



## KINGS COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### KINGS COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PUBLIC WORKSHOP

HANFORD - Kings County in collaboration with the cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford, and Lemoore is updating the 2012 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). This planning process involves the development of hazard mitigation strategies designed to reduce risks and vulnerabilities posed by natural, man-made, and human health hazards. The plan must be updated and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) every five years to keep it current and to maintain eligibility for federal and state mitigation grant assistance. The plan is currently being updated as a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) in coordination with the four participating jurisdictions and under the guidance of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC).

The people who live and work in Kings County are vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including drought, climate change, earthquakes, extreme heat, flooding, and severe weather. The MJHMP will provide the County with valuable tools to identify risks and mitigate hazards through future project-specific actions. Hazard mitigation is an investment in the County's future safety, sustainability, and resiliency and results in less vulnerable conditions through pre- and post-disaster actions, projects, and adaptation strategies. The implementation of hazard mitigation actions means building stronger, safer, and smarter communities that will be able to withstand future impacts and damages.

Residents, organizations, businesses, and interested stakeholders are encouraged to contribute to the planning process. Broad public participation is an essential strategy for developing an updated and multi-jurisdictional plan that will be effective, supported by County residents, and ultimately implemented. The Public Workshops will be an opportunity to get involved and learn more about the planning process and the hazards the County, participating jurisdictions, and HMPC plan to assess in the MJHMP. Information on how to participate is provided below:

- Virtual Public Workshop – Thursday February, 9, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00 PM
  - The meeting can be accessed virtually here: <https://bit.ly/3l6McXJ>
  - [Click here to join the meeting, \(866\) 670-1764,,625914223#, Password: 625 914 223#](#)
- In-Person Public Workshop – Thursday February 16, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00 PM
  - Emergency Operations Center, 330 Campus Dr. Hanford, CA 93230,
- A Public Survey is available in English and Spanish: <https://forms.office.com/r/rY9yP5Tp3k>.

Questions may be directed to Abraham Valencia, Kings County OES Manager by calling (559) 852-2883.