6. SAFETY ELEMENT

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6 SAFETY ELEMENT

The Town of Yucca Valley is committed to maintaining access to vital services and protecting the community from geologic and seismic, hazards, flooding, wildland fires, extreme weather, hazardous materials incidents, and other emergencies such as urban fires and crime. Implementation of the Safety Element minimizes potential human injury and property damage by reducing exposure to these hazards and the risks of their occurrence. This Element enhances public safety through advance preparation for and proactive mitigation of potential hazards that could adversely affect residents, visitors, economic activities, and the built and natural environments.

Purpose of the Safety Element

The Safety Element is a state-mandated General Plan element that must identify potential natural and human-created hazards that could affect the Town of Yucca Valley's residents, businesses, and services. The purpose of the Safety Element is to establish a framework that anticipates these hazards and prepares the community to mitigate exposure to these risks. The goals and policies of the Safety Element are intended to protect public health, safety, and welfare in Yucca Valley.

Relationship to Other Documents

The Safety Element is part of a comprehensive effort to address the impacts of future hazards in Yucca Valley. The Safety Element is complementary to the Town of Yucca Valley's emergency preparedness planning documents, including the Hazards Mitigation Plan and Emergency Operations Plan. The Safety Element Technical Background Report is a comprehensive study of local geologic, seismic, flooding, fire, hazardous materials, and weather conditions prepared in association with the General Plan. The Safety Element Technical Background Report is a reference document for additional information on those hazards.

6.1 Geologic Hazards

Geologic hazards are generally defined as surficial earth processes that have the potential to cause loss or harm to the community or the environment. The Town of Yucca Valley is susceptible to a variety of geologic hazards due to its steep terrain. Erosion, slope instability, rockfalls and rockslides, soil slips, and mudflows are all potential geologic hazards.

The Town of Yucca Valley encompasses highly variable terrain that includes a broad valley, gently sloping hills, and rugged mountains. Within the Town limits, elevation varies from 3,100 to 4,600 feet above sea level. This variety of topography reflects the community's complex geologic characteristics and hazards. As shown in Figure S-

Ground Failure: Mudslide, landslide, liquefaction, or soil compaction.

Landslide: A general term for a falling, sliding, or flowing mass of soil, rocks, water, and debris. Includes mudslides, debris flows, and debris torrents.

Slope Failures: Includes two types, major slide masses such as landslides and minor soil slips like mud or debris flows. Slope failures can occur on natural or man-made slopes. Failures are often the result of interrelated natural hazards, earthquake-induced rockfall, or storm-induced mudflows.

1, *Geologic Map*, central Yucca Valley primarily consists of young alluvium soils, which are highly susceptible to erosion, especially where flood waters are concentrated. Much of the west side consists of crystalline rocks known for good slope stability, but are characterized by large boulders that potentially pose rockfall hazards. The other common soil in Yucca Valley is old alluvium, which is stable in areas of limited slope. Slopes in Yucca Valley are depicted in Figure S-2, *Slope Analysis*. Steep slopes, generally defined as 25 percent or higher, are areas with greater potential for rockfalls and ground failure that impact properties below or downstream, especially in the event of seismic activity or heavy rainfall.

Mitigating these hazards can be accomplished by establishing appropriate development standards and through public awareness. Since the majority of geologic hazards can be avoided, it is important for the Town of Yucca Valley to protect the community and unique natural landscape through the goals and policies below.

GOAL S 1

Protection from injury and property damage due to geologic hazards such as ground and slope failure.

Policies

Policy S 1-1 Collect and maintain data on soils and areas of steep slopes (30 percent or greater) or slopes prone to failure within the Town boundaries.

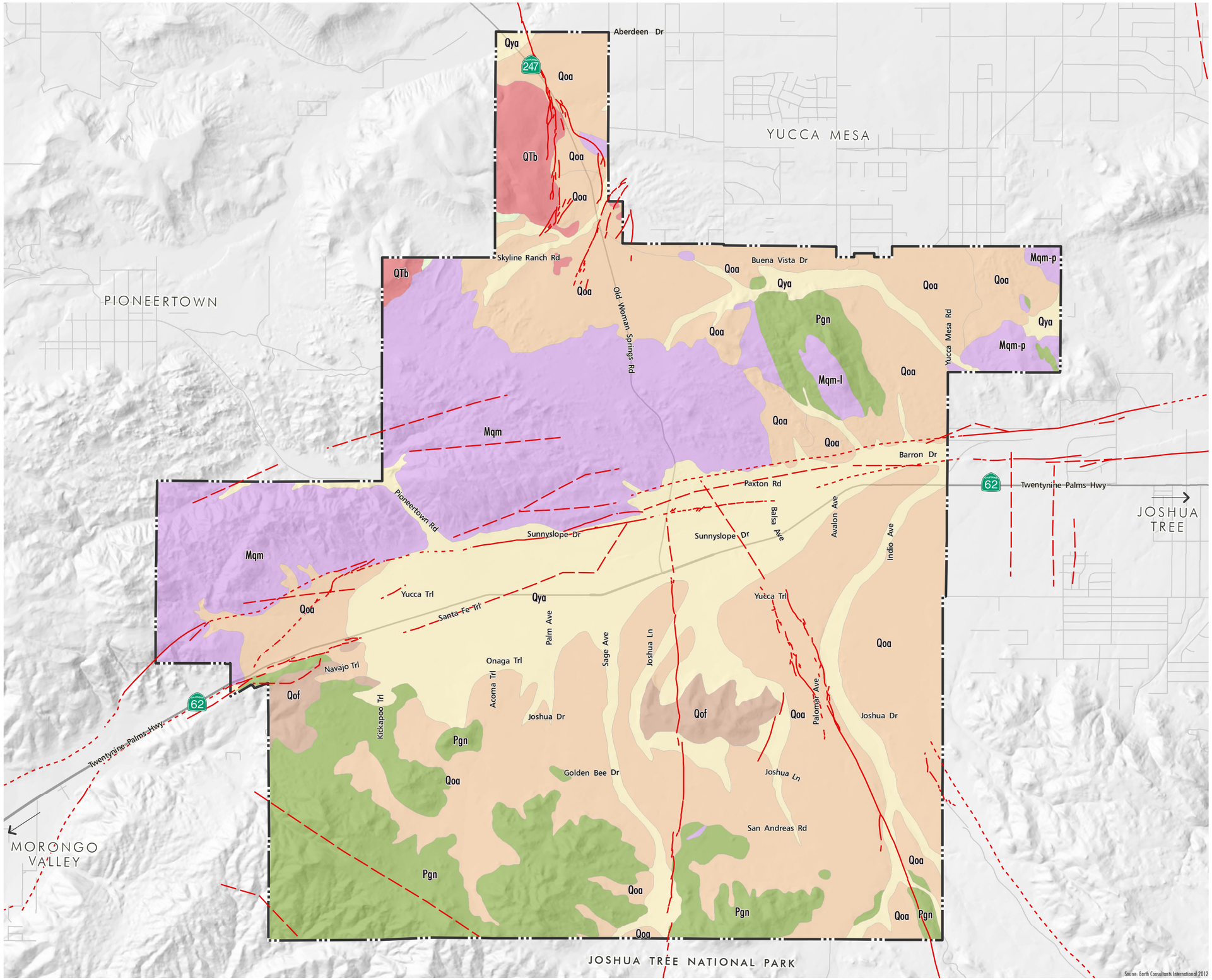
Policy S 1-2 Limit grading associated with development to the minimum necessary to provide for planned improvements, while maintaining maximum natural and undisturbed vegetation to control soil disturbance and erosion.

Policy S 1-3 Require development proposals with a slope of 30 percent or greater and/or subject to rockfalls, landslides or excessive erosion to be accompanied by a geotechnical analysis and associated technical reports.

Policy S 1-4 Require development on slopes prone to failure or slopes 30 percent or greater to mitigate all geologic safety concerns during the permitting process.

Figure S-1

GEOLOGIC MAP



Source: Earth Consultants International 2012

Fault Lines
- Fault - Known Location
- Fault - Approximate Location
- Fault - Concealed

Surficial Sediments
- Qya - Young Alluvium
- Qoa - Older Alluvium
- Qof - Very Old Alluvium

Sedimentary Rock
- Ts - Sandstone

Igneous Rocks
- QTb - Basalt
- Mqm, Mqm-l, Mqm-p - Quartz Monzonite

Metamorphic Rocks
- Pgn - Gneissic Rocks

Town Limits

NOTE: This map is intended for general land use planning only. Information on this map is not sufficient to serve as a substitute for detailed geologic investigations of individual sites. All faults may not be shown. The width and location of faults is approximate and should not be used in lieu of site-specific investigations, evaluation and design.

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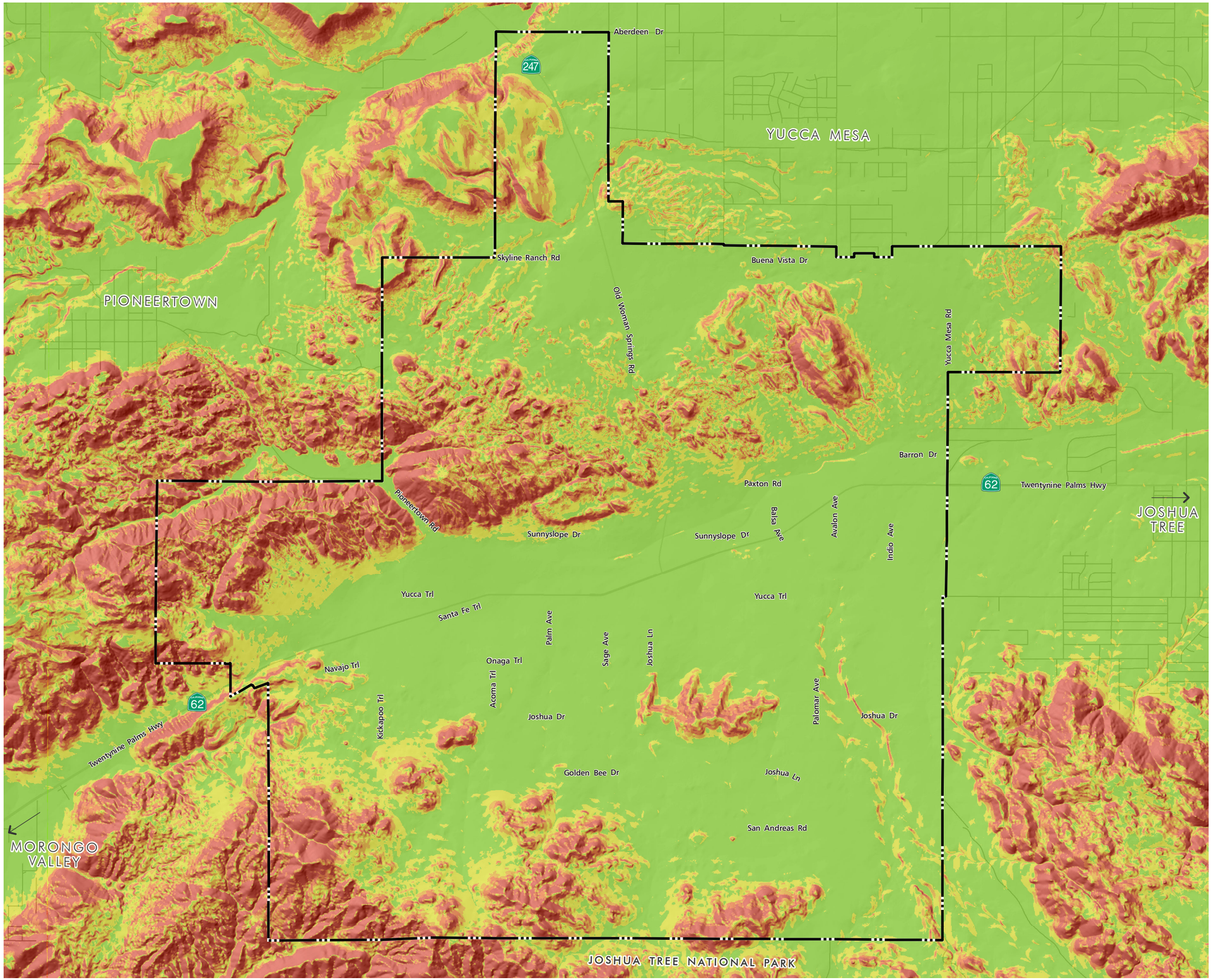
Figure S-2

SLOPE ANALYSIS



0 - 10% Slope
10 - 20% Slope
20 - 30% Slope
30 - 40% Slope
40%+ Slope
Town Limits

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6.2 Seismic Hazards

The Town of Yucca Valley is a seismically active area where earthquakes can pose a threat to personal safety and property. Earthquakes have the potential to impact transportation, utilities, public facilities, structural integrity, and economic activity. The undulating terrain that contributes to Yucca Valley's natural landform can be affected by earthquake-triggered hazards such as ground shaking, surface fault rupture, landslides, liquefaction, and subsidence, as shown in Figure S-3, *Seismic Hazards*. Earthquakes and associated hazards can disrupt vital service delivery; key transportation routes, including State Routes 62 and 247; and threaten lives and properties.

Several notable past earthquakes were felt strongly in Yucca Valley, but a concentration of intense seismic activity in 1992 was the most destructive in recent history. The Joshua Tree Earthquake struck on April 22, 1992, most likely centered on the Eureka Peak fault, approximately 12 miles south of Highway 62. This magnitude 6.1 earthquake injured over 30 people. On June 28, 1992, the magnitude 7.3 Landers Earthquake rocked Southern California and was the largest quake to have occurred in the continental United States in 40 years. The epicenter was in Landers, approximately 10 miles north of Yucca Valley. Several faults were involved, including Johnson Valley, which bisects the northern part of the Town. Several roads and buildings were damaged, over 400 people were injured in the region, and 3 people lost their lives, including one in Yucca Valley. The magnitude 6.4 Big Bear Earthquake struck approximately 3 hours after the Landers Earthquake. No additional damage in Yucca Valley was attributed to this quake.

State legislation has been enacted to help prevent property damage and injury in the event of an earthquake. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act establishes zones around the most active and well-defined faults in the state. In Yucca Valley, these faults include Morongo Valley, Pinto Mountain, Johnson Valley, Burnt Mountain, and Eureka Peak. Development within the zones can occur following geologic investigations that identify development standards and requirements for development projects that are designed to mitigate potential earthquake-related hazards. California's Unreinforced Masonry Law requires all cities and counties in Seismic Zone 4, as identified in the California Building Code, to identify potentially hazardous unreinforced masonry buildings in their jurisdictions. Although the Town is in Seismic Zone 4, the number of unreinforced masonry structures is unknown and warrants study.

Learning from devastating earthquakes of the past, the Town of Yucca Valley continues to make strides to prevent damage and prepare its residents and business community for earthquakes in the future through enforcing state laws, coordinating emergency planning efforts, and educating the public.

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone: A regulatory zone, delineated by the State Geologist, within which site-specific geologic studies are required to identify and avoid fault rupture hazards prior to subdivision of land and/or construction of most structures for human occupancy.

Fault: A fracture or zone of closely associated fractures along which rocks on one side have been displaced with respect to those on the other side. A fault zone is a zone of related faults, which commonly are braided, but may be branching. A fault trace is the line formed by the intersection of a fault and the earth's surface.

Liquefaction: A process by which water-saturated granular soils transform from a solid to a liquid state during strong ground shaking.

GOAL S 2

Minimized risk to life; property; and economic, social, and service functions that may result from seismic hazards.

Policies

Quasi-Public: Essentially a public good or service although under private ownership or control (e.g., the electric or gas company.

Policy S 2-1 Participate in local and regional emergency preparedness planning efforts with public and quasi-public agencies to assure the continued functionality of major utility services in the event of a major earthquake.

Policy S 2-2 Collect and distribute earthquake preparedness information and materials to Town residents and local businesses.

Policy S 2-3 Encourage and promote the development of ground water recharge basins in areas where increased potential for liquefaction resulting from an earthquake will have a minimal effect on existing and planned development.

Policy S 2-4 Encourage the location of heavily irrigated areas away from foundations and other structural supports to minimize the creation of a localized liquefaction hazards in areas of high seismicity.

Policy S 2-5 Evaluate development in areas identified as being subject to a rockfall or landslide hazard (Figures S-1 and S-2) to minimize the potential of those hazards impacting property.

Policy S 2-6 Implement development restrictions and seismic study requirements around active faults pursuant to the Alquist-Priolo Act to ensure that potential impacts of seismic hazards are mitigated.

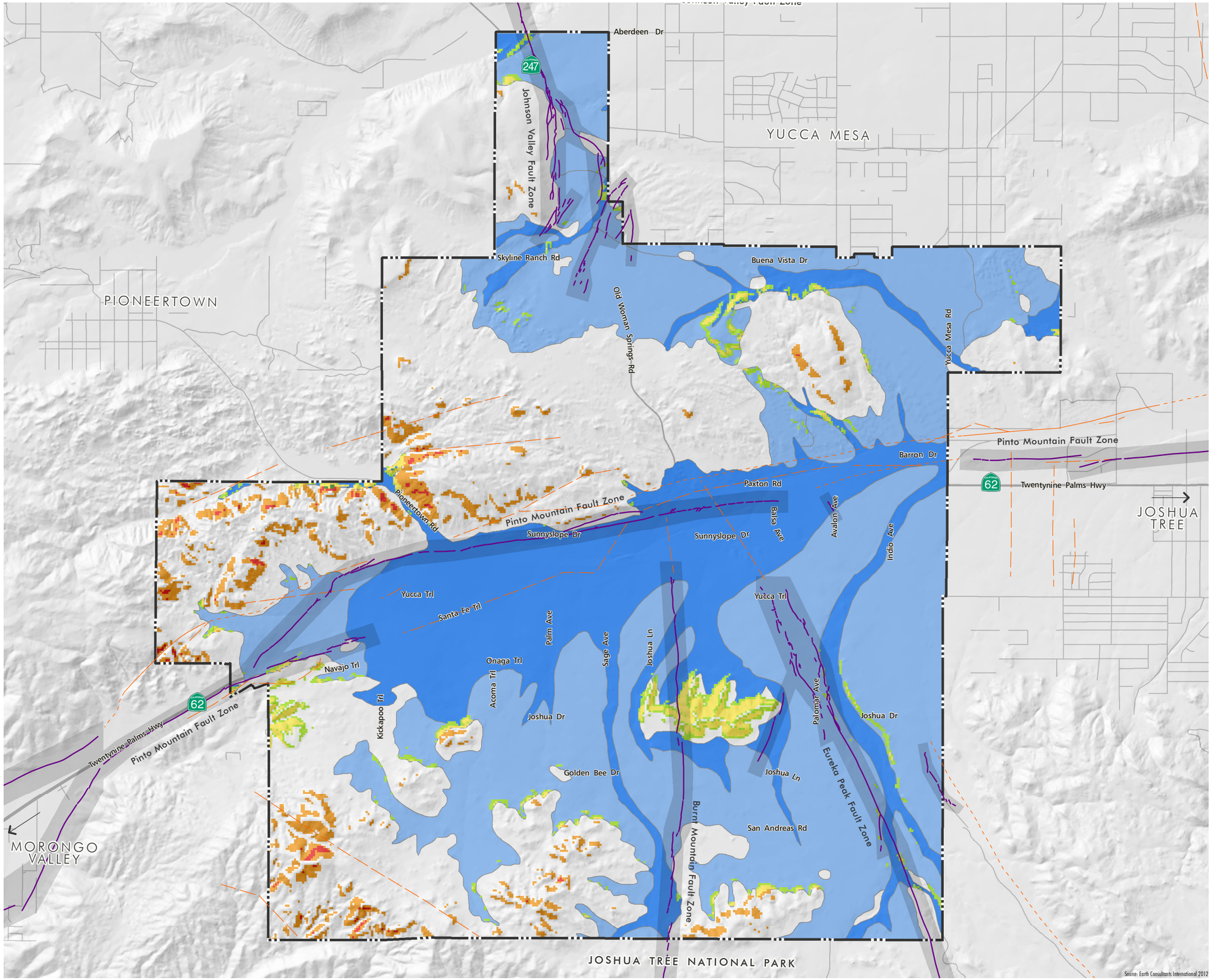
Policy S 2-7 Maintain an inventory of unreinforced masonry structures in compliance with California's Unreinforced Masonry Law.

Policy S 2-8 Coordinate with the U.S. Geological Survey to assure the provision of earthquake predictions which may impact the Town and surrounding area.

Policy S 2-9 Coordinate and cooperate with public and quasi-public agencies to ensure that major utility systems and roadways have continued functionality in the event of a major earthquake.

Figure S-3

SEISMIC HAZARDS



Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault

Fault; not zoned under the Alquist-Priolo Act

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone

Earthquake-Induced Slope Instability

- Rock Falls
- Rock Slides
- Soil Falls
- Soil Slides
- Soil Slumps

Liquefaction Susceptability

- Low - Areas underlain by course-grained Holocene age sediments, groundwater depth > 100' or unknown
- Very Low - Areas underlain by course-grained Pleistocene age sediments, groundwater depth > 100' or unknown

Town Limits

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6.3 Flood Hazards

Floods are natural and recurring events that are often unpredictable. Traversed by numerous ephemeral natural drainage courses and because Yucca Valley is subject to high intensity rain storms, flooding is a significant hazard. Within Yucca Valley the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identified the following areas in a 100-year flood zone: Yucca Wash, Water Canyon, Old Woman Springs Creek, Covington Wash, East and West Burnt Mountain Creeks, Long Canyon, Hospital Canyon, and Piñon Creek. It is estimated that there are more areas affected by this flood zone that have yet to be identified by FEMA. Most of the 100-year flood zones are concentrated around Yucca Wash, which crosses the center of community east to west, making flood control an important safety issue. This and other flood zones in Yucca Valley are shown in Figure S-4, *Flood Hazard Map*.

100-year events are not the only storms to cause flooding. Smaller storms can also result in property damage or flooded and damaged roadways, especially when public and private floodways are not properly maintained. Floods are not only destructive to residential and commercial properties, but they can cause significant erosion of the natural landform.

Most of the existing development in Yucca Valley has been completed without significant alteration to the natural terrain. As a result, natural drainage courses pass through developed or semideveloped areas. Small channels pass through private yards, and some structures are built within the flow paths of shallow drainages. Most streets, many of which are unpaved, follow the natural contours of the land, crossing arroyos and gullies without the benefit of culverts or bridges. These crossings can quickly become filled with high velocity floodwaters, trapping vehicles or washing them downstream.

The Town can take precautions to prepare for and respond to a flood event and minimize severe damage to structures and facilities. Emergency preparedness planning is one of the primary ways the town can alleviate the dangers and risks associated with flood hazards. Implementing evacuation plans for the Town and critical care facilities as well as maintaining regional floodways will help to ensure that residents, businesses, and visitors remain safe during heavy rain storms.

Flooding: A rise in the level of a water body or the rapid accumulation of runoff, including related mudslides and land subsidence, that results in the temporary inundation of land that is usually dry.

Floodway: A watercourse, including banks, that must remain clear to carry flood waters.

100-Year Flood Zone: Land with a 1 percent annual chance of flooding. Structures in a 100-year flood zone have a 26 percent chance of being flooded over the course of a 30-year mortgage, and only a 4 percent chance of being impacted by fire during the same time frame.

500-Year Flood Zone: Land with a 0.2 percent annual chance of flooding.

GOAL S 3

Minimized flooding and other hydrologic hazards and provision for the protection of lives, property and essential facilities within the community.

Policies

Policy S 3-1 Continue to improve local drainage facilities to be consistent with or complementary to the Master Plan of Drainage.

Policy S 3-2 Seek funding for local drainage improvements to provide flood control protection, preserve natural landform, and create passive and active recreational open space amenities.

Policy S 3-3 Continue to manage local natural and improved drainage facilities to be consistent with or complementary to the Master Plan of Drainage.

Floodwaters inundating a low-lying roadway.

Policy S 3-4 Collaborate with the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and other state and federal agencies to minimize flood damage.

Policy S 3-5 Participate in regional planning efforts to monitor and regulate the use and removal of sewage disposal systems threatening the Town's groundwater basin.

Policy S 3-6 In those locations where managed flood plains are recommended by the Master Plan of Drainage, limited to no improvements shall be allowed to control or divert the flow of flood water.

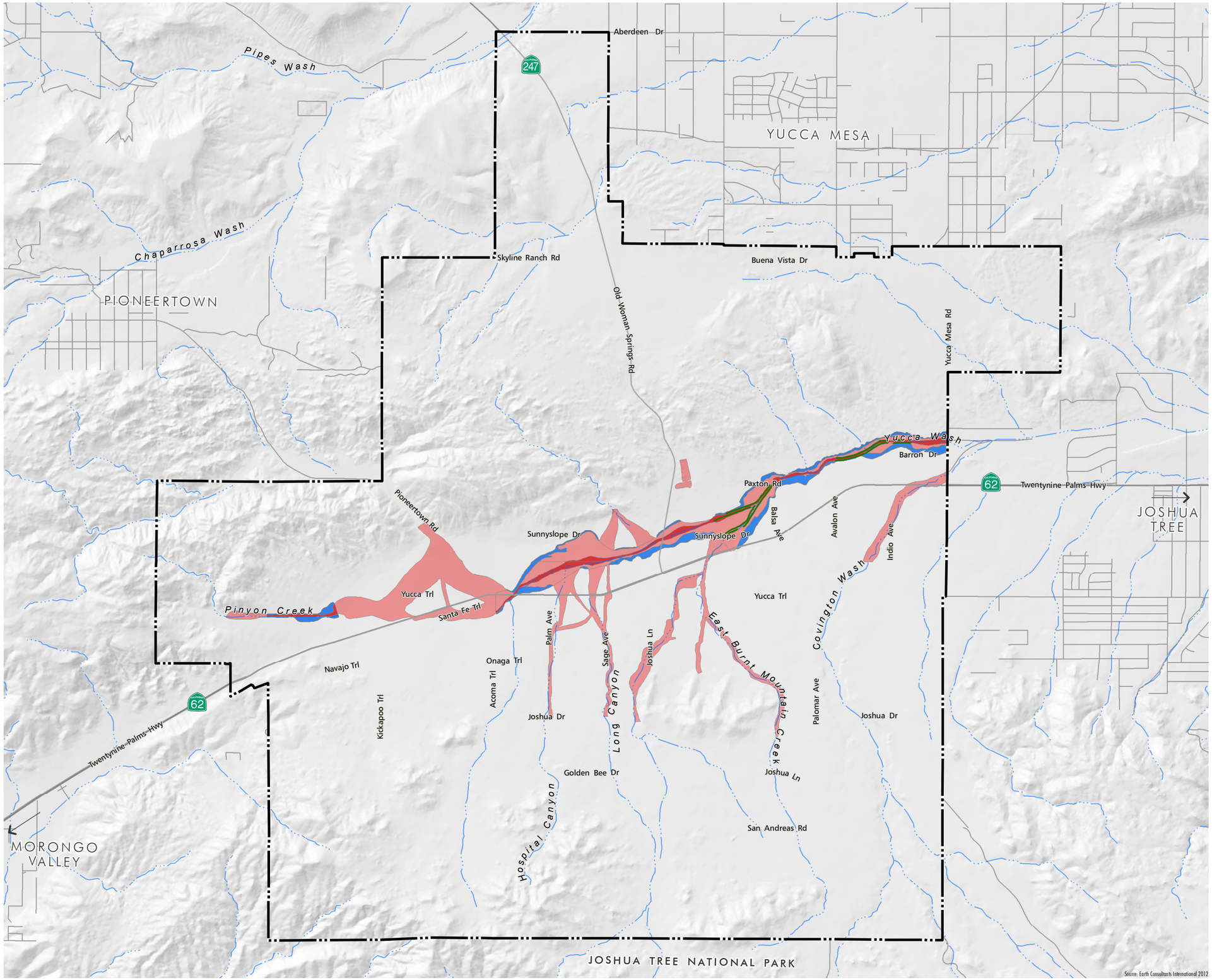
Policy S 3-7 Require development within the 100-year flood zone to implement mitigation measures to minimize risks associated with flood hazards.

Policy S 3-8 Collect, maintain, and make available information regarding flooding hazards to remain aware of potential hazards and serve as an educational resource for the community.

Policy S 3-9 Actively cooperate with FEMA regarding amendments to local Flood Insurance Rate Maps, recognizing the importance of redesignation of the 100- and 500-year flood plains within the Town boundaries as facility improvements are completed.

Figure S-4

FLOOD HAZARD MAP



- Levee
- Floodway Zone
- 100 Year Flood Area
- 500 Year Flood Area
- Town Limits

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Policy S 3-10 Coordinate with the San Bernardino County Flood Control District to enter into multiuse agreements within flood control facilities, allowing for safe, attractive recreational facilities while maintaining the function of the drainage facilities.

Policy S 3-11 Require new development to incorporate adequate flood mitigation, including appropriate siting of structures flood plains and grading that prevents adverse drainage impacts to adjacent properties through onsite retention of runoff.

6.4 Wildland Fire Hazards

Wildland fires pose a significant threat to large areas of Yucca Valley, mostly in the west-northwest and south parts of Town. A combination of factors including weather, topography, and vegetation put these areas at a high risk. Although wildland fires are often considered disruptive and dangerous, they are a necessary part of the ecosystem. A wildland fire becomes a hazard when it grows out of control. When this happens, damage and loss of property and sometimes loss of life are potential risks.

Several historical wildland fires have impacted Yucca Valley, including the Acoma fire of 2008, which burned 356 acres but only destroyed one outbuilding in Town. The largest wildland fire, the 2006 Sawtooth-Millard-Heart Complex fire, was started by lightning and was the result of a merger of three separate wildland fires. It burned approximately 85,700 acres between Yucca Valley and San Gorgonio. In the Yucca Valley region, the fire destroyed 50 homes, 171 outbuildings, and 194 vehicles. It also caused a significant amount of damage to homes, businesses, and property. Seventeen individuals were injured and one civilian died.

Wildland fires have been—and will continue to be—a threat to the Town. In addition to providing fire safety standards in Yucca Valley, the San Bernardino County Fire Department also provides fire prevention and protection services. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection identified the hillside areas of Yucca Valley as having a high to very high fire threat, as shown in Figure S-5, *Fire Hazard Areas*. Several state and federal programs offer planning assistance for mitigating wildland fire hazards. CAL FIRE administers state and federal forestry programs aimed at reducing fuel loads and improving forest lands. California's Forest Improvement Program offers cost-share opportunities to assist landowners with land management planning and conservation. The Forest Stewardship Program is also offered by CAL FIRE. This program combines funds from state and federal sources to assist communities with multiple-ownership watershed and community issues related to prefire fuels treatment, forest health, and erosion control.

Wildland Fire: A nonprescribed fire, typically fueled by vegetation, occurring in areas where development is essentially non-existent. The line or zone where a wildfire and structures or other human development meet is called a wildland urban interface.

Defensible Space: The area adjacent to a structure or dwelling where wildland fire prevention or protection practices are implemented to provide defense from an approaching wildland fire or to minimize the spread of a structure fire to wildlands or surrounding areas. A 100-foot clearance is required by law. Defensible Space requirements are set by the state in the Public Resources Code (PRC 4291) and Government Code (GC 51182) for fuel modification to reduce fire danger. San Bernardino County Mountain Area Safety Taskforce recommends creating three zones to meet the defensible space requirement around a structure: a 10-foot ignition zone should be cleared closest to the structure, a 20-foot (or to property line) clean zone should be maintained from there, and lastly a 70-foot (or to property line) reduced fuel zone should be maintained along the outer edge of the property.

Peakload Water Supply: The supply of water available to meet both domestic water and firefighting needs during the particular season and time of day when domestic water demand on a water system is at its peak.

Fuel Modification Zone: A ribbon of land surrounding a development within a fire hazardous area that is designed to diminish the intensity of a wildland fire as it approaches the structures. Fuel modification includes both the thinning of combustible vegetation, and the removal and replacement of native vegetation with fire-resistive plant species.

The Town is part of the list of Communities at Risk, a federally funded program administered by the California Fire Alliance. This program makes grant funding available to "communities at-risk" in California for projects designed to reduce fire risks. As a designated at risk community, Yucca Valley has the opportunity to apply for these resources.

Fuel modification zones and maintenance of defensible space are two methods that communities often employ to reduce the risk for fire. The state and county require a clearance of all flammable vegetation of 100-feet around a structure (to create a defensible space). Fire-resistant shrubs and trees are recommended, especially near structures. The Town of Yucca Valley addresses the issue of weeds and other vegetation as a potential fire hazard and identifies the steps that the Town takes to abate this hazard in the Town's Municipal Code.

Building construction standards for such items as roof coverings, fire doors, and fire resistant materials help protect structures from external fires and contain internal fires for longer periods. The portion of a structure most susceptible to ignition from a wildland fire is its roof. During a wildland fire roofs are easily ignited by burning cinders carried by winds or by direct contact with burning trees and large shrubs. Many modern building materials incorporate fire ratings and some are noncombustible. The California Building Code, as adopted by the Town, should be referenced for more information. This General Plan identifies the goals and policies below to further protect residents and businesses from the risks associated with wildland fire hazards.

An emergency services staging area during the Millard/Sawtooth Complex fire.

GOAL S 4

Protect the Town of Yucca Valley and its residents from the threat of loss of life and property from wildland fire hazards through the provision of defensible space and public awareness.

Policies

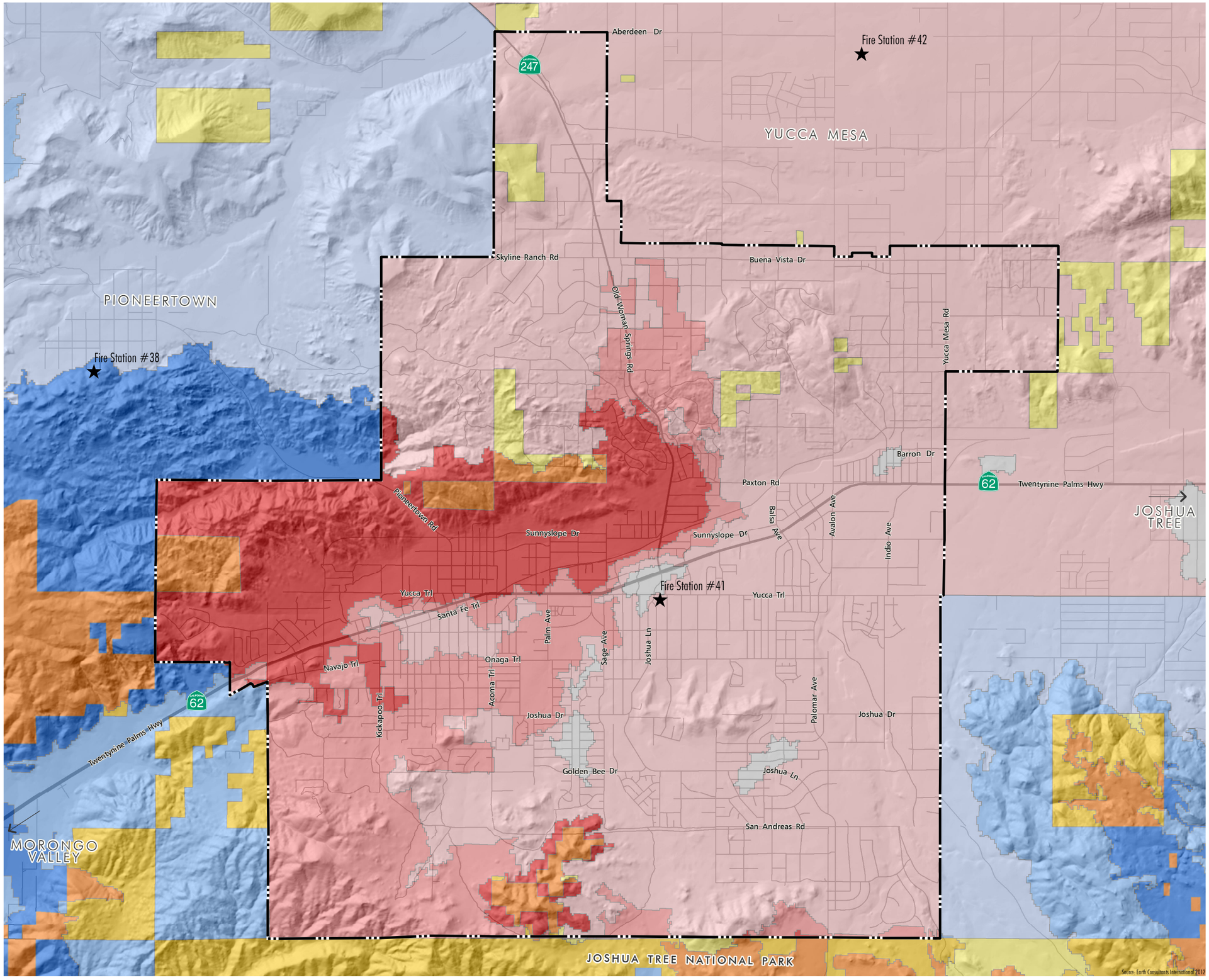
Policy S 4-1 Require property owners adjacent to wildland fire areas to maintain a defensible space around structures consistent with San Bernardino County Fire Department standards.

Policy S 4-2 Continue public education efforts to inform the community of wildland fire hazards and ways to minimize the damage caused by fires.

Policy S 4-3 Ensure that public and private water distribution and supply facilities have adequate capacity and reliability (peakload water supply) to supply both everyday and emergency firefighting needs.

Figure S-5

FIRE HAZARD AREAS



★ Fire Station

Local Responsibilty Area
- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Urban Unzoned

State Responsibility Area
- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone

Federal Responsibility Area
- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
- Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone

Town Limits

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Policy S 4-4 Continue long-range wildland fire safety planning, including enforcement and updates to the Municipal Code, improved infrastructure, and partnerships with other public agencies and the private sector.

Policy S 4-5 Update the Fire Hazard Areas map as development changes.

Policy S 4-6 Enforce fire standards and regulations in accordance with the California Building Code, Town Municipal Code for building and landscaping, and the San Bernardino County Fire Department regulations for all new development.

6.5 Extreme Weather

Severe weather conditions can cause substantial damage to property and infrastructure. Like other natural hazards, weather can also negatively impact daily economic activity and potentially result in injuries and/or loss of life. The Town of Yucca Valley is susceptible to high winds, thunderstorms, dust storms, extreme temperatures, and winter storms resulting in hail, heavy snow, and/or ice. An additional risk with extreme weather conditions is that they can also trigger other types of hazards, such as floods, landslides, or wildland fires.

Source: Luke Jones

A residential neighborhood after a heavy snowfall.

Windstorms

Windstorms are chronic events in Yucca Valley that cause extensive damage. Windstorms can occur in Yucca Valley almost any time during the year, but primarily in January, July, August, and December, It is estimated that the Town is impacted by windstorms approximately five times per year. Windstorms may travel in any direction and are only partly affected by terrain. These storms can potentially damage trees, power lines, and property. They also increase the chance of wildland fires. Windstorms, where winds can reach 65 miles per hour, frequently cause power outages in Town. Power outages may affect economic activity in Yucca Valley, although many businesses are prepared and use backup generators when needed.

Dust Storms

Dust storms are high wind events that pick up and distribute sand and other particles over large distances. In the Yucca Valley region, dust storms are usually the result of Santa Ana wind conditions, which occur most often in the fall and winter months. They can reduce visibility, damage buildings, and negatively impact the health of those in the community. The combination of wind and dust most often negatively impacts traffic through Town. Less frequent than windstorms, the damage from dust storms can be more severe.

Winter Storms and Extreme Cold

Given its location, the Town of Yucca Valley occasionally receives sufficient snow and/or ice to interfere with commuting and other activities. Historically heavy snowstorms are more common in the areas of higher elevation and can result in the accumulation of a few inches or a few feet of snow. Winter storms occur on a yearly basis between December and March. Heavy snow and ice accumulation on rooftops, overhead utility lines, and tree branches are the primary cause of property damage. These storms can also bring extreme cold. Populations that are more vulnerable to cold temperatures include the elderly, persons with medical conditions, infants, and small children. Caring for sensitive residents and visitors can be more challenging with snowy or icy road conditions.

GOAL S 5

Minimize the impacts of extreme weather conditions on residents, businesses, and visitors.

Policy S 5-1 Encourage the use of wind barriers, protective architectural features, and drought-resistant ground coverage in new and existing development to mitigate the impacts from windstorms and dust storms.

Policy S 5-2 Ensure that the National Weather Service continues to deploy extreme weather warnings to alert residents, business owners, and visitors of extreme weather conditions, so that the community, utility companies, shelters, and emergency response resources are prepared.

6.6 Hazardous Materials

Hazardous Material: Any material that because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or the environment if released into the workplace or environment.

The State of California defines hazardous materials as substances that are toxic, ignitable or flammable, reactive, and/or corrosive. The state also defines an extremely hazardous material as a substance that shows high, acute or chronic toxicity, carcinogeneity, bioaccumulative properties, is persistent in the environment; or is water reactive (California Code of Regulations, Title 22).

At this time the Town of Yucca Valley has a relatively small number of facilities that use or store hazardous materials. However, as the Town continues to grow, there is a potential for more generators of hazardous material and waste to locate in the area. Businesses that store hazardous materials and waste may include gas stations, auto shops, and dry cleaners, among others. One particular concern for any community is the proximity of hazardous materials generators or storage sites to schools and homes. Another consideration is the

combined impact of seismic activity or flooding and the resulting release of these materials.

The Town uses county standards for the safe handling of these materials and partners with the county hazardous materials division as needed. Hazardous materials can be dangerous if not maintained and disposed of properly. Household-generated hazardous wastes can be disposed of or recycled through San Bernardino County programs and facilities. Collection facilities are located throughout the region, accepting motor oil, pesticides, batteries, electronics, etc. Standards and requirements set by state and local regulations ensure that businesses comply with safe handling practices.

Although there are not any registered transporters of hazardous materials in Yucca Valley, State Routes 62 and 247 are both permitted for the transportation of hazardous materials. As a result, these roads pose a potential for spills or leaks from trucks transporting hazardous materials. The California Highway Patrol is in charge of spills that occur in or along freeways, with Caltrans; the San Bernardino County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division; and local sheriffs providing additional resources as needed. The following set of comprehensive goals, policies, and actions have been established to protect Yucca Valley from the risks associated with hazardous materials.

GOAL S 6

A safe environment for all residents, employees, and visitors ensured through regulation of the manufacturing, transport, use, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials and waste.

Policy S 6-1 Collaborate with the County of San Bernardino and other appropriate agencies to facilitate the safe and immediate cleanup of all hazardous waste sites and to provide safe facilities for disposal in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

Policy S 6-2 In conjunction with the San Bernardino County Fire Department, review and monitor potentially hazardous materials associated with industrial uses.

Policy S 6-3 Encourage businesses to utilize practices and technologies that will reduce the generation of hazardous waste.

Policy S 6-4 Promote the proper disposal, handling, transport, delivery, treatment, recovery, recycling, and storage of hazardous materials.

Policy S 6-5 Cooperate with the state and gasoline station owners and operators in monitoring the conditions of subsurface tanks.

Policy S 6-6 Maintain an inventory of hazardous materials and their locations in Town.

Policy S6-7 Maintain a protocol for communicating with responsible agencies, and coordinate efforts to assure that state and federal regulations for testing and monitoring leaking underground fuel storage tanks are enforced.

Policy S 6-8 Cooperate with regulators and encourage the enforcement of laws that require all users, producers, and transporters of hazardous materials and wastes to clearly identify such materials and notify the appropriate county, state, and/or federal agencies as required by law.

Policy S 6-9 Require all business that use, store, or produce hazardous materials to comply with the County Fire Department's Business Plan requirements.

Policy S 6-10 Coordinate with the San Bernardino County Fire Department and the County Environmental Health Department to assure improved response to and capability for handling hazardous materials incidents.

6.7 Emergency Services

Emergency services for the Town of Yucca Valley include police, fire, and emergency health services. Critical facilities for the Town of Yucca Valley are shown in Figure S-6, *Emergency Facilities*. The primary role of these service providers is to prevent, respond to, and assist in the recovery from naturally occurring and human-made hazards. Their services include monitoring criminal activity; traffic enforcement; preventing and fighting residential, commercial fires, and wildland fires; and community planning for the availability of health services and emergency transportation and evacuation routes. The goals, policies, and action items following the descriptions below govern public safety for the Town.

Police

The Town contracts with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's department to provide police services. This department is responsible for crime prevention and protection services. The department also educates the public and engages them through articles, public safety media announcements, and safety events throughout the year.

Creating a safe community also includes protecting the Town from crime and accidents. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is one way that the community and Sheriff's

department can implement strategies that deter crime and create a safer streetscape. Projects can utilize CPTED practices such as adequate lighting and well-maintained landscaping as preventative measures against crime.

Urban and Wildland Fires

Urban and wildland fire prevention and protection services are integral to protecting life and property in Yucca Valley. Fire safety standards and protection are provided by the County of San Bernardino. In preparation for a large scale disaster, the County Fire Department and the Town collaborate to train a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This team of volunteers must complete coursework on disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue operations, disaster psychology, terrorism, and the CERT organization.

Emergency Health Services

The Hi-Desert Medical Center is the sole provider of emergency and acute care, serving a 1,800-square-mile area of the Morongo Basin. This facility is the closest hospital to the Town of Yucca Valley. Smaller medical facilities in Town include urgent care centers and special service facilities. Due to limited regional emergency health facilities, the Town's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) identifies San Bernardino County Department of Public Health as the primary agency responsible for public health and medical needs. The EOP provides direction for government officials and departments in emergency circumstances. When it comes to emergency healthcare, this agency will designate or set up facilities based on the severity of the situation. As the population continues to grow, these agencies and facilities will also expand to meet the health care needs of residents.

GOAL S 7

Minimized threats to life, health, and property, and delivery of vital services in the event of an emergency.

Policy S 7-1 Provide an appropriate level of police and fire protection to preserve and protect the health, welfare, and property of residents and businesses in the Town of Yucca Valley.

Policy S 7-2 Require the San Bernardino County Sheriff and Fire Departments to evaluate new development plans and comment on their ability to provide services.

Policy S 7-3 Encourage the evaluation of projects using Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) design practices as a means of providing increased

security in residential, commercial, and industrial development.

Policy S 7-4 Update and maintain the Emergency Operations Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan, keeping them current with county, state, and federal requirements; include measures pertaining to man-made and natural hazards such as flood, access, earthquakes, landslides, hazardous materials, evacuation, severe weather, and fire.

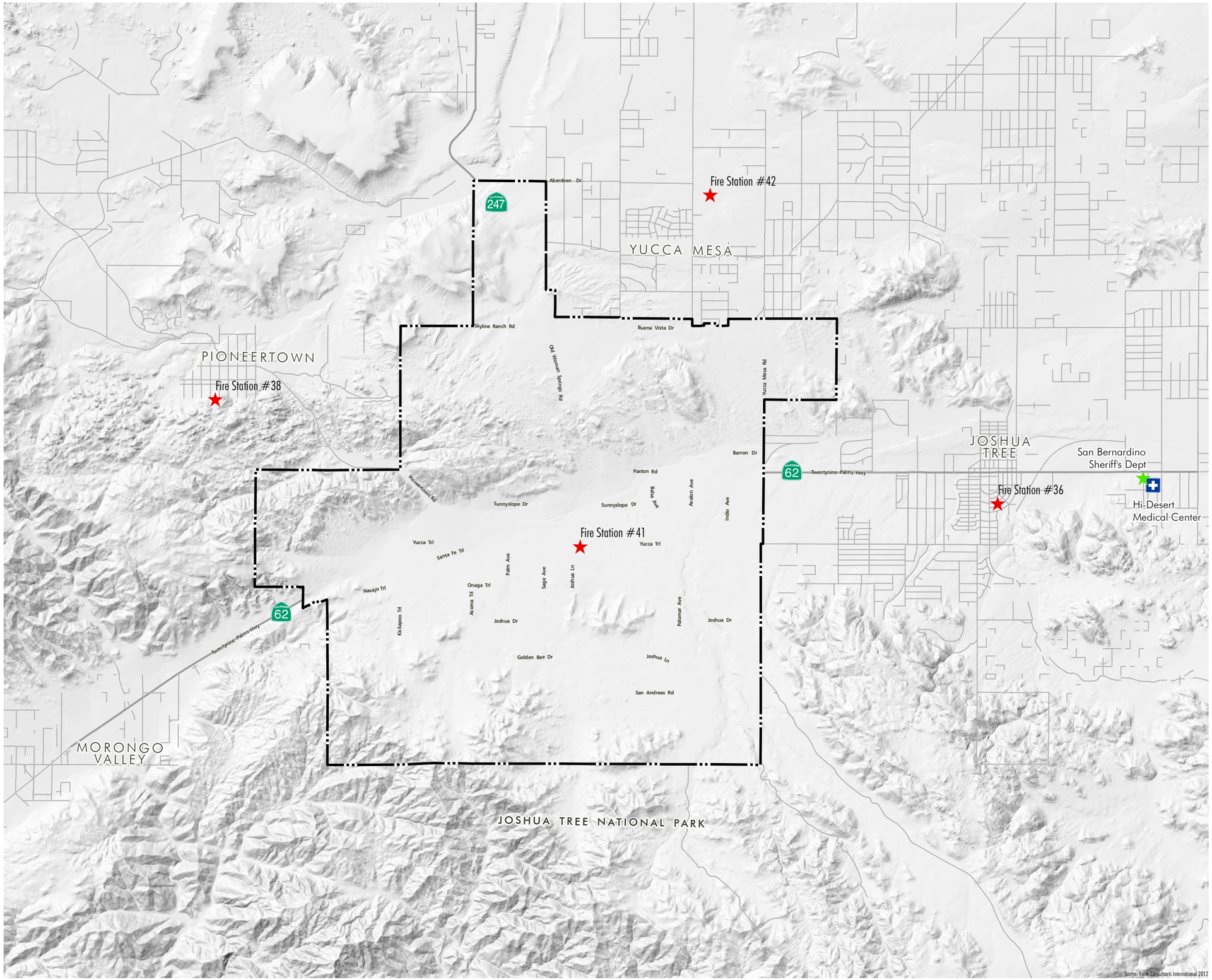
Policy S 7-5 Establish emergency evacuation routes and adequate signage.

Policy S 7-6 Promote public and quasi-public education programs to enhance public safety.

Policy S 7-7 Coordinate with the San Bernardino County Fire and Sheriff's Departments and other appropriate agencies for the provision of adequate equipment and personnel, as well as expanded levels of service when needed.

Figure S-6

EMERGENCY FACILITIES



Source: Earth Consultants International 2012

- Hi-Desert Medical Center
- San Bernardino Sheriff's Dept
- Fire Station
- Town Limits

YUCCA VALLEY GENERAL PLAN

TYV-01 8.22.13

0 2,350 4,700 9,400 Feet

THE PLANNING CENTER DC&E

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