City of Gold Hill Addendum to the Jackson County NHMP







Photos courtesy of Oregon State Archives

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Prepared for City of Gold Hill 420 6th Avenue Gold Hill, OR 97525

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Introduction

Purpose

This is the first iteration of the Gold Hill addendum to the Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (MNHMP, NHMP). This addendum supplements information contained in Volume I (Basic Plan), which serves as the NHMP foundation and Volume II (Appendices), which provide additional information. This addendum meets the following requirements:

- Multi-Jurisdictional **Plan Adoption** §201.6(c)(5),
- Multi-Jurisdictional **Participation** §201.6(a)(3),
- Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Strategy §201.6(c)(3)(iv) and
- Multi-Jurisdictional **Risk Assessment** §201.6(c)(2)(iii).

Gold Hill adopted their addendum to the Jackson County Multi-jurisdictional NHMP on [date], 2023. FEMA Region X approved the Jackson County NHMP on [date], 2023 and the City's addendum on [date], 2023. With approval of this NHMP, the City is now eligible for non-disaster and disaster mitigation project grants through [date-1], 2028.

NHMP Process, Participation and Adoption

This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(c)(5), *Plan Adoption* and 44 CFR 201.6(a)(3), *Participation*.

In addition to establishing a comprehensive city level mitigation strategy, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K), and the regulations contained in Title 44 CFR Part 201, require that jurisdictions maintain an approved NHMP to receive federal funds for mitigation projects. Local adoption, and federal approval of this NHMP ensures that the city will gain eligiblility for non-disaster and disaster mitigation project grants.

The Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience (OPDR) at the University of Oregon's Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) partnered with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM), Jackson County, and Gold Hill to develop this NHMP. This project is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Members of the Gold Hill NHMP steering committee also participated in the County NHMP update process (Volume II, Appendix B).

By creating a NHMP, locally adopting it, and having it approved by FEMA, Gold Hill will gain eligibility for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program funds.

The Jackson County NHMP and Gold Hill addendum are the result of a collaborative effort between residents, public agencies, non-profit organizations, the private sector, and regional organizations. A project steering committee guided the process of developing the NHMP.

Convener and Committee

The City Manager served as the designated convener of the NHMP development and will take the lead in implementing, maintaining, and updating the addendum to the Jackson County NHMP in collaboration with the designated convener of the Jackson County NHMP (Emergency Manager).

Representatives from the City of Gold Hill steering committee met formally and informally, to discuss development of their addendum (Volume II, Appendix B). The steering committee reviewed and developed the City's addendum, with particular focus on the NHMP's risk assessment (hazards, community vulnerabilities, and capabilities) and mitigation strategy (action items).

The addendum reflects decisions made at the designated meetings and during subsequent work and communication with Jackson County Emergency Management and the OPDR.

The Gold Hill Steering Committee was comprised of the following representatives:

- Convener, Bill Landis, City Manager
- Ronald Palmer, Mayor
- Janet Wilson, Council President

The steering committee was closely involved throughout the development of the NHMP and served as the local oversight body for the NHMP's development.

NHMP Implementation and Maintenance

The City Council will be responsible for adopting the Gold Hill addendum to the Jackson County NHMP. This addendum designates a Steering Committee and a convener to oversee the development and implementation of action items. Because the City addendum is part of the County's multi-jurisdictional NHMP, the City will look for opportunities to partner with the County. The City's steering committee will convene after adoption of the Gold Hill NHMP addendum on an annual schedule. The County is meeting on a semi-annual basis and will provide opportunities for the cities to report on NHMP implementation and maintenance during their meetings. The City Manager will serve as the convener and will be responsible for assembling the steering committee.

The steering committee will be responsible for:

- Reviewing existing action items to determine suitability of funding;
- Reviewing existing and new risk assessment data to identify issues that may not have been identified at NHMP creation;
- Educating and training new steering committee members on the NHMP and mitigation actions in general;
- Assisting in the development of funding proposals for priority action items;
- Discussing methods for continued public involvement;

- Evaluating effectiveness of the NHMP at achieving its purpose and goals (use Table 4-1, Volume I, Section 4, as one tool to help measure effectiveness); and
- Documenting successes and lessons learned during the year.

The convener will also remain active in the County's implementation and maintenance process (Volume I, Section 4).

The steering committee will be responsible for activities outlined in Volume I, Section 4.

The City will utilize the same action item prioritization process as the County (Volume I, Section 4 and Volume II, Appendix D).

Implementation through Existing Programs

Many of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan's recommendations are consistent with the goals and objectives of the City's existing plans and policies. Where possible, Gold Hill will implement the NHMP's recommended actions through existing plans and policies. Plans and policies already in existence have support from residents, businesses, and policy makers. Many land-use, comprehensive, and strategic plans get updated regularly, allowing them to adapt to changing conditions and needs. Implementing the NHMP's action items through such plans and policies increases their likelihood of being supported and implemented.

Gold Hill' acknowledged comprehensive plan is the City of Gold Hill Comprehensive Plan. The City implements the plan through the Community Development Code.

Gold Hill currently has the following plans that relate to natural hazard mitigation. For a complete list visit the City's website.

- Comprehensive Plan
- Community Development Code
- Water System Master Plan
- <u>Building Codes and Standards</u>: <u>Oregon Structural Specialty Code</u> (Commercial) and <u>Oregon Residential Specialty Code</u>.

During the development of this NHMP City plans including the comprehensive land use, transportation/roads, water, and stormwater plans were reviewed to identify possible natural hazard mitigation strategies (action items).

Expand and Improve Capabilities and Integration Process

Funding and staff resource availability is the primary constraint to achieving natural hazard mitigation priorities. As such the City has identified actions (Table GA-1) that seek to expand and improve capabilities to achieve natural hazard mitigation.

In addition, the City will seek opportunities to integrate the plan's data, information, and hazard mitigation goals and actions into other planning mechanisms (e.g., budgets, ordinances, comprehensive plan, water, wastewater, and transportation system plans). See Volume I, Section 4 for additional information.

Mitigation Strategy

This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3(iv), Mitigation Strategy.

The City's mitigation strategy (action items) was developed during the 2023 NHMP planning process. The steering committee assessed the City's risk, identified potential issues, and developed a mitigation strategy (action items). The City developed actions specific to their community after first reviewing a list of recommended actions developed by the County or recommended by OPDR.

Mitigation Successes

Gold Hill has several examples of hazard mitigation including the following projects funded through FEMA <u>Hazard Mitigation Assistance</u> and the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority's <u>Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program</u>¹.

FEMA Funded Mitigation Successes

• None to date

Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program Mitigation Successes

None to date

Other Mitigation Successes

OSFM Grant for Wildfire Fuels mitigation with work beginning in 2024 through 2025

Action Items

Table GA-1 documents the title of each action along with, the lead organization, partners, timeline, cost, and potential funding resources.

¹ The Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP) is a state of Oregon competitive grant program that provides funding for the seismic rehabilitation of critical public buildings, particularly public schools, and emergency services facilities.



Table GA-1 Action Items

| Action Item # | Mitigation Actions | Potential Funding Resources | Lead | Partners | Timeline | Cost |
|------------------|--|--|------------------------|--|----------|------|
| Multi-Ha | zard | | | | <u> </u> | |
| 1.1 | Sustain a public awareness and education campaign about natural hazards through ongoing written and online communications. | General Fund, FEMA, DLCD | City Administration | County Emergency Management, FEMA, OEM, NWS, ODOT, CERT, RVCOG Utilities | Ο | L |
| 1.2 | Use hazard information from the updated Jackson County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as a basis for City ordinances and regulations that govern site-specific land use decisions. | General Fund, FEMA, DLCD TA | City Administration | County Emergency Management, FEMA, OEM | 0 | L |
| 1.3 | Encourage public and private property owners and owners of infrastructure, particularly local businesses, through written and online communications to undertake risk assessments for their facilities and implement mitigation measures when necessary. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Utility Partners | 0 | L |
| 1.4 | Consider the need for ingress and egress for evacuations during the land use process through enforcement of current Code and referrals from the Fire District and adjacent jurisdictions. | FEMA, ODOT, Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3 | 0 | L |
| 1.5 | Collaborate with neighboring cities, Fire Districts #1 and #3, and other partners on efforts in addressing NHMP priorities. | FEMA, OEM, Local Funding Resources | City Administration | Jackson County, Neighboring Jurisdictions, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3 | 0 | L |
| 1.6 | Sustain an education and outreach program to local business owners to promote a disaster-resilient local economy. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3, Chamber of Commerce | 0 | L |

| Action Item # | Mitigation Actions | Potential Funding Resources | Lead | Partners | Timeline | Cost |
|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|----------|------|
| 1.7 | Partner with other stakeholders to conduct analysis to determine inequitable barriers and/or effective incentives to advance resiliency of all hazard classes upon vulnerable populations. | FEMA, DLCD, HUD, Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County Emergency Management | M | L |
| 1.8 | Coordinate the establishment and publication of evacuation routes with Jackson County and other cities. Any new evacuation plan should focus on the bridges along I-5, OR-99, and OR-234 that would be key to ingress/egress during a natural hazard event. | FEMA, ODOT, Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3, ODOT | M | Ł |
| Air Quali | ty | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Explore installing envelope-sealing, air filtering, and other improvements for indoor air quality in critical facilities (e.g., schools) to function as air quality shelters. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | School District, Churches, Chamber of Commerce | M | L |
| Drought | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Improve water supply monitoring by replace outdated water meters and regularly checking for leaks to minimize water supply losses. | FEMA, USDA, Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Southern Oregon Water Technology | М | Н |
| 3.2 | Develop ordinances to prioritize or control water use, particularly for emergency situations like fire fighting. Conduct relevant public education and outreach. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3 | S | L |
| 3.3 | Educate residents on water-saving techniques through online and written communications. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Southern Oregon Water Technology | 0 | L |
| Earthqua | ke | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Implement structural and non-structural retrofits to Water Treatment Plant and City Hall. | General Fund, SRGP, PDM | City Administration | Building officials, Planning, Public Works | L | н |
| 4.2 | Educate residents on earthquake risks through online and written communications. | General Fund | City Administration | Building officials, Planning, Public Works | L | L |

| Action Item # | Mitigation Actions | Potential Funding | Lead | Partners | Timeline | Cost |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---|----------|------|
| Emorgin | g Infectious Disease | Resources | | | | |
| 5.1 | Partner with fire districts to support adequate PPE reserves for emerging infectious disease. | General Fund | City Administration | Jackson County Public Health | 0 | L |
| Flood | | • | | | | |
| 6.1 | Expand the use of Low Impact Development (LID) best management practices (BMPs) in development codes. | ODOT, Local Funding Sources | City Administration | ODOT | 0 | L |
| 6.2 | Establish partnerships to help implement the surface water management program. Identify opportunities to partner with regional organizations and agencies and maintain communication with key contacts at these organizations. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Jackson County | М | L |
| 6.3 | Preserve and enhance native riparian vegetation along the Rogue River. Provide resources and education to private property owners. | Local Funding Sources | City Administration | Nonprofits | 0 | L |
| Landslid | e | | | | | |
| 7.1 | Investigate the development and implementation of a city ordinance that restricts development on steep slopes. | Local Funding Sources, DLCD TA | City Administration | Planning, Building | S | L |
| 7.2 | Address landslide potential in newly developed Stormwater Master Plan. | Local Funding Sources, DLCD TA | City Administration | Utility Partners | S | L |
| Severe V | Veather (Extreme Heat, Windstorm, Winter Storm) | | | | | |
| 8.1 | Encourage new developments to include underground power lines through the City's Development Code. | Local Funding Sources, DLCD TA | City Administration | Utility Partners, Building, Planning | М | L |
| 8.2 | Assist vulnerable populations by exploring opening cooling shelters. | General Fund | City Administration | Nonprofits | S | L |
| Volcanic | Event | | | | | |
| 9.1 | Coordinate with agencies to determine risk of ash fallout. | Local Funding Sources, DLCD TA | City Administration | Jackson County Emergency Management | М | L |

| Action Item # | Mitigation Actions | Potential Funding Resources | Lead | Partners | Timeline | Cost |
|------------------|--|--|------------------------|---|----------|------|
| Wildfire | | | | | | |
| 10.1 | Continue to reduce fuels across the city, with particular attention to Sports Park and Beach Park. Work with partners to continue fuel reduction efforts in the wildland-urban interface outside of city limits. | Local Funding Resources, ODF, PDM, HMGP, CWDG | City Administration | Property Owners | 0 | н |
| 10.2 | Continue to address vandalism and camping in the city's parks to mitigate the risk of fuel ignition and wildfire. | Local Funding Resources | City Administration | Jackson County Sherriff, JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3 | 0 | L |
| 10.3 | Consider ignition-resistant materials regulations and programs for new development. | Local Funding Resources, DLCD TA | City Administration | JaCo FD #1, JaCo FD #3 ODF, OSFM | М | L |

Source: Gold Hill NHMP Steering Committee, 2023

Cost: L – Low (less than \$50,000), M - Medium (\$50,000-\$100,000), H - High (more than \$100,000)

Timing: O-Ongoing (continuous), S-Short (1-2 years), M-Medium (3-5 years), L-Long (5 or more years)

Priority Actions: Identified with **bold** text and **orange** highlight

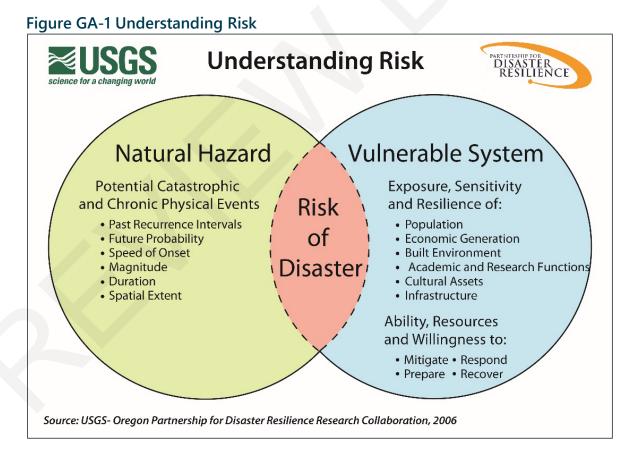
Risk Assessment

This section of the NHMP addendum addresses 44 CFR 201.6(b)(2) - Risk Assessment. In addition, this chapter can serve as the factual basis for addressing Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 7 – Areas Subject to Natural Hazards.

Assessing natural hazard risk has three phases:

- **Phase 1:** Identify hazards that can impact the jurisdiction. This includes an evaluation of potential hazard impacts type, location, extent, etc.
- Phase 2: Identify important community assets and system vulnerabilities. Example vulnerabilities include people, businesses, homes, roads, historic places and drinking water sources.
- **Phase 3:** Evaluate the extent to which the identified hazards overlap with or have an impact on, the important assets identified by the community.

The local level rationale for the identified mitigation strategies (action items) is presented herein and within Volume I, Sections 2 and 3. The risk assessment process is graphically depicted in Figure GA-1. Ultimately, the goal of hazard mitigation is to reduce the area of risk, where hazards overlap vulnerable systems.



Hazard Analysis

The Gold Hill steering committee developed their hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA), using the County's HVA (Volume II, Appendix C) as a reference. Changes from the County's HVA were made where appropriate to reflect distinctions in vulnerability and risk from natural hazards unique to Gold Hill, which are discussed throughout this addendum.

Table GA-2 shows the HVA matrix for Gold Hill listing each hazard listed in order of rank from high to low. For local governments, conducting the hazard analysis is a useful step in planning for hazard mitigation, response, and recovery. The method provides the jurisdiction with a sense of hazard priorities but does not predict the occurrence of a particular hazard.

Three chronic hazards (wildfire, extreme heat event, and emerging infectious disease) and a catastrophic hazard (Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake) rank as the top hazard threats to the City (Top Tier). Air quality, winter storm, windstorm, landslide, and flood comprise the next highest ranked hazards (Middle Tier), while the drought, crustal earthquake, and volcanic event hazards comprise the lowest ranked hazards (Bottom Tier).

Table GA-2 Hazard Analysis Matrix

| Hazard | History | Vulnerability | Maximum Threat | Probability | Total Threat Score | Hazard Rank | Hazard Tiers |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Wildfire | 20 | 40 | 80 | 70 | 210 | #1 | |
| Earthquake - Cascadia | 2 | 50 | 100 | 49 | 201 | #2 | Top Tier |
| Emerging Infectious Disease | 16 | 25 | 100 | 49 | 190 | #3 | TOP TIEI |
| Extreme Heat Event | 20 | 25 | 70 | 70 | 185 | #4 | |
| Air Quality | 18 | 40 | 60 | 63 | 181 | #5 | |
| Winter Storm | 20 | 20 | 70 | 70 | 180 | #6 | Middle |
| Windstorm | 20 | 20 | 60 | 70 | 170 | #7 | Tier |
| Landslide | 14 | 35 | 60 | 56 | 165 | #8 | 1161 |
| Flood | 16 | 15 | 70 | 49 | 150 | #9 | |
| Drought | 20 | 15 | 50 | 63 | 148 | #10 | Bottom |
| Earthquake - Crustal | 2 | 25 | 50 | 21 | 98 | #11 | Tier |
| Volcanic Event | 2 | 5 | 50 | 7 | 64 | #12 | 1161 |

Source: Gold Hill NHMP Steering Committee, 2023.

Community Characteristics

Table GA-3 and the following section provides information on City specific demographics and characteristics. For additional information on the characteristics of Gold Hill, in terms of geography, environment, population, demographics, employment and economics, as well as housing and transportation see Volume II, Appendix C. Many of these community characteristics can affect how natural hazards impact communities and how communities choose to plan for natural hazard mitigation. Considering the City specific assets during the planning process can assist in identifying appropriate measures for natural hazard mitigation.

Gold Hill is in the northeast region of the County, about 15 miles northwest of the City of Medford and about 8 miles east of the City of Rogue River. The City and most of Jackson County are within the Rogue watershed.

Gold Hill experiences a relatively mild climate with four distinct seasons that comes from its position on the west coast of North America and within the Cascade Range mountains. The average daily high temperature in the city is between 45- and 55-degrees Fahrenheit (F) in the winter and between 80- and 95-degrees Fahrenheit (F) in the summer. The Rogue Valley has the lowest precipitation among Oregon's western interior valleys and Gold Hill averages just under 28 inches of rain per year.² October through May are the wettest months (averaging 25.5 inches of rain during this period).

Population and Income

The City has both grown and declined in population since its incorporation in 1895. Between 2016 and 2021 the City grew by 140 people (11%). According to the State's official coordinated population forecast, between 2021 and 2040 the City's population is forecast to decline by 3% to 1,394. Most of the population is White/Caucasian (92%) and about 5% of the population is Hispanic or Latino. During the same period median household income declined by -5% to \$50,750. The poverty rate is 15% (7% for Seniors), 5% do not have health insurance, and 75% of renters pay more than 30% of their household income on rent (30% for owners with a mortgage). The city has an educated population with 89% of residents 25 years, and older holding a high school degree, 19% have a bachelor's degree or higher. Approximately 19% of the population lives with a disability, and 41% are either below 18 (20%) or over 65 (21%) years of age. About 16% of the population are 65 or older and living alone and 19% are single parents.

Transportation, Housing, and Infrastructure

In the City of Gold Hill, transportation has played a major role in shaping the community. Gold Hill' commercial areas developed along primary routes and residential development followed nearby. Today, mobility plays an important role in Gold Hill and the daily experience of its residents and businesses as they move from point A to point B. The City is primarily serviced by Interstate-5 and Sams Valley Highway. By far, motor vehicles represent the dominant mode of travel through and within Gold Hill. Almost all households have access to at least one vehicle (29% of renters and 76% of owners have two or more vehicles). Most workers commute alone in private vehicles (85%), while 8% work from home, 6% carpool, and 1% bicycle or walk to work. The current freight railroad system is serviced through the Union Pacific Railroad system and the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) route.

Development in the City spans a total of 0.76 square miles. The City of Gold Hill includes a diversity of land uses but is zoned primarily residential. The city's Comprehensive Plan identifies land use needs within the city and its urban growth boundary. New development has complied with the standards of the <u>Oregon Building Code</u> and the city's development code including their floodplain ordinance.

Eighty-six percent of housing units are single-family and 14% are mobile homes. Most homes (72%) were built before 1990. Newer homes are more likely to be built to current seismic,

² NOAA. National Centers for Environmental Information. Summary of Monthly Normals (1991-2010). GOLD HILL 0.2 WSW, OR, US10RJC0029. https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/us-climate-normals/#dataset=normals-monthly&timeframe=30&location=OR&station=US10RJC0029



flood, wildfire, and other hazard standards. Just under three-quarters of housing units are owner occupied, 24% are renter occupied, and 5% are vacant.

Economy

About 45% of the resident population 16 and over is in the labor force (530 people) and are employed in a variety of occupations including professional and related (24%), office and administrative (17%), construction, extraction, and maintenance (13%), production (12%), and management, business, and financial (6%).

Most workers residing in the city (97%, 441 people) travel outside of the city for work primarily to Medford, Central Point, Grants Pass, and surrounding areas.³ A significant population of people travel to the city for work, (96% of the workforce, 309 people) primarily from Medford, Central Point, Grants Pass, Eagle Point, and surrounding areas.⁴

⁴ Ibid.



³ U.S. Census Bureau. LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (2002-2020). Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program, accessed on August 17, 2023 at https://onthemap.ces.census.gov.

Table GA-3 Community Characteristics

| Population Characteristics | | |
|--|-------|------|
| 2016 Population Estimate | 1,220 | |
| 2021 Population Estimate | 1,360 |) |
| 2040 Population Forecast* | 1,394 | |
| Race | | |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | | < 1% |
| Asian | | < 1% |
| Black/ African American | | 0% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Isla | ander | 0% |
| White | | 92% |
| Some Other Race | | 1% |
| Two or More Races | | 7% |
| Hispanic or Latino/a (of any race) | | 5% |
| Limited or No English Spoken | 0 | 0 |
| Vulnerable Age Groups | | |
| Less than 5 Years | 33 | 3% |
| Less than 18 Years | 235 | 20% |
| 65 Years and Older | 250 | 21% |
| 85 Years and Older | 8 | 1% |
| Age Dependency Ratio | | 70.7 |
| Disability Status (Percent age cohort) | | |
| Total Disabled Population | 219 | 19% |
| Children (Under 18) | 23 | 10% |
| Working Age (18 to 64) | 98 | 14% |
| Seniors (65 and older) | 98 | 39% |

| Household Characteristics | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Housing Units | | |
| Single-Family (includes duplexes) | 434 | 86% |
| Multi-Family | 0 | 0% |
| Mobile Homes (includes RV, Van, etc.) | 71 | 14% |
| Household Type | | |
| Family Household | 347 | 72% |
| Married couple (w/ children) | 46 | 10% |
| Single (w/ children) | 92 | 19% |
| Living Alone 65+ | 78 | 16% |
| Year Structure Built | | |
| Pre-1970 | 183 | 36% |
| 1970-1989 | 183 | 36% |
| 1990-2009 | 129 | 28% |
| 2010 or later | 10 | 2% |
| Housing Tenure and Vacancy | | |
| Owner-occupied | 363 | 72% |
| Renter-occupied | 119 | 24% |
| Seasonal | 0 | 0% |
| Vacant | 23 | 5% |
| Vehicles Available (Occupied Units) | | |
| No Vehicle (owner occupied) | 8 | 2% |
| Two+ vehicles (owner occupied) | 256 | 71% |
| No Vehicle (renter occupied) | 0 | 0% |
| Two+ vehicles (renter occupied) | 72 | 61% |

| Income Characteristics | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Households by Income Category | | |
| , , , | 27 | C0/ |
| Less than \$15,000 | 27 | 6% |
| \$15,000-\$29,999 | 83 | 17% |
| \$30,000-\$44,999 | 120 | 25% |
| \$45,000-\$59,999 | 47 | 10% |
| \$60,000-\$74,999 | 41 | 9% |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 76 | 16% |
| \$100,000-\$199,999 | 81 | 17% |
| \$200,000 or more | 7 | 1% |
| Median Household Income | | \$50,750 |
| Gini Index of Income Inequality | | 0.43 |
| Poverty Rates (Percent age cohort) | | |
| Total Population | 177 | 15% |
| Children (Under 18) | 53 | 24% |
| Working Age (18 to 64) | 106 | 16% |
| Seniors (65 and older) | 18 | 7% |
| Housing Cost Burden (Cost > 30% of | household | income) |
| Owners with a Mortgage | 109 | 30% |
| Owners without a Mortgage | 57 | 16% |
| Renters | 89 | 75% |

| Employment Characteristics | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Labor Force (Population 16+) | | |
| In labor Force (% Total Population) | 530 | 45% |
| Unemployed (% Labor Force) | 39 | 7% |
| Occupation (Top 5) (Employed 16+) | | |
| Professional & Related | 120 | 24% |
| Office & Administrative | 84 | 17% |
| Construction, Extraction, & Maint. | 64 | 13% |
| Production | 57 | 12% |
| Management, Business, & Financial | 31 | 6% |
| Health Insurance | | |
| No Health Insurance | 61 | 5% |
| Public Health Insurance | 656 | 56% |
| Private Health Insurance | 654 | 56% |
| Transportation to Work (Workers 16+) | | |
| Drove Alone | 414 | 85% |
| Carpooled | 29 | 6% |
| Public Transit | 0 | 0% |
| Motorcycle | 0 | 0% |
| Bicycle/Walk | 3 | 1% |
| Work at Home | 41 | 8% |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Portland State University, Population Research Center, "Annual Population Estimates, Table 4", 2016 and 2021; and "Population Forecasts, Summary Tab", 2022. Note 1: * = Population forecast within UGB

Note 2: ACS 5-year estimates represent average characteristics from 2017-2021. Sampling error may result in low reliability of data. This information or data is provided with the understanding that conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. Refer to the original <u>source</u> documentation to better understand the data sources, results, methodologies and limitations of each dataset presented.



Community Assets

This section outlines the resources, facilities, and infrastructure that, if damaged, could significantly impact the public safety, economic conditions, and environmental integrity of Gold Hill. Community lifelines and historic structures in Gold Hill are shown in Figure GA-2 and Table GA-4. Community Lifelines are fundamental services that enable all other aspects of society to function. FEMA developed the <u>Community Lifelines</u> construct for objective-based response to prioritize the rapid stabilization of these facilities after a disaster. Mitigating these facilities will increase the community's resilience.

Jurisdiction Boundaries

☐ Urban Growth Boundary
☐ City Limits

Community Lifelines
☐ School
☐ Fire Station
Ⅲ City Office
☐ Communication Structure
☐ Hazardous Waste Generator
─ Electric Transmission Lines
Historic Structures
★ eligible/contributing
★ eligible/significant
★ undetermined

0 0.2 0.4 Miles

Figure GA-2 Community Lifelines and Historic Structures

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon HazVu

Table GA-4 Gold Hill Community Lifelines

| Facility Name | Community Lifeline Category | Lifeline Type | Earthquake- Liquefaction Hazard | Flood Hazard | Landslide Hazard | Wildfire Hazard |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Gold Hill City Hall | safety and security | city hall | low | minimal | none | urban |
| Hanby Middle School | safety and security | school | low | minimal | low | urban |
| Patrick Elementary School | safety and security | school | low | minimal | low | urban |
| Sweed Machinery Inc. | hazazardous materials | hazardous waste producer | low | minimal | low | urban |
| IOOF Building | safety and security | community | low | minimal | none | urban |
| Water Treatment Plant | water systems | water treatment | none | 500-Year | none | moderate |
| Wastewater Treatment Plan | water systems | waste water treatment | low to high | minimal | none | moderate |

Source: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Gold Hill NHMP Steering Committee

Infrastructure:

Infrastructure that provides services for the City include:

Transportation Networks:

- Interistate-5
- Sams Valley Highway

Water Facilities:

- Complete potable water system
- Complete sewage treatment system

Special Service Districts:

- 911 Service District
- Others?

Private Utilities:

- Pacific Power
- Avista
- Charter/Dish/Direct TV
- Rogue Valley Sewer (stormwater)
- Others?

Critical Facilities

Facilities that are critical to government response and recovery activities (i.e., life, safety, property, and environmental protection). These facilities include: 911 Centers, Emergency Operations Centers, Police and Fire Stations, Public Works facilities, sewer and water facilities, hospitals, bridges, roads, shelters, and more. Facilities that, if damaged, could cause serious secondary impacts may also be considered "critical." A hazardous material facility is one example of this type of critical facility.

City Buildings:

- Gold Hill City Hall
- Public Works Shop

Fire Stations:

- Rogue River Rural Fire District
- Jackon County Fire District #3

Law Enforcement:

Oregon State Police/City Hall

Public Works:

- Wastewater treatment plant (converting to pump station)
- Water treatment plan
- Water Reservoir

Private:

IOOF Lodge #129

Essential Facilities

Facilities that are essential to the continued delivery of key government services and/or that may significantly impact the public's ability to recover from the emergency. These facilities may include: City buildings such as the Public Services Building, the City Hall, and other public facilities such as schools.

Hospitals/Immediate Medical Care Facilities:

• La Clinica in schools

Schools:

- Patrick Elementary School
- Hanby Middle School

County Buildings:

Gold Hill Library

Potential Shelter Sites:

• All Gold Hill Schools (Red Cross designated)

Chuches

- Jehovah's Witness
- Gold Hill United Methodist
- Gold Hill Christian Center
- Gold Hill Christian Church
- Gold Valley Fellowship

Hazard Characteristics

The following sections briefly describe relevant information for each profiled hazard. More information on Jackson County Hazards can be found in Volume 1 Section 2 *Risk Assessment* and in the Risk Assessment for Region 4, Southwest Oregon, Oregon SNHMP (2020).

Air Quality

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for poor air quality is **high** (which is the same as the County's Rating) and that their vulnerability to poor air quality is also **high** (which is the same as the County's Rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of air quality hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Increases in wildfire conditions have shown an increasing potential for air quality hazards.

Additional information on air quality can be found in Volume I, Section 2.

Drought

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for drought is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to drought is **low** (which is lower than the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of drought hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Due to the climate of Jackson County, past and present weather conditions have shown an increasing potential for drought.

The City receives its main water supply from the Rogue River. The City has an adequate supply have high quality surface water from the Rogue River. The city's water treatment plant produces 3.96 to 11.9 million gallons per month (mgm). For more information on the future of Gold Hill's water supply visit their website.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Earthquake (Cascadia)

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to a CSZ earthquake is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of earthquake hazards and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Gold Hill as well. The causes and characteristics of an earthquake event are appropriately described within Volume I, Section 2, as well as the location and extent of

potential hazards. Previous occurrences are well documented within Volume I, Section 2 and the community impacts described by the County would generally be the same for Gold Hill as well.

Figure GA-3 displays perceived shaking hazards from a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake event. As shown in the figure below, the area of greatest concern within the City of Gold Hill are to the south/southeast of the community (darker areas).

CSZE Perceived Shaking III Weak IV Light V Moderate VI Strong VII Very Strong VIII Severe IX Violent **Jurisdiction Boundaries** Urban Growth Boundary City Limits **Community Lifelines** School Fire Station m City Office ▲ Communication Structure Hazardous Waste Generator **Electric Transmission Lines Historic Structures** eligible/contributing eligible/significant undetermined 0.4 Miles 02

Figure GA-3 Cascadia Subduction Zone Perceieved Shaking

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon HazVu.

The local faults, the County's proximity to the Cascadia Subduction Zone, potential slope instability, and the prevalence of certain soils subject to liquefaction and amplification combine to give the County a high-risk profile. Due to the expected pattern of damage resulting from a CSZ event, the Oregon Resilience Plan divides the State into four distinct zones and places Jackson County predominately within the "Valley Zone" (Valley Zone, from the summit of the Coast Range to the summit of the Cascades). Within the Southwest Oregon region, damage and

shaking is expected to be strong and widespread - an event will be disruptive to daily life and commerce and the main priority is expected to be restoring services to business and residents.

As noted in the community profile, approximately 72% of residential buildings were built prior to 1990, which increases the City's vulnerability to the earthquake hazard. Information on specific public buildings' (schools and public safety) estimated seismic resistance, determined by DOGAMI in 2007, is shown in Table GA-5; each "X" represents one building within that ranking category. Of the facilities evaluated by DOGAMI using a Rapid Visual Survey (RVS), three (3) have a high (>10% chance) collapse potential.

In addition to building damages, utility (electric power, water, wastewater, natural gas) and transportation systems (bridges, pipelines) are also likely to experience significant damage.

Utility systems will be significantly damaged, including damaged buildings and damage to utility infrastructure, including water and wastewater treatment plants and equipment at high voltage substations (especially 230 kV or higher which are more vulnerable than lower voltage substations). Buried pipe systems will suffer extensive damage with approximately one break per mile in soft soil areas. There would be a much lower rate of pipe breaks in other areas. Restoration of utility services will require substantial mutual aid from utilities outside of the affected area.

Table GA-5 Rapid Visual Survey Scores

| | | Level of Collapse Potential | | | |
|--|------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|
| | | Low | Moderate | High | Very High |
| Facility | Site ID* | (< 1%) | (>1%) | (>10%) | (100%) |
| Schools | | | | | |
| Hanby Middle School (Central Point SD 6) | Jack sch13 | X,X | | Х | |
| (806 6th Ave) | Juck_Jen13 | 7,,7 | ^ | | |
| Patrick Elementary School (Central Point SD 6) | Jack_sch10 | X,X,X | | Х | |
| (1500 2nd Ave) | | | ^ | | |
| Public Safety | | | | | |
| Rogue River Rural Fire District (Rogue River RFPD) | Jack_fir06 | | Х | | |
| (5474 N River Rd) | | | | | |

Source: DOGAMI 2007. Open File Report 0-07-02. Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment Using Rapid Visual Assessment.

Please review Volume 1, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Earthquake (Crustal)

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for a crustal earthquake is **low** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to crustal earthquake is **moderate** (which is higher than County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of earthquake hazards, history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Gold Hill as well. The causes and characteristics of an earthquake event are appropriately described within Volume I, Section 2, as well as the location and extent of



[&]quot;*" – Site ID is referenced on the RVS Jackson County Map

potential hazards. Previous occurrences are well-documented within Volume I, Section 2 and the community impacts described by the County would generally be the same for Gold Hill as well.

Figure GA-4 shows the liquefaction risk to the community lifelines that are identified in more detail in Table GA-4 and historic structures. As shown in the figure, the area of greatest concern near the City of Gold Hill (liquefaction hazard orange to red areas) is to the southeast of the City.

Liquefaction Susceptibility None Very Low Low Moderate High Very High Active Faults **Jurisdiction Boundaries** Urban Growth Boundary City Limits **Community Lifelines** School Fire Station m City Office Communication Structure Hazardous Waste Generator **Electric Transmission Lines Historic Structures** * eligible/contributing eligible/significant undetermined 0.4 Miles

Figure GA-4 Liquefaction Susceptibility

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon HazVu.

Earthquake-induced damages are difficult to predict and depend on the size, type, and location of the earthquake, as well as site-specific building and soil characteristics. Presently, it is not possible to accurately forecast the location or size of earthquakes, but it is possible to predict the behavior of soil at any site. In many major earthquakes, damages have primarily been caused by the behavior of the soil.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Gold Hill is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for the earthquake (Cascadia subduction zone and crustal) hazards. Identified Community Lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table GA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability).

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Emerging Infectious Disease

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for emerging infectious disease is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability is **moderate** (which is lower than the County's rating).

Emerging infectious diseases are those that have recently appeared in a population or those whose incidence or geographic range is rapidly increasing or threatens to increase. Emerging infections may be caused by biological pathogens (e.g., virus, parasite, fungus, or bacterium) and may be: previously unknown or undetected biological pathogens, biological pathogens that have spread to new geographic areas or populations, previously known biological pathogens whose role in specific diseases was previously undetected, and biological pathogens whose incidence of disease was previously declining but whose incidence of disease has reappeared (re-emerging infectious disease).⁵

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of emerging infectious disease and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect the City as well.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Flood

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for flood is **moderate** (which is lower than the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to flood is **low** (which is lower than the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of flood hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event. Portions of Gold Hill have mapped FEMA flood zones (Figure GA-5). Other portions of Gold Hill could be subject to flooding from local storm water drainage; however, areas of known flood hazard do not impact development or infrastructure.

⁵ Baylor College of Medicine, Emerging Infectious Disease, URL: https://www.bcm.edu/departments/molecular-virology-and-microbiology/emerging-infections-and-biodefense/emerging-infectious-diseases, accessed September 17, 2017.



FEMA Flood Zones 100 Year Boundary 100 Year Determined BFE 100 Year Shallow Flooding 500 Year Boundary Floodway **Jurisdiction Boundaries** Urban Growth Boundary City Limits **Community Lifelines** School Fire Station m City Office A Communication Structure Hazardous Waste Generator Electric Transmission Lines **Historic Structures** * eligible/contributing eligible/significant undetermined 0.2 0.4 Miles

Figure GA-5 FEMA Flood Zones

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon HazVu.

The Rogue River is the chief source of flooding in the Gold Hill area, however,, the city is above the river and has had minimal recorded flood damage. There is a low potential for flood from this water source. The major flood concern for the city is the condition of the two bridges over the Rogue River that supply transportation access to the city.

The City is at low to minor risk from two types of flooding: riverine and urban. Riverine flooding occurs when streams overflow their banks and inundate low-lying areas. This is a natural process that adds sediment and nutrients to fertile floodplain areas. It usually results from prolonged periods of precipitation over a wide geographic area. Most areas are generally flooded by low velocity sheets of water. Urban flooding occurs as land is converted to impervious surfaces and hydrologic systems are changed. Precipitation is collected and transmitted to streams at a much faster rate, causing floodwaters that rise rapidly and peak with violent force. During urban flooding, storm drains can back up and cause localized flooding of streets and basements.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Gold Hill is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified community lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table GA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability).

Floods can have a devastating impact on almost every aspect of the community, including private property damage, public infrastructure damage, and economic loss from business interruption. It is important for the City to be aware of flooding impacts and assess its level of risk.

The economic losses due to business closures often total more than the initial property losses that result from flood events. Business owners and their employees are significantly impacted by flood events. Direct damages from flooding are the most common impacts, but indirect damages, such as diminished clientele, can be just as debilitating to a business.

The FEMA Flood Insurance Study (January 19, 2018) has a brief history of flooding in Jackson County (Volume I, Section 2). Portions of the city' water treatment plan are in the 500-year chance flood zone near the northeast section of the city.

Floodwaters can affect building foundations, seep into basements or cause damage to the interior, exterior, and contents of buildings, dependent upon the velocity and depth of the water and by the presence of floating debris. The City sewer system can overflow during flood events and cause further property damage.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

FEMA updated the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in 2018 (effective January 19, 2018). The City complies with the NFIP through enforcement of their flood damage prevention ordinance and their floodplain management program. The Community Repetitive Loss record for Gold Hill identifies zero (0) Repetitive Loss Properties⁶ and zero (0) Severe Repetitive Loss Properties⁷. For details on the repetitive loss properties Volume I, Section 2.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

⁷ A Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) property is a single family property (consisting of 1 to 4 residences) that is covered under flood insurance by the NFIP and has incurred flood-related damage for which 4 or more separate claims payments have been paid under flood insurance coverage, with the amount of each claim payment exceeding \$5,000 and with cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeding \$20,000; or for which at least 2 separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the reported value of the property.



⁶ A Repetitive Loss (RL) property is any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) within any rolling ten-year period, since 1978. A RL property may or may not be currently insured by the NFIP.

Landslide

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for landslide is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to landslide is **moderate** (which is higher than the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of landslide hazards, history, how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region.

Landslide susceptibility exposure for Gold Hill is shown in Figure GA-6. Most of Gold Hill demonstrates a low susceptibility to landslide exposure, with corridors of moderate and high susceptibility concentrated around the edges of the City. Approximately 21% of Gold Hill has high and approximately 28% moderate landslide susceptibility exposure. The chief concern for landslide is along city's northern edge where sparse residential development exists.

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Gold Hill is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified community lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table GA-4. Note that even if an area has a high percentage of land in a high or very high landslide exposure susceptibility zone, that does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability), because risk is the intersection of a hazard and assets.

⁸ DOGAMI Open-File Report, O-16-02, Landslide Susceptibility Overview Map of Oregon (2016)



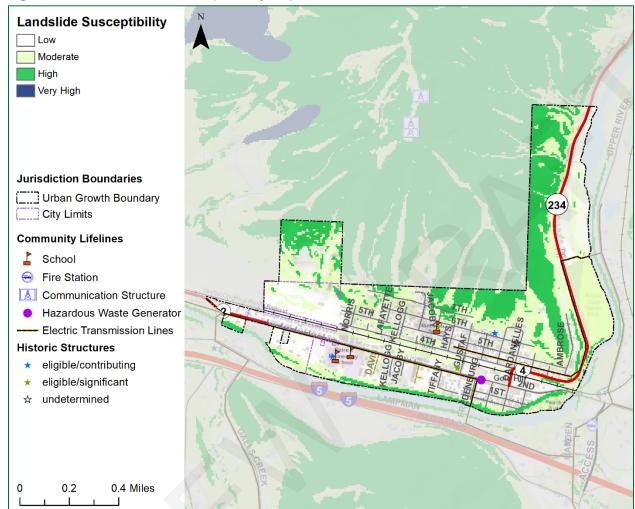


Figure GA-6 Landslide Susceptibility Exposure

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon HazVu.

Severe Weather

Severe weather can account for a variety of intense and potentially damaging weather events. These events include windstorms and winter storms. The following section describes the unique probability and vulnerability of each identified weather hazard. Other more abrupt or irregular events such as hail are also described in this section.

Extreme Heat Event

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for extreme heat event is **high** (which is the same as the County's Rating) and that their vulnerability to an extreme heat event is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's Rating).

Jackson County's NHMP Volume I, Section 2, adequately describes the causes and characteristics of extreme heat, as well as the history, location, extent, and probability of a potential event and how it relates to future climate projections. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely

to affect the City as well. A severe heat episode or "heat wave" occurs about every two to three years, and typically lasting two to three days but can last as many as five days. A severe heat episode can be defined as consecutive days of temperatures in the high 90s and above 100. Severe heat hazard in Southern Oregon can be described as the average number of days with temperatures greater than or equal to 90-degrees Fahrenheit.⁹

Extreme heat events can and have occurred in the City, and while they typically do not cause loss of life, they are becoming more frequent and have the potential to impact economic activity as well as quality of life and have caused threat to life in some cases.

See the Risk Assessment (Volume I, Section 2) for additional information on this hazard.

Windstorm

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for windstorm is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to windstorm is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of windstorm hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Because windstorms typically occur during winter months, they are sometimes accompanied by ice, freezing rain, flooding, and snow. Other severe weather events that may accompany windstorms, including thunderstorms, hail, and lightning strikes are standard for Gold Hill.

Volume I, Section 2 describes the impacts caused by windstorms, including power outages, downed trees, heavy precipitation, building damages, and storm-related debris. Additionally, transportation and economic disruptions result as well. Gold Hill regularly experiences high winds. Pacific Power has mitigated the risk of power loss by trimming trees near their above ground infrastructure. The city also requires undergrounding of utilities for new construction.

Damage from high winds generally has resulted in downed utility lines and trees. Electrical power can be out anywhere from a few hours to several days. Outdoor signs have also suffered damage. If the high winds are accompanied by rain (which they often are), blowing leaves, and debris clog drainage-ways, which in turn causes localized urban flooding.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Winter Storm (Snow/Ice)

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for winter storm is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to winter storm is **moderate** (which is the same as the County's rating).

⁹ DLCD. Oregon State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. 2020.



Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of winter storm hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Severe winter storms can consist of rain, freezing rain, ice, snow, cold temperatures, and wind. They originate from troughs of low pressure offshore that ride along the jet stream during fall, winter, and early spring months. Severe winter storms affecting the City typically originate in the Gulf of Alaska or in the central Pacific Ocean. These storms are most common from November through March.

Major winter storms can and have occurred in the Gold Hill area and while they typically do not cause significant damage, they are frequent and have the potential to impact economic activity. Road closures due to winter weather are an uncommon occurrence but can interrupt commuter and commercial traffic.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Volcanic Event

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for a volcanic event is **low** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to a volcanic event is **low** (which is the same as the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of volcanic hazards and their history, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. Generally, an event that affects the County is likely to affect Gold Hill as well. Gold Hill is very unlikely to experience anything more than volcanic ash during a volcanic event.

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Wildfire

The steering committee determined that the City's probability for wildfire is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating) and that their vulnerability to wildfire is **high** (which is the same as the County's rating).

Volume I, Section 2 describes the characteristics of wildfire hazards, their history, and how they relate to future climate projections, as well as the location, extent, and probability of a potential event within the region. The location and extent of a wildfire vary depending on fuel, topography, and weather conditions. Weather and urbanization conditions are primarily at cause for the hazard level. Wildfires near Gold Hill in recent times have included the East Evans wildfire in 1994, which approached the City from the west and the Blackwell Fire in 2010 to the east of the city.

Figure GA-7 shows burn probability in Gold Hill for community lifelines and historic buildings.

Burn probability Urban Very Low Low Low Moderate Moderate High Moderate High Very High **Jurisdiction Boundaries** Urban Growth Boundary City Limits **Community Lifelines** School Fire Station ▲ Communication Structure Hazardous Waste Generator **Electric Transmission Lines Historic Structures** eligible/contributing eligible/significant undetermined 0.2 0.4 Miles

Figure GA-7 Burn Probability

Source: Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. USFS Pacific Northwest Region Wildfire Risk Assessment (PNRA) Note: To view detail click this <u>link</u> to access Oregon Explorer's CWPP Planning Tool.

The potential community impacts and vulnerabilities described in Volume I, Section 2 are generally accurate for the City as well. The <u>Rogue Valley Integrated Community Wildfire Protection Plan</u> (RVIFP, updated 2017) assesses wildfire risk, maps wildland urban interface areas, and includes actions to mitigate wildfire risk. The City is included in the RVIFP and will update the City's wildfire risk assessment if the RVIFP presents better data during future updates (an action item is included within Volume I, Section 4 to participate in updates to the integrated fire plan and to continue to maintain and update their RVIFP). The forest service and City are actively reducing fuels in and around City but anticipate an increase in wildfire risk with maturation of the forest near City. The City hereby incorporates the RVIFP into this addendum by reference to provide greater detail to sensitivity and exposure to the wildfire hazard.

Property can be damaged or destroyed with one fire as structures, vegetation, and other flammables easily merge to become unpredictable and hard to manage. Other factors that affect ability to effectively respond to a wildfire include access to the location and to water, response

time from the fire station, availability of personnel and equipment, and weather (e.g., heat, low humidity, high winds, and drought).

Vulnerability Assessment

Due to insufficient data and resources, Gold Hill is currently unable to perform a quantitative risk assessment, or exposure analysis, for this hazard. Identified community lifelines that are exposed to this hazard are shown in Table GA-4. Note that even if a facility has exposure, it does not mean there is a high risk (vulnerability).

Please review Volume I, Section 2 for additional information on this hazard.

Attachment A: Public Involvement Summary

Members of the steering committee provided content and edits to the NHMP prior to the public review period as reflected in the final document. In addition, a survey was distributed that included responses from residents of Gold Hill (Volume III, Appendix F).

To provide the public information regarding the draft NHMP addendum, and provide an opportunity for comment, an announcement (see below) was provided from Month Day through Month Day on the City's website. There were XX [to be updated following public comment period] comments provided. Additional opportunities for stakeholders and the public to be involved in the planning process are addressed in Volume III, Appendix B.

Website Posting

Posting to be inserted

Gold Hill Steering Committee

Steering committee members possessed familiarity with the community of Gold Hill and how it is affected by natural hazard events. The steering committee guided the development process through several steps including goal confirmation and prioritization, action item development, and information sharing, to make the NHMP as comprehensive as possible. The steering committee met formally on the following date:

Meeting #1: Gold Hill steering committee, May 3, 2023 (via Zoom)

During this meeting, the steering committee was provided information on hazard mitigation planning, the NHMP process, and project timeline. The steering committee:

- Reviewed history of hazard events in the city.
- Reviewed and confirmed the NHMP's mission and goals.
- Discussed the NHMP public outreach strategy.
- Discussed development activity and community lifelines.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft risk assessment including community vulnerabilities and hazard information.
- Developed mitigation strategy (actions).
- Reviewed their implementation and maintenance program.

Meeting Attendees:

• Convener, Adam Hanks, City Manager

