply with State law, two categories for Climate Change Resiliency and Mitigation and Environmental Justice have been included in the draft Safety Element. Staff has worked with local fire districts, the Office of Emergency Services (OES), County departments and agencies, and several other groups to ensure that the Safety Element has the most current information and Goals, Policies and Programs to address short and long-term hazards in Nevada County. The updated 2017 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) has been incorporated into the draft Safety Element and all of the required agencies, including the California Board of Forestry, California Geological Survey, and Cal OES have reviewed the draft Safety Element. With the removal of outdated regulations and by referencing current regulations, the Safety Element will maintain relevancy and can be utilized appropriately as a long-term policy guide. Upon approval of this update, the Safety Element will not be required by State law to be reviewed again until the next update to the Housing Element or LHMP, but not less than once every eight years.

With the collaboration of multiple departments, agencies and interest groups, and in compliance with State laws, Staff recommends that the Planning Commission: 1) recommend that the Negative Declaration (EIS19-0005) is an adequate environmental review for the Safety Element update pursuant to Sections 15074 of the CEQA Guidelines; and 2) make a favorable recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for the approval of the Safety Element update, as outlined in the recommended actions below.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Planning Commission take the following actions:

- I. **Environmental Action:** Recommend that the Board of Supervisors after reviewing and considering the proposed Negative Declaration, adopt the attached draft Resolution approving the proposed Negative Declaration (EIS19-0005), finding that the adoption reflects their independent judgment and that the project will not result in a physical change to the environment (*Attachment 1*).
- II. **Project Action:** Recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached draft Resolution approving the proposed amendments to the Nevada County General Plan Chapter 10, Safety Element update (GPT19-0002), finding that amendment is consistent

with the General Plan and will not be detrimental to public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the County (*Attachment 2*).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Foss", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Foss, Director of Planning