

General Plan Amendment

# **OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION NOISE AND SAFETY ELEMENTS**

# Project Description

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- Update to the Open Space and Conservation and Noise and Safety Elements of the General Plan
- Address flooding, dam inundation, groundwater recharge, fire protection, and stormwater management

# Open Space and Conservation Element Changes

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- Groundwater recharge:

Hydrologic process where water moves downward from surface water and infiltrates into the ground

OSC-I-6:

*Protect groundwater recharge areas, particularly creeks and riparian corridors. Identify and protect other groundwater recharge areas.*

- Creeks and riparian habitat

# Noise and Safety Element Changes

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- Identify all flood hazard zones including dam inundation areas

NS-A-5:

*Locate essential public facilities, such as hospitals and clinics, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, outside of high fire risk areas, flood hazard zones, and areas subject to dam inundation.*

# Noise and Safety Element Changes

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- Stormwater management policies
- Fire hazards
  - Updated maps depict Wildland Urban Interface zone
  - Building and fire code requirements

# General Plan Amendment Criteria Required Findings

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- The proposed amendment ensures and maintains internal consistency with the goals and policies of all elements of the General Plan.
- The proposed amendment would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the City.

# General Plan Amendment Criteria Required Findings

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- The site is physically suitable (including absence of physical constraints, access, compatibility with adjoining land uses, and provision of utilities) for the requested/anticipated land use developments; and
- The proposed project has been reviewed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

# Agency and Public Review

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- City departments
- Local fire departments
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- California Geological Survey



# Agency and Public Review

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- Planning Commission
- State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

# Recommendation

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- It is recommended by the Department of Community Development and the Planning Commission that the Council approve the General Plan Amendment to update the Open Space and Conservation and Noise and Safety Elements as identified in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2, as amended by Attachment 3.

Figure 12-4

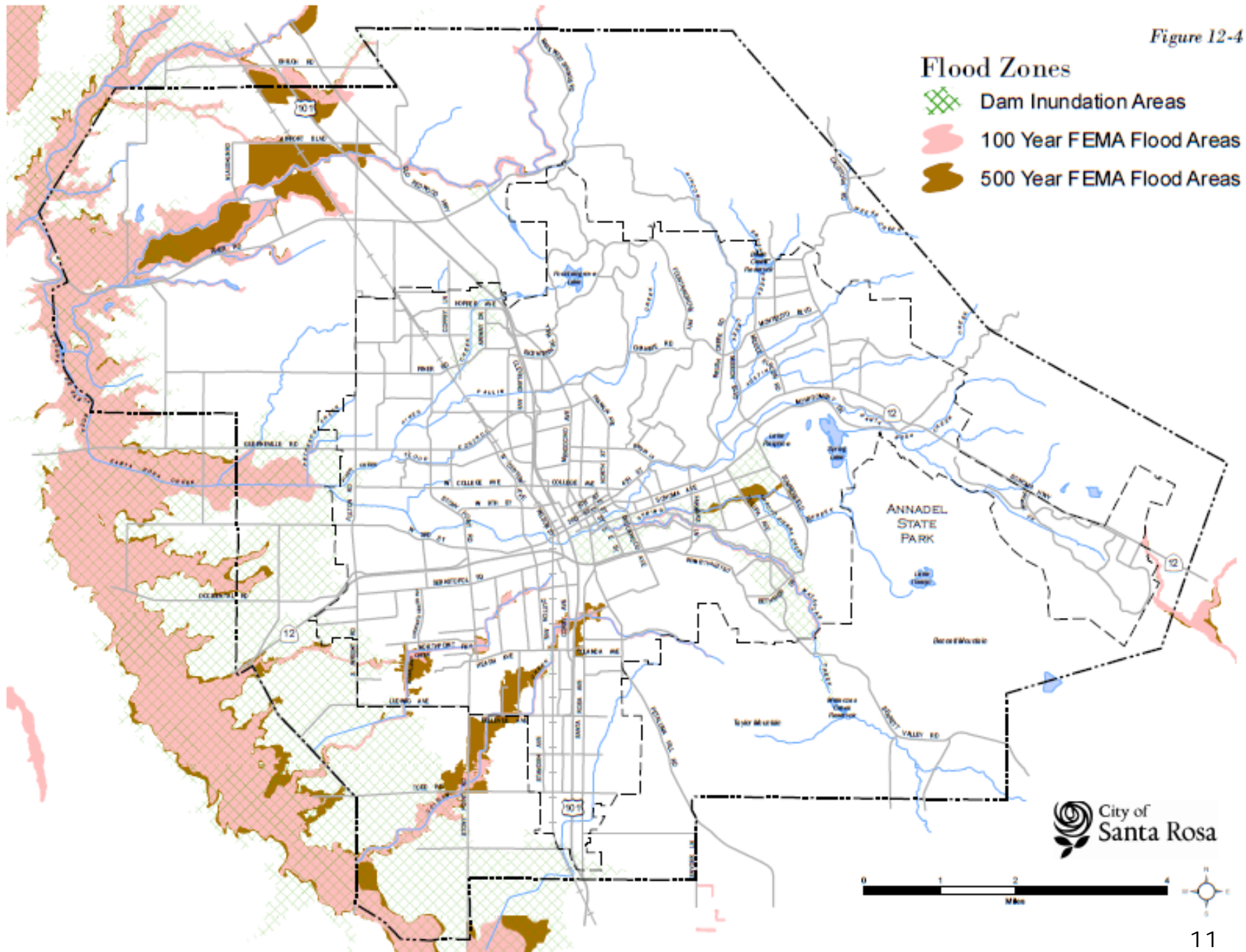
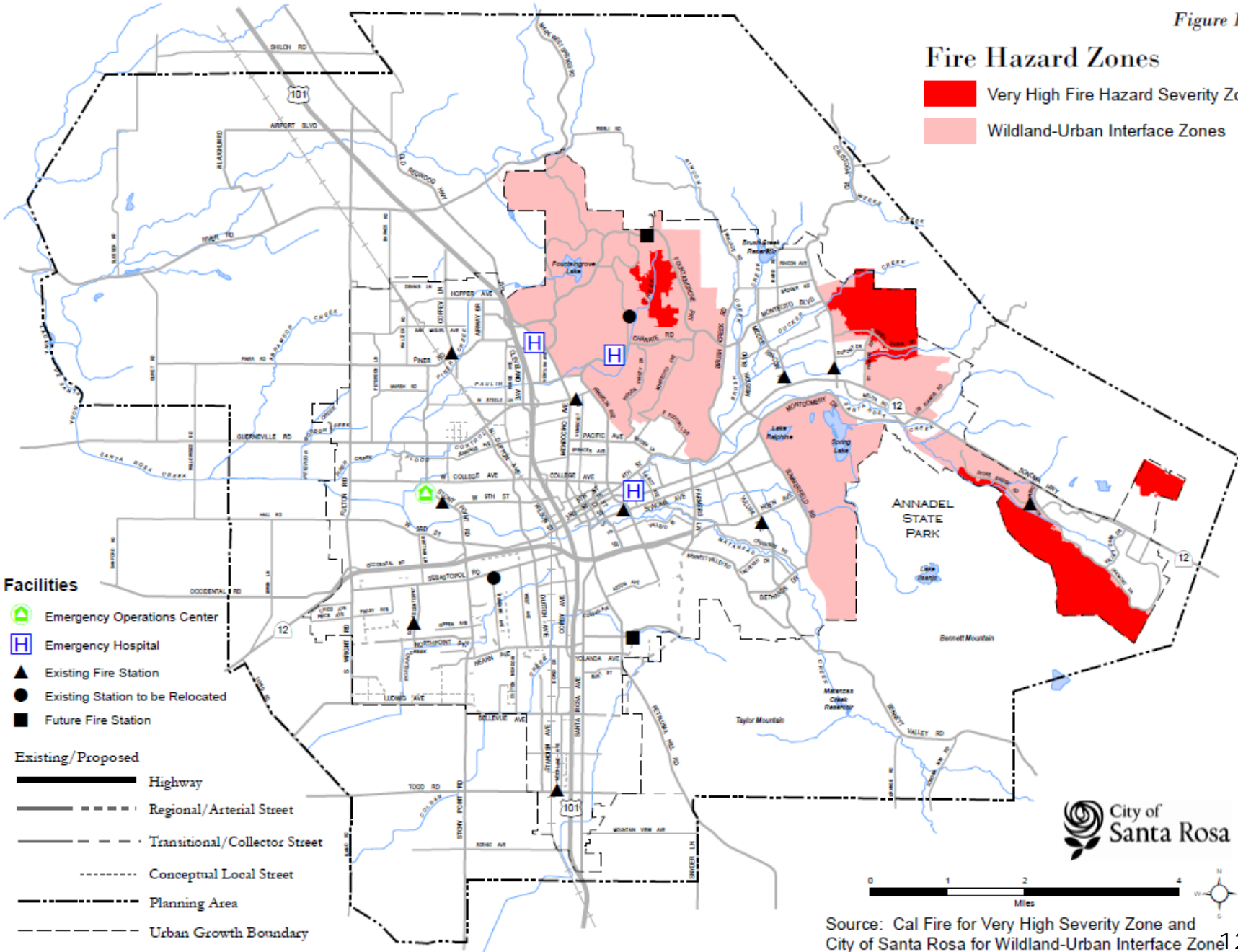


Figure 12-5

### Fire Hazard Zones

- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones
- Wildland-Urban Interface Zones



Source: Cal Fire for Very High Severity Zone and City of Santa Rosa for Wildland-Urban Interface Zone