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Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 2:51 PM
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Subject: City of Piedmont 2023-2031 Housing Element Update

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 18 2023

Categories: Comments

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

SCH Number

2022020362

Lead Agency

City of Piedmont

Document Title

City of Piedmont 2023-2031 Housing Element Update

Document Type

EIR - Draft EIR

Received

11/3/2023

Hello, Kevin—

Thank you for providing the City's Draft EIR for the 2023-2031 Housing Element Update for our review. This email conveys the following recommendations from CGS concerning geologic issues within the General Plan documents:

1. Liquefaction and Landslide Hazards

- The Draft EIR discusses liquefaction and landsliding as potential hazards and provides a map of "Liquefaction Susceptibility" and "Landslide Susceptibility" based on the ABAG Hazard Viewer Map (Figures 4.6-3 and 4.6-4). CGS notes the landslide susceptibility zones depicted in Figure 4.6-4 represent "rainfall-induced" landsliding, not "earthquake-induced" landsliding, which is a unique triggering mechanism. The City should consider providing an additional discussion of this specific seismic slope instability hazard.
- The City should supplement both the "Liquefaction and Seismically-Induced Settlement" and "Landslides" sections with a discussion of official CGS Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation (EZRI) for both liquefaction and earthquake-induced landslides, and consider providing maps of these official regulatory zones, which are more different than those provided by ABAG.
- CGS maps and data are available here:
<https://maps-cnra-cadoc.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/cadoc::cgs-seismic-hazards-program-liquefaction-zones-1/about>
<https://maps-cnra-cadoc.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/cadoc::cgs-seismic-hazards-program-landslide-zones-doc-hosted/about>
<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/informationwarehouse/index.html?map=regulatorymaps>
<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/>
- Cities and counties affected by EZRI must regulate certain development projects within them. The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (1990) also requires sellers of real property (and their agents) within a mapped hazard zone to disclose at the time of sale that the property lies within such a zone.

2. Fault Hazards

- The Safety Element provides a discussion of the probability of large earthquakes in the region on page 4.6-5. This discussion should be updated using earthquake probabilities from the third Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast (UCERF3). A non-technical discussion of this model is available here:

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2015/3009/pdf/fs2015-3009.pdf>

Note the 30-year probability (beginning in 2014) for an M>6.7 earthquake on the Hayward Fault is 14.3 percent. Individual probabilities for the Calaveras and Northern San Andreas faults, along with the entire San Francisco Bay Area, are also available.



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*"A team is not a group of people who work together.
A team is a group of people who trust each other." – Simon Sinek*

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