

SAFETY ELEMENT

The safety of a community is critical to quality of life, community health, and economic vitality. Scottsdale is consistently rated as one of the safest communities in the nation, with low crime rates and few natural disasters. As the community continues to evolve, providing superior public safety resources is crucial to Scottsdale as a livable community and premier tourist destination.

Although Scottsdale is nationally-recognized for safety, it is not immune from disaster. Hazards such as flash flooding, brush fires, power outages, and other major threats, such as pandemics, can occur at any time with little or no warning. Management of these emergencies involves four phases: prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Scottsdale is committed to protecting citizens and visitors from conditions, circumstances, and influences that would threaten, disrupt, or diminish the quality of life. The goals and policies of the Safety Element will ensure that the community is prepared and resilient when faced with disaster, and that our community and habitat are safe and enjoyable for all.

Goals and Policies

Goal S 1 ‡

Work to prevent hazards and reduce physical risks throughout Scottsdale.

Policies

- **S 1.1** Educate the public about accident and injury prevention.
- Research and maintain information about emerging hazards, such as terrorism threats, pandemics, geologic hazards, and electrical failures.
- S 1.3 Identify and replace vulnerable infrastructure and critical service lifelines.

 [Cross-reference Public Services & Facilities Element]



- **S 1.4** Maintain public and private property to minimize fire hazards and risks. [Cross-reference Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Element]
- **S 1.5** Provide a support system for Scottsdale's senior population by providing outreach, education, and notification. [Cross-reference Healthy Community Element]
- **S 1.6** Educate the public about water and swimming pool safety.

Goal S 2

Prepare for disasters and emergencies.

- **S 2.1** Provide education, emergency preparedness, and response training at the neighborhood level, and regularly conduct community-wide and regional preparedness drills to build a widespread culture of emergency preparedness.
- **S 2.2** Enhance communication capabilities in preparation for all phases of a disaster. [Cross-reference Community Involvement and Public Services & Facilities Elements]
- **S 2.3** Continue fire-safety planning and fire preparedness and prevention programs. [Cross-reference Housing and Public Services & Facilities Elements]
- **S 2.4** [‡] Ensure a safe and reliable water supply during emergency situations. [Crossreference Water Resources Element]
- **S 2.5** Retrofit city facilities and services to continue operations during possible disruptions for any period of time.

Goal S 3

Deliver effective and efficient response for emergencies and disasters.

Policies

S 3.1 Base the provision of public safety resources on population density, service areas, response times, and other changes over time. Provide information and training programs to maximize effectiveness in responding to hazards. [Cross-reference Public Services & Facilities Element]



- **S 3.2** Train multilingual personnel to aid during emergency response.
- **S 3.3** Coordinate with hotels, resorts, and special event managers to effectively evaluate safety risks and the ability to respond to emergencies involving or affecting visitors. [Cross-reference Economic Vitality Element]
- S 3.4 [‡] Identify emergency evacuation routes and effectively communicate the information to the public. Identify any vulnerable populations, such as the elderly or people with special needs, for first-priority evacuation assistance. [Cross-reference Community Involvement; Healthy Community; and Circulation Elements]
- **S 3.5** Encourage an effective "all-hazard" approach to emergency response by assessing the risks of all possible threats during an emergency.
- S 3.6 Support and cooperate with State and County public health recommendations and procedures when responding to pandemics and other emergencies and disasters.

Goal S 4

Prepare for short- and long-term community recovery after disaster events.

Policies

- S 4.1 Develop a framework for disaster recovery that identifies priorities for reinstatement of critical infrastructure and other physical assets, services, and functions throughout the community. [Cross-reference Public Services & Facilities Element]
- **S 4.2** Prepare city staff for official roles in emergency response and recovery.
- **S 4.3** Work with regional entities, hospitals, faith-based organizations, schools, community groups, and large employers to ensure continuity of operations after a disaster occurs.
- **S 4.4** Engage the community in the reconstruction planning process. [Cross-reference Community Involvement Element]
- S 4.5 When appropriate, expedite neighborhood repair, reconstruction, and rebuilding to aid resident return to their neighborhoods. [Cross-reference Conservation, Rehabilitation, & Redevelopment and Housing Element]

Goal S 5

Maintain safe airspace and transportation systems.

- **S 5.1** Manage the Scottsdale Airport through safety and security programs that protect airport users, surrounding neighborhoods, and nearby properties. [Cross-reference Land Use and Circulation Elements]
- **S 5.2** * Maintain clear zones within the key safety areas around the Scottsdale Airport. [Cross-reference Land Use Element]
- S 5.3 [‡] Design, develop, and manage Scottsdale's transportation facilities and traffic control systems with a focus on public safety. [Cross-reference Circulation and Bicycling Elements]

Goal S 6

Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public from the impacts of flooding.

Policies

- S 6.1 Identify drainage system needs, and make improvements where flood control problems exist.

 [Cross-reference Conservation Element]
- S 6.2 Mitigate watercourse obstructions resulting from natural causes, and restrict watercourse obstructions resulting from man-made causes. [Cross-reference Conservation Element]



- **S 6.3** Design and construct watercourse and drainage system street crossings, where possible, to promote traffic safety. [Cross-reference Conservation and Circulation Elements]
- **S 6.4** Locate critical facilities outside of the 100-year floodplain. [Cross-reference Conservation Element]

Goal S 7

Maintain Scottsdale as a safe community through crime prevention.

- S 7.1 Incorporate crime prevention strategies in the design and redevelopment of all areas of the city. [Cross-reference Character & Design; Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization; and Conservation, Rehabilitation, & Redevelopment Elements]
- S 7.2 Use enhanced crime tracking, trending, and predictive modeling to reduce crime and increase offender apprehension and public safety.



- **S 7.3** Embrace multiple communication platforms, such as social media, to deliver timely crime prevention strategies and increased security awareness. [Cross-reference Community Involvement Element]
- **S 7.4** Emphasize crime prevention associated with visitor safety and security via event planning and management programs. [Cross-reference Economic Vitality Element]

Community Well-Being

- **S 7.5** Emphasize community participation and partnerships to reduce crime and develop safer neighborhoods. [Cross-reference Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Element]
- **S 7.6** Locate and design public safety facilities to enhance public safety functions. [Cross-reference Public Buildings Element]
- S 7.7 Enhance collaboration between public safety providers and the Planning Agency to incorporate best development practices in reducing crime. Considerations include improved lighting, building orientation, neighborhood ingresses and egresses, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). [Cross-reference Character & Design Element]
- **S 7.8** Continuously evaluate police roles, functions, and responsibilities and their effectiveness for providing community safety and collaboration.
- S 7.9 Collaborate with schools, neighborhood associations, community centers, and religious and multicultural organizations to foster continuous dialogue between law enforcement and residents about safety needs and concerns.

Goal S 8

Promote the safe handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials.

- **S 8.1** Properly manage hazardous materials and contaminants to minimize their potential harm. [Cross-reference Conservation Element]
- **S 8.2** Minimize the use of toxic and hazardous materials and encourage the use of alternative materials and practices. [Cross-reference Environmental Planning Element]
- **S 8.3** Continue working with appropriate agencies to clean up hazardous waste.
- **S 8.4** Provide training opportunities and educational materials on hazardous waste management. [Cross-reference Community Involvement Element]
- **S 8.5** Develop a plan for the transport of hazardous waste.
- S.8.6 Expand programs for wastes that require special management to protect public health, safety, and the environment, such as household hazardous waste, electronics, and pharmaceuticals. [Cross-reference Environmental Planning and Public Services & Facilities Elements]

