



Pajaro Long-Term Recovery

COUNTY OF MONTEREY
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



OVERVIEW

From March 9th, 2023, to March 20th, 2023, the County of Monterey experienced a series of intense atmospheric rivers, resulting in hazardous conditions and severe flooding in the Community of Pajaro.

The aftermath of these storms revealed significant damage to critical infrastructure, encompassing homes, businesses, roads, levees, and wastewater piping.





Disaster Impacts

IMPACTS TO ECONOMY

- Approximately \$600+million in damages to the agricultural industry.
- Approximately \$30,436,110 in damages to businesses and commercial structures

IMPACTS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- Increased demand for social services, homeless services, emergency housing vouchers, unemployment benefits, etc.
- Impacts to health risks due to mold and an increased presence of mosquitos.

•IMPACTS TO HOUSING

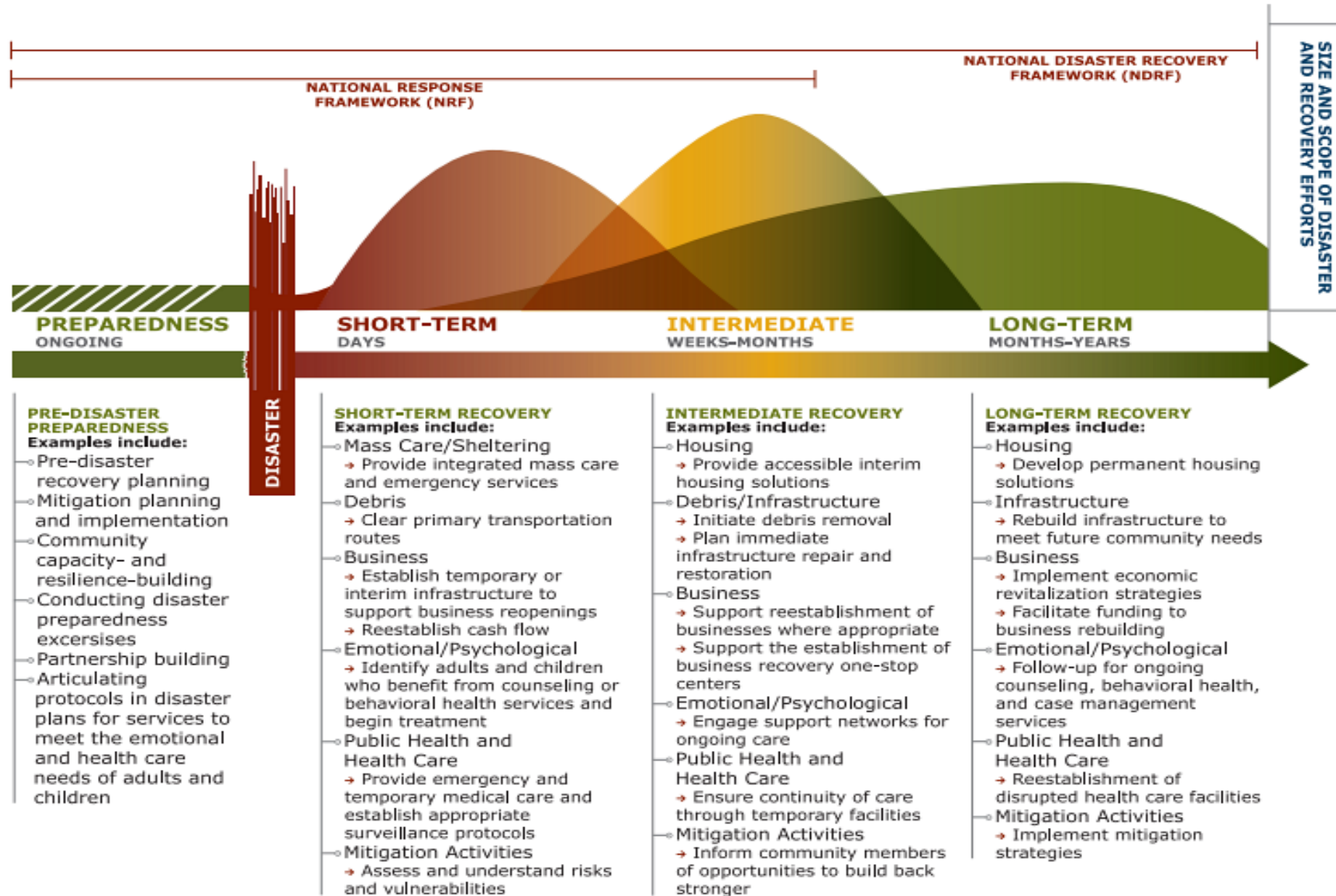
- Nearly every home in Pajaro was impacted, even those without high water marks.
- An estimated \$93,947,336 was caused in housing damages.

IMPACTS TO INFRASTRUCTURE

- Damage to roads, public water systems, sewage main, and the levee.
- Disruption of services like clean drinking water, and sewage.

IMPACTS TO NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Damage to the middle school, Ag. Commissioner's Office, and the historic water tower.
- Flooding causes erosion of the land taking nutrients from the soil.





EOC Recovery Efforts

- The County of Monterey Emergency Operations Center was activated at the highest level, Level 1, during the entire duration of the rain event.
- The EOC is currently still activated for ongoing response and recovery efforts.
- The Proclamation of a Local Emergency persists.
- The County of Monterey has made significant efforts to provide for the immediate needs of the community (human health, safety, and economic stability).
- These fundamental services play a vital role in stabilizing the community, allowing all other aspects of society to function effectively.



Community Support and Successes

The following short-term and intermediate recovery efforts have successfully taken place in the Pajaro Community:

- **Emergency Response and Language Equity**
- **Activation of the Equity Officer in the EOC**
- **Comfort and Hygiene Hubs**
- **Local Assistance Centers (LAC)**
- **Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC)**
- **Community Resource Center (CRC)**
- **Emergency Congregate & Non-Congregate Sheltering (NCS)**

* Thank you to all our Community Partners for their support!





Successes Cont.

During the height of operations from March 28th through May 18th, the LAC, CRC, and the NCS served a total of 1856 individuals & households broken down in the following manner:

- LAC 1141 Households/Residents served
- CRC 455 Households served
- NCS 80 Families/260 Individuals served

The FEMA DRC has registered to date, a total of 2581 individuals for Individual Assistance with 957 approvals for a total of \$5,052,970.63





The Voice of the Residents

- The County organized two community meetings on 3/21/2023 & 5/3/2023 consisting of information dissemination and listening sessions with the residents of Pajaro.
- Residents expressed their desire for meaningful government involvement and direct participation in the Long-Term Recovery endeavors.
- Many residents highlighted the need for deeper meaningful investment in their community to withstand future disasters.



2023 Pajaro Long-Term Recovery

- Community led planning effort
- Collaborative, comprehensive and coordinated approach for the recovery of the community's physical, economic, social, and environmental systems in the aftermath of a disaster.
- Support survivor needs and build resilience through:
 - Individual and Family Empowerment
 - Leadership and Local Primacy
 - Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning
 - Engaged Partnerships and Inclusiveness
 - Unity of Effort
 - Timeliness and Flexibility
 - Resilience and Sustainability
 - Psychological and Emotional Recovery



Meaningful Community Engagement

- This Task Force will utilize the spectrum of community engagement to ownership tool*,
- Involves community members, stakeholders, and underrepresented groups in decision-making and ensuring their voices are heard.
- Promoting meaningful participation will build trust,
- Enhance the quality of decision-making
- Lead to ongoing community engagement for plan implementation.

Community Engagement Spectrum



* [The spectrum of community engagement to ownership tool](#) by Rosa Gonzalez, Facilitating Power

PAJARO LONG-TERM RECOVERY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Project Scope

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Pajaro Long-term Recovery Plan Development project aims to create a comprehensive recovery plan for the community of Pajaro, while engaging stakeholders in the planning process. This project utilizes the spectrum of community engagement to ownership tool by involving community members, stakeholders, and underrepresented groups in decision-making and ensuring their voices are heard. The estimated duration for completing the project is nine to twelve months, with specific timelines determined in consultation with project stakeholders.

PROJECT GOAL

Develop a comprehensive Long-term Recovery Plan for the Community of Pajaro that addresses short-, mid-, and long-term needs, community identified priorities and engages stakeholders in the planning process to build a constructive relationship with the Pajaro Community. Additionally, the plan aims to restore the flood-affected areas to their pre-incident conditions or even enhance them. It will encompass strategies for recovery, preparedness, and potentially incorporate infrastructure development to minimize the impact of future disasters.

Project Flowchart



Scope of Work

Goals:

- To develop a Long-Term Recovery Plan for the Community of Pajaro that addresses short-, mid-, and long-term needs, and community identified priorities.
- That engages stakeholders in the planning process to build a constructive relationship with the Pajaro Community.
- To restore flood-affected areas to pre-incident conditions or even enhance them.

Objectives:

- Perform a community assessment: June – July 2023
- Identify and build the project team: July – August 2023
- Create a planning committee: July – December 2023
- Perform resident engagement: August 2023 – April 2024
- Draft a recovery plan: January – May 2024
- Approval and Implementation of the recovery Plan: May – June 2024



Pajaro Disaster Recovery Manager and Community Liaison

- The County of Monterey Department of Emergency Management and the Health Department have dedicated staff for the long-term recovery planning effort.
- A Disaster Recovery Manager and Community Liaison have been appointed.
- These roles play a critical role in helping the community recover from a disaster by assessing needs, coordinating efforts, and serving as a spokesperson for recovery activities.

DISASTER RECOVERY MANAGER

- Oversees the coordination and execution of the recovery process.

COMMUNITY LIAISON

- Support planning efforts serving as the point of contact for the community.



Pajaro Recovery Task Force

Serve as the steering committee for planning efforts.

- County Leadership
- Recovery Manager
- Key County Departments
- Special Districts
- State Agencies
- Federal Agencies
- Community Based/Non-profit Organizations
- 10-15 Community Members At Large

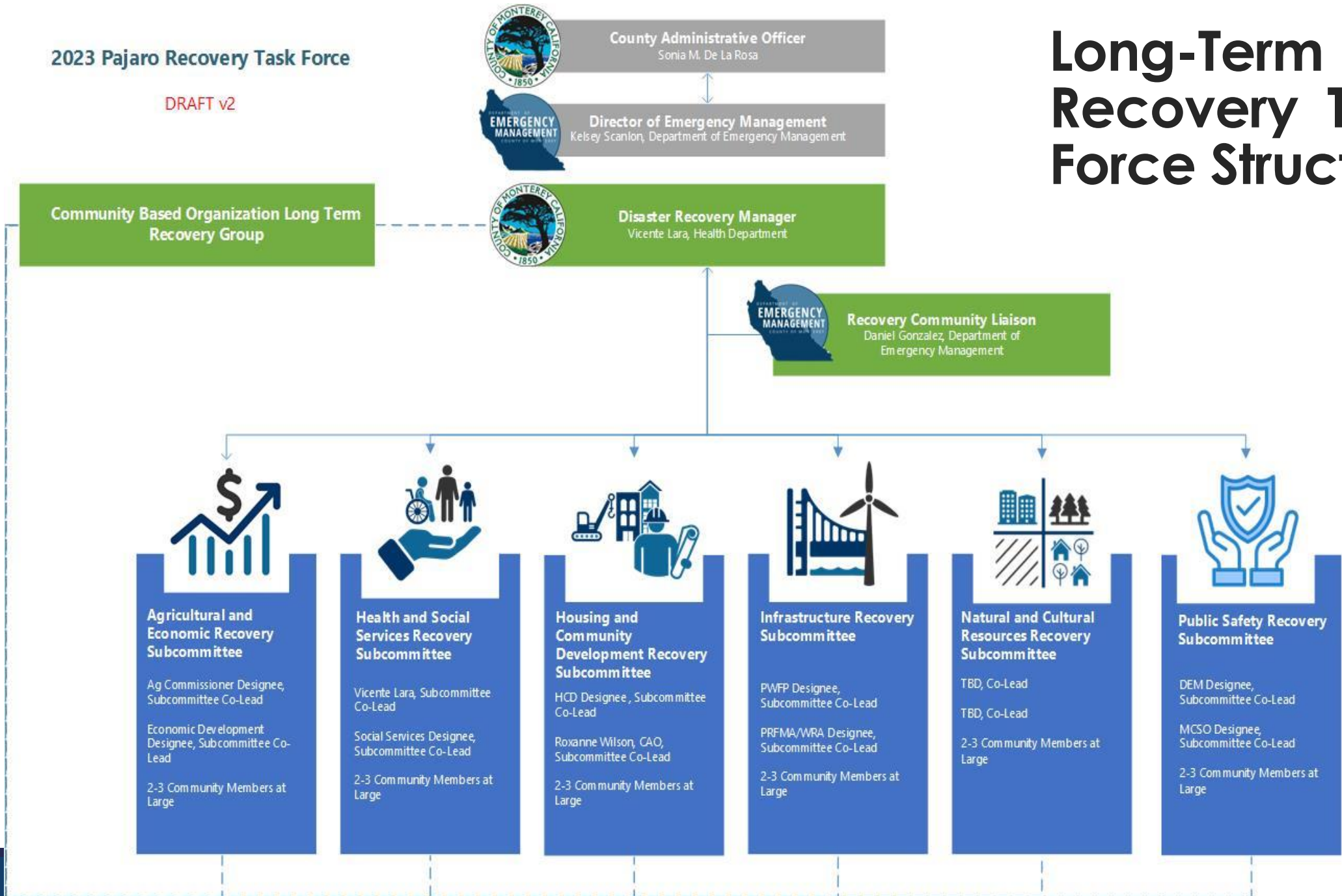
The Task Force will have six (6) subcommittees:

- **Agricultural and Economic Recovery**
- **Health and Social Services Recovery**
- **Housing and Community Development Recovery**
- **Infrastructure Recovery**
- **Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery**
- **Public Safety Recovery**

2023 Pajaro Recovery Task Force

DRAFT v2

Long-Term Recovery Task Force Structure





Assembly Bill 102 - Funding for Pajaro Recovery

- The County of Monterey has been granted \$20 Million for Pajaro recovery efforts by the State of California
- It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors allocate monies upon adoption of the Pajaro Recovery Plan presented by the Pajaro Recovery Task Force, including recommendations for use of the monies.

Next Steps



- **July 24, 2023:** Pajaro Long Term Recovery Plan Committee/Resident Meeting.
- **August 29, 2023:** Long Term Recovery Plan Committee Kick-Off
- **September 19, 2023:** Board of Supervisors Meeting Update
- Monthly updates to the Board of Supervisors

