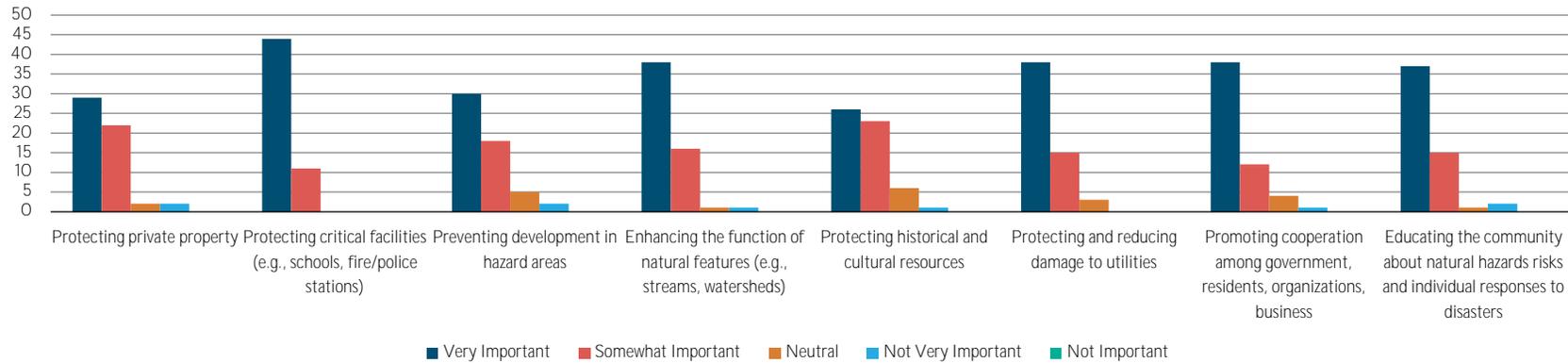


Question of the Week 7

Natural hazards can have a significant impact on a community, but planning for these events can help lessen the impacts. The following statements will help determine the community's priorities regarding planning for natural hazards in the City of Manitou Springs. Please tell us how important each one is to you.



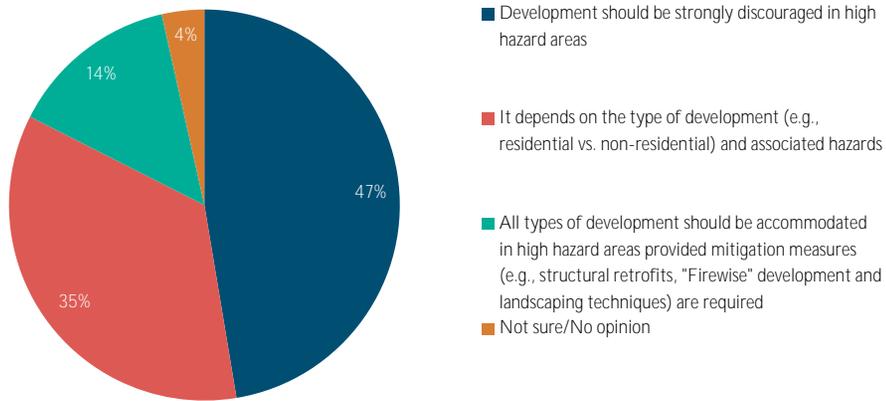
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important	Not Important	Total
Protecting private property	29	22	2	2	0	55
Protecting critical facilities (e.g., schools, fire/police stations)	44	11	0	0	0	55
Preventing development in hazard areas	30	18	5	2	0	55
Enhancing the function of natural features (e.g., streams, watersheds)	38	16	1	1	0	56
Protecting historical and cultural resources	26	23	6	1	0	56
Protecting and reducing damage to utilities	38	15	3	0	0	56
Promoting cooperation among government, residents, organizations, business	38	12	4	1	0	55
Educating the community about natural hazards risks and individual responses to disasters	37	15	1	2	0	55

Ranked (percent repoding "Very Important")

1. Protecting critical facilities (e.g., schools, fire/police stations) 80%
2. Promoting cooperation among government, residents, organizations, business 69%
3. Enhancing the function of natural features (e.g., streams, watersheds) 68%
4. Protecting and reducing damage to utilities 68%
6. Educating the community about natural hazards risks and individual responses to disasters 67%
7. Preventing development in hazard areas 55%
8. Protecting private property 53%
9. Protecting historical and cultural resources 46%

Question of the Week 7: Natural Hazards (October 2016)

To what extent should the City accommodate future development in high hazard areas?



Development should be strongly discouraged in high hazard areas	27
It depends on the type of development (e.g., residential vs. non-residential) and associated hazards	20
All types of development should be accommodated in high hazard areas provided mitigation measures (e.g., structural retrofits, "Firewise" development and landscaping techniques) are required	8
Not sure/No opinion	2
<i>Total</i>	<i>57</i>

Please feel free to use the space below to provide any additional comments or ideas on ways in which the City can best plan for natural hazards and mitigate risks.

Question of the Week 7: Natural Hazards (October 2016)

Flooding has ravished the Manitou East neighborhood more than 8 times in the last 20 years, very little effective mitigation has been implemented to stop this flood risk. Sand/Fountain Creek has not been dredged in years; the creek at Fields Park is chock full of limbs, debris, and rocks. MS is quite aware of the high risk areas, yet measures are only talked about. Stop being bureaucrats, start acting like responsible advocates for MS. We are weary of the project plans, excuses, and endless discussions. We hear "there is no money", "no resources", and we see nothing accomplished. How long must we wait?

Flash flooding through the canyon along Fountain Creek will always be a consideration. The history of Manitou shows that it has flooded many times before the Waldo Canyon fire..... We cannot forget and ignore this simple fact....

Support and continue development of Manitou Springs CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). The groundwork has already been done.

When you move to Manitou Springs, on a flood plain at the end of two box canyons, surrounded by forest lands subject to forest fires, you've accepted the risk of living in a great natural environment. Our entire downtown is in the flood plain and floods are a consequence. Somehow the downtown has survived for over a hundred years, and it will survive for many hundreds more. We need to be more sensitive to our comprehensive plan, our historic resources and how we spend taxpayer money. Spending \$420K to replace a minimally used Brook St bridge instead of repairing it is a travesty. How long are we going to have the 'temporary' Spring St. bridge? Really fits well into our historic district doesn't it?

Much of what Manitou faces is a matter of WHEN, not IF natural disasters will happen. We now know that we can have hillsides slide, we can have floods, we can have forest fires, and we are prone to severe droughts. Educating people is critical... many folks never think about such things and feel safe everywhere they go. This isn't living aware or realistically. These issues must be faced bravely and with understanding, not fear.

Under no 2. I would say that I have less of an opinion than the above. I believe that good information could go out in a number of ways so that you reach people by social media that is inserted into the website in a easy and quick method. Some people still want written material and for other occasions the meetings are useful or small interest groups are called together. I would think long and hard on the social media approach especially now that neighborhoods have their own websites. Ours in Crystal Hills comes out with something every day and occasionally I will see a city notice. However, if it is really important it must be stated and repeated if you want some serious attention and tell them why it is critical to get feedback. I do think that the newspaper in town still provides information for those who are less inclined to go on line.

thanks again for allowing me to comment.

What is most important is to make downtown buildings stronger so when a flood does come buildings do not fall down and thereby creating more problems and deeper flood down stream. We need to have very strong codes to force land owners on the creek to be responsible and strengthen their building.

Road and street maintenance is certainly important. these public properties are the main carriers of stormwater, and stormwater is the most critical element of hazardous conditions - both during and after the storm. Clogged culverts do not function, and the migration of soils has to be accepted as 'the way it is' due to the instability of deteriorated granite soils. The growth of bushes and tree limbs tends to obscure road signs and this contributes to confused traffic and increased danger to traffic movement. Some rulings that specify select streets as "thoroughfares" rather than strictly "residential" will aid traffic flow and access for emergency vehicles.

Question of the Week 7: Natural Hazards (October 2016)

Mitigation is CRITICAL and is best accomplished by working with CUSP & Feds -
With adequate Mitigation, LIVES, fire & police stations, utilities, properties and schools will be protected -
First Responders NEED extensive training in case all else fails.

All hazard areas should be zoned based on level of potential disaster as a service and for education of property owner. The concern is increase in insurance on property owner. Many insurance companies may offer this survey or have to do it anyway. High level of disaster should be discouraged, but if property owner decides to build they should be financially responsible for their own property and surrounding. Maybe a waiver can be signed. This would pertain to new building since there is plenty of private property build in high disaster areas and you are walking a thin line with property rights. Protecting private property in Manitou is of utmost importance. This has already started to crumble and needs to be protected.

Severity of the hazard impact should be considered as well as location. Issues such as ability to insure against loss (fire) vs. landslide activity should be part of the equation.

Coordinating with business, individuals n non profits in our community who can help: as a group effort we can do more with less
It's a different time but I still think we can enact our own WPA or CCC ("conservation corps manitou") and train youth n others to mitigate flooding and fires thru erosion work, trails, stonework, basic engineering, etc.
D14 could be a great partner in this as they were for the Safe Routes bridge

The biggest problem we face is overbuilt "solutions" that actually increase the impact to be expected from future events. The next example to expect is Phase 3 of the Williams Canon project which, by following mandated FEMA regulations must channel water from Williams. Canyon into the un-natural course to the built confluence with Fountain Creek to the west of the Spa Building rather than construct dispersion structures to split flows down Canon Avenue above the Arcade and back into Fountain Creek at the Apothecary. The first rule of flood impact mitigation is to disperse flows. Will it happen that way? NO. Why? Because we are forced into ridiculous planning by bureaucrats who are following "rules" rather than common sense. Phase 1 is a disaster waiting for the next high flow out of Williams Canyon for the SAME reason. Your questions are moot and irrelevantly postulated.

Protecting "people" should be the first question. My answer is "very important",

Either flood or fire....both should be the litmus test for non-expansion, no development in high hazard areas.

Be kind to Mother Nature or she'll keep kicking our arss

Existing critical facilities like the police/fire and city hall need to be moved out of the floodplain immediately and placed in a location where we do not need to worry about the integrity of our emergency service and our local government.

Very difficult to prioritize one over the other. I am wondering how "enhancing the function of natural features (e.g., streams and watersheds)" is to be defined by this group. By some standards, I would suspect that Manitou Springs is just in one big hazard area and everyone needs to keep their eyes open. Perhaps making certain that the city infrastructure allows for passage of emergency vehicles and that sufficient hydrants are accessible. Fountain creek may be a hazard, but we may as well beautify it (clean it up where it flows through town anyway . . . make it inviting . . .) in the process of maintaining it and making it as safe as possible.

Priorities: Cleaning and grooming stream beds and surrounding areas; clearing weeds along streets and removing trash and waste: make owners mow empty lots; repair streets and continue to assess parking violations along lovers lane and narrow streets

Energy, code enforcement and money should be focused on strengthening weak buildings that [if they collapse in a flood], will cause great damage and danger to properties down stream.

Question of the Week 7: Natural Hazards (October 2016)

Neighborhood meeting/meet and greet to discuss mitigation in the neighborhood and how all of us working together are an important component of creating a safe and livable habitat, at least as much as possible....