

## **Appendix A**

### Interview Guide for Residents

#### **Understanding the Interviewees Scope and Perspective**

- What are the main hazards that threaten [insert community/city name]?
  - Will climate change have an impact on the level of risk from these hazards? If so, how?
  - What is your sense of how much the community knows about or is concerned with these hazards?
- What part of [insert community/city name] is at risk of hazards? Who is at risk in these areas?
  - Is there a risk of residential houses being destroyed by hazards?
- What measures are being taken to manage flood risk that you know about?
  - Do you think these measures are enough?
  - Are there any measures you think could be taken that aren't yet?

#### **Direct Questions**

- Have you experienced any natural disasters?
  - What kind?
  - Did it impact your access to housing?
  - Did it cause you financial hardship?
  - How did you manage the situation?
  - Do you feel you have recovered from that event? If so, how long did it take for you to feel like you recovered?
- If your home was damaged from flooding, where would you go in the short term (days to weeks)?
  - Medium term (several months)?
  - Long term (1 or more years)?
  - What organizations or government agencies do you think would be involved in responding?
- What, if anything, needs to be done to help you prepare for possible future displacement events?
  - What can you do to reduce your risk?
  - What do you need from local, state, or federal government to help you reduce your risk?
  - What do you need from local organizations or community groups to help you reduce your risk?

- What are the major barriers you face in addressing your risk?
- What specific organizations or agencies do you see as being responsible for addressing risk of disaster displacement?

### **Conclusion**

- Is there anything we have **not covered** that you believe is vital to understanding risk of hazards and housing insecurity in this area?
- Is there anyone else you would suggest that I talk to?

**Appendix B**  
Interview Guide for  
Government Officials and Non-Profit Organization Representatives

**Introductory Questions**

- **Introductory question if we don't know the person:**
  - How did you come to work at \_\_\_\_?
- **Main introductory question:**
  - **Officials:** How does flood risk management intersect with the day to day operations of your job?
  - **NGOs:** How does flood risk management intersect with the work your organization does?

**Core Questions**

- **Impacts:** From your perspective at [ORGANIZATION], what were the major impacts from winter storms last year?
  - Where did flooding occur in the Pájaro Valley? At what depths? At what periods of time? How long did flood waters linger? Do you know how many homes were impacted? Which neighborhoods were impacted?
  - **Officials:** Do you know who has data on impacted households and neighborhoods?
  - For housing planners: If Watsonville was flooded and all its residents along the levee were displaced, where would they go? Is there a plan for the rebuilding process, do you know what that would look like?
- **What is working well:** What was done that helped reduce the impacts of the winter storms last year?
  - How would other communities adapt a similar model/program/approach/method?
  - Are these solutions that can work in the future? Were they temporary solutions? Did the solution center around one individual/organization's efforts?
  - Did these solutions work for everyone? Were there differences between Watsonville, Santa Cruz unincorporated areas, and the town of Pájaro?
- **What isn't working well:** After what you saw through the winter storms, can you describe a post-flood response that didn't work well for the Pájaro Valley?
  - If you could wave a wand, what would be the main **barrier you would remove?**

- Are there any other lessons learned from the winter storms last year that we haven't talked about yet?
- What would this look like in unincorporated areas?
- **(Show map, allow mark-ups on map)**
  - What neighborhoods or parts of neighborhoods flooded?
  - What critical infrastructure was impacted?
  - What areas were deeply flooded? Where was it more shallow?

### Conclusion Questions

- **Hopes for the Future:** Given what has occurred in the past year, what is your greatest hope for the community moving forward?
  - Pajaro Valley continues to be at risk of future floods. In your opinion, what would effective preparatory planning look like to mitigate flood-induced displacement?
    - What specific organizations or agencies do you see as being responsible for addressing risk of disaster displacement?
  - Do you have a sense that your constituents / the community wants to rebuild certain areas of the region after the floods?
- Is there anything we have not covered that you believe is vital to understanding future and past flood risks in the region?
- Is there anyone else you would suggest that I talk to?
  - We heard there is a taskforce for the recovery efforts in Pájaro City, who is on that committee?
- Thank you so much for participating. A transcript of our interview will be assembled in the next two to three weeks. Would you like to see the final reports produced by the research? If so, what is the best way to safely send you these reports?