



TOWN OF PARADISE, CA

2024/2025 Paradise Community Recovery Action Plan



**WORKING TOGETHER TO REBUILD A
THRIVING COMMUNITY**



Town Council

Ron Lassonde
Mayor

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Steve Crowder
Councilmember


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Councilmember

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The Town

- Incorporated on November 27, 1979
- Located in Butte County, CA
- Home of Johnny Appleseed Days, the longest running Harvest Festival in California
- Rich in history, innate beauty, and friendly people



The People

- 10,691 Residents (2024)
- 26,218 Residents (Pre-Camp Fire)
- Families, remote workers, retirees, and commuters



The Community

- 35% Growth since the Camp Fire
- 350+ Businesses
- Changing from retirement community to young families
- Brand- new school facilities
- Ample recreation areas



SAFER



WELCOMING



STRONGER



BETTER



GREENER

2019 and 2022 Long-Term Recovery Plans

In the aftermath of the devastating 2018 Camp Fire, Paradise, California found itself at a crossroads. The fire, one of the deadliest and most destructive in California's history, left the town in ruins. Yet, amidst the ashes, hope emerged, and the community rallied together to forge a path towards recovery. The Paradise Long-Term Recovery Plan was born out of this spirit of resilience and determination. It wasn't merely about rebuilding what was lost; it was about creating a safer, stronger, better, greener, and more welcoming Paradise.



Safer was the first pillar of the plan. Recognizing the importance of preparedness and prevention, the community focused on creating safer evacuation routes, implementing an Early Warning System, and promoting defensible space around properties. Collaborating with experts in emergency management and urban planning, Paradise embarked on a mission to ensure that its residents would never again face such dire circumstances without adequate means of escape and protection.



The **Stronger** component of the plan aimed to fortify Paradise's infrastructure and restoring essential services. Installing a sewer system, supporting the re-establishment of medical facilities, and burying utilities underground were among the priorities. These initiatives not only enhanced the town's resilience to future disasters but also laid the foundation for sustainable growth and development.



Better was about revitalizing Paradise's economy and communal spaces. By promoting local businesses, organizing events and entertainment, and creating more parks and a walkable downtown area, the town sought to foster a sense of community and belonging. The goal was not just to rebuild, but to create a vibrant and thriving Paradise for generations to come.



Greener was a commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. Investing in sustainable design and infrastructure, rebuilding in a more resilient manner was an important aspect to this aspect of the plan. Paradise aimed to serve as a model for other communities, demonstrating how to bounce back from tragedy in a way that respects and protects the natural world.



Finally, **Welcoming** underscored Paradise's commitment to inclusivity, affordability, and safety. Providing diverse housing opportunities, ensuring affordability for all residents, and prioritizing safety in every aspect of community life were paramount. Paradise aspired to be a place where everyone felt welcome and could thrive, regardless of background or circumstance.

The Long-Term Recovery Plan was a collaborative effort, involving input from residents, local officials, experts, and organizations both within and outside the community. It was a testament to the resilience, ingenuity, and determination of the people of Paradise, who refused to be defined by tragedy but instead saw it as an opportunity to create a better future. As the town rose from the ashes, it did so with a renewed sense of purpose and unity, ready to embrace the promise of tomorrow.



The 2024/2025 Action Plan is the compilation of planned projects and service improvements being undertaken to achieve the objectives of the Long-Term Recovery Plan. The Plan is also informed by discussions with the Town Council and the Town’s Department Heads that occurred on Friday, February 16 at Town Hall.

The 2024/2025 Action Plan is focused on recovery efforts. The continuation and improvement of vital, ongoing municipal services is critically important but not specifically referenced in this Action Plan. Progress of the plan will be reviewed periodically throughout the year.

2024/2025 Recovery Action Plan



2022 Long Term Recover Plan Category: SAFER

Action	Responsible Party	Implementation Status	Target Completion Date	Status Date
Complete installation and testing of Emergency Warning System (EWS) towers	Recovery and Economic Development	All 21 towers are installed and operational. Towers are now being connected to AC power.	12/31/2024	6/30/2024
Start LHMG projects including Category 4 Tree Removal, Home-hardening and Defensible Space	Recovery and Economic Development	Expecting final FEMA approval to occur by May 1st 2024.	7/1/2027	4/09/2024
Complete installation of the Evacuation Zone Signage	Public Works	COMPLETED	3/30/2024	4/09/2024
Continue to Collaborate with PRPD on completion of feasibility analysis of wildfire buffers	Community Development	The Town in cooperation with PRPD held a public input session in February 2024.	3/31/2026	5/09/2024
Fully staff local dispatch services and Police Officer Positions	Police Department	Dispatch set to be fully staffed by 6/30/2024 when operations are 24/7.	6/30/2024	4/09/2024
Complete addition to Animal Control Facility	Police Department/ Public Works	Ongoing – staff is working with architects to finalize design of new facility. Construction planned for summer 2024.	12/01/2024	3/08/2024
Continue to enforce fire safe building practices throughout the community	Community Development	Community development continues to provide inspections and work with CSLB to ensure state and local building codes (adapted to meet IBHS & WUI) are being followed.	Ongoing	4/09/2024
Secure CDBG-DR Mitigation funding for road and drainage infrastructure improvements	Public Works	Ongoing- \$10.3M in Mitigation funds are being finalized.	5/01/2024	3/08/2024
Continue seeking state and federal funding to support high priority road projects to improve evacuation routes	Public Works	Ongoing - \$25M federal DOT RAISE application has been submitted for Roe Rd Extension Phase 2.	6/15/2024	3/08/2024
Develop CDBG-DR Infrastructure projects through environmental and design	Public Works	Ongoing – Issuing task orders to commence major environmental review work on the Town’s critical evacuation route improvement projects (Skyway, Pentz, Roe Rd Phase 1 and 2, etc)	6/30/2024	3/11/2024

2024/2025 Recovery Action Plan



2022 Long Term Recover Plan Category: STRONGER

Action	Responsible Party	Implementation Status	Target Completion Date	Status Date
Complete Action Plan for Downtown Core Business Investment	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town anticipates allocating unused ARPA funding to draft a strategic plan for downtown. A temporary moratorium on residential-type land uses in the downtown has been enacted while the strategic plan is prepared.	6/30/2025	5/14/2024
Launch CDBG-DR funded Workforce Training Project	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town is waiting on final approval from HCD for a workforce training center on Paradise High school campus.	4/01/2027	4/09/2024
Secure consultant for General Plan Update and begin visioning process for updated General Plan	Community Development	The Town has completed two elements of the General Plan (Housing and Safety). The Town will be contracting with a consultant to complete the update of the final five elements of the 1994 General Plan.	12/31/2028	5/09/2024
Utilize Fiscal Sustainability Model in annual budgeting to ensure long-term stability for the Town of Paradise municipal government.	Finance	The Town continues to update the Fiscal Sustainability model to project the longevity of PRO funds.	Ongoing	4/09/2024
Begin design of sewer project	Public Works	Ongoing – On March 13, 2024 Paradise Town Council awarded the Progressive Design Build contract to Mountain Cascade Inc-Carollo. Design work will commence immediately	2025	3/08/2024
Continue efforts to secure construction funding for sewer project	Public Works	Ongoing – staff is meeting regularly with State agencies including State Water Board on funding application status and implementation. State budget FY24/25 will be primary focus.	Ongoing	3/08/2024

2024/2025 Recovery Action Plan



2022 Long Term Recover Plan Category: BETTER

Action	Responsible Party	Implementation Status	Target Completion Date	Status Date
Repave approximately 20 miles of Paradise Roads	Public Works	Ongoing – Public Works will be finishing Phase 2 of 2023 residential road project and 2024 collectors and arterials by fall 2024. Due to delays by PID installing service laterals, full achievement of planned paving of 2024 residential roads may be delayed through spring 2025.	Fall 2024	3/08/2024
Finalize Camp Fire insurance settlement and create plan for replacement facilities	Public Works	Ongoing – Staff continues to navigate claim processing with insurance provider. When complete, a committee to decide next steps will be created.	Ongoing	3/08/2024
Continue to monitor contractors in the community and ease as much as possible “construction fatigue” for members of the community.	Public Works	Ongoing – staff continues to support a traffic control map which is updated weekly to advise residents of where work is occurring. Further a street-by-street map is posted of road rehab activities by calendar year so that residents are able to view when improvements can be expected.	Fall 2026	3/08/2024

2024/2025 Recovery Action Plan



2022 Long Term Recover Plan Category: GREENER

Action	Responsible Party	Implementation Status	Target Completion Date	Status Date
Continue to collaborate with Paradise Park and Recreation District on recreational improvements in the community	Public Works/ Recovery and Economic Development	The Town regularly meets with PRPD and works closely with their staff on recreation opportunities, including a bike track along Yellowstone Kelly Heritage Trail, and moving forward with Berry Creek Park.	Ongoing	4/01/2024

2024/2025 Recovery Action Plan



2022 Long Term Recover Plan Category: WELCOMING

Action	Responsible Party	Implementation Status	Target Completion Date	Status Date
Support Ridge Chamber of Commerce Welcometotheridge.com Marketing campaign to attract new homeowners to Paradise	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town has provided the Chamber of Commerce with funding (\$20k) in 2023 to create a website focused on bringing new residents to the ridge.	Ongoing	4/01/2024
Continue to work with TOT-funded organizations to attract visitors to the community	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town allocated \$100k across 5 organizations in 2023, the first year of a 3-year allocation. These funds are being used to increase tourism in Paradise.	6/30/2026	4/01/2024
Continue to deliver CDBG-DR funded multi-family housing projects	Housing	The Town continues to work on CDBG – DR funded projects.	2026	4/01/2024
Continue first-time homebuyer and housing rehabilitation programs	Housing	The Town is seeing an increase in both programs and continues to support eligible applicants through the process.	Ongoing	4/01/2024
Continue Housing Advisory Committee as means of generating new strategies for home rebuilding	Housing	The Town continues to meet with the Housing Advisory Committee to keep up to date on housing needs in the community.	Ongoing	4/01/2024
Seek to complete a feasibility analysis and action plan for recovery of healthcare services in Paradise	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town requested partial funding from the Feather River Health Foundation Board for a Community Health Needs Assessment to be completed summer/fall 2024	06/2025	4/01/2024
Continue to partner with Community Organizations on community events designed to bring the entire community together.	Recovery and Economic Development	The Town is amending the Community Park Use Policy to waive the rental fee for the park for non-profit organizations to help support our local events.	4/09/2029	4/09/2024