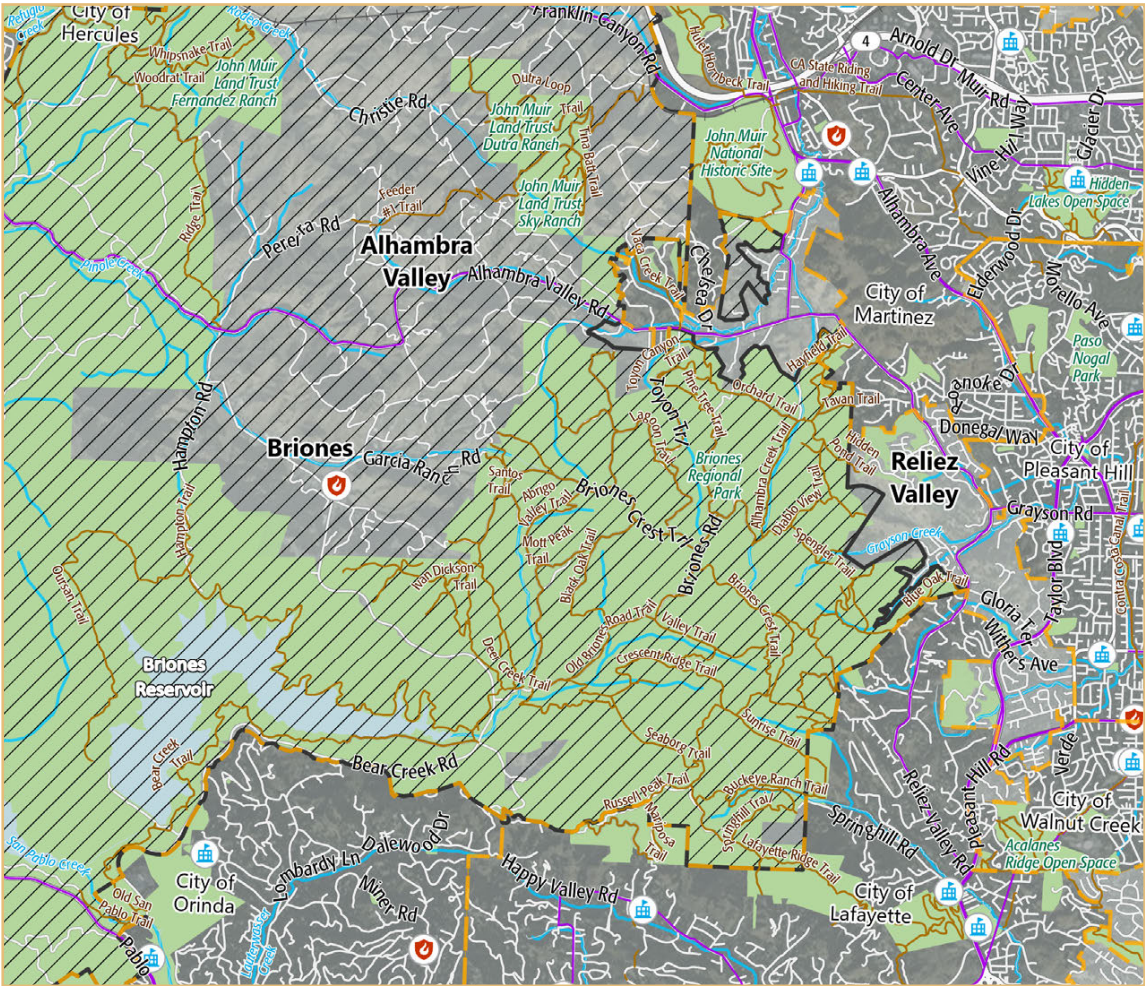
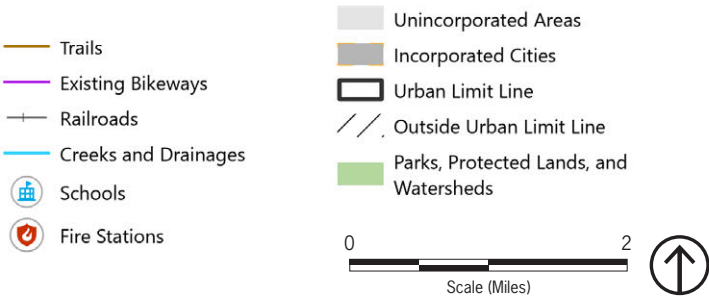


ALHAMBRA VALLEY, RELIEZ VALLEY, AND BRIONES - CONTEXT - 1

Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones are small communities that value their close proximity to open space, rolling hills, wildlife, and seasonal creeks. The three communities are situated in central Contra Costa County and border Briones Regional Park and East Bay Municipal Utility District land. Land uses primarily consist of low- or very low-density housing.

Residents generally travel to Martinez, Pleasant Hill, or Lafayette for goods and services. While there is little support for new commercial or employment uses locally, there is interest in providing more accessible services and housing that supports a multi-generational community, including a growing population of aging and retired residents.

Given the isolated location, residents are concerned about emergency services and safety. Roadway collapses have occurred and there are many unmet road repair needs, which must be addressed given the heightened need for emergency access in a high-fire-risk area. The communities are proud of Fire Station #19 and excited about its recent reopening. However, residents are still concerned about the lack of telecommunication services and communication reliability during an emergency.













Source: Contra Costa County, 2018; PlaceWorks, 2022.

WHO LIVES IN ALHAMBRA VALLEY, RELIEZ VALLEY, AND BRIONES?

Median Age 47 years old in Alhambra Valley/Reliez Valley/Briones VS 40 years old in Contra Costa County	Average Life Expectancy 83 years old in Alhambra/Reliez/Briones VS 81 years old in Contra Costa County	Median Household Income \$164,148 in Alhambra/Reliez/Briones VS \$103,997 in Contra Costa County	Race & Ethnicity <ul style="list-style-type: none">34% White26% Asian17% Hispanic or Latino13% Black or African American
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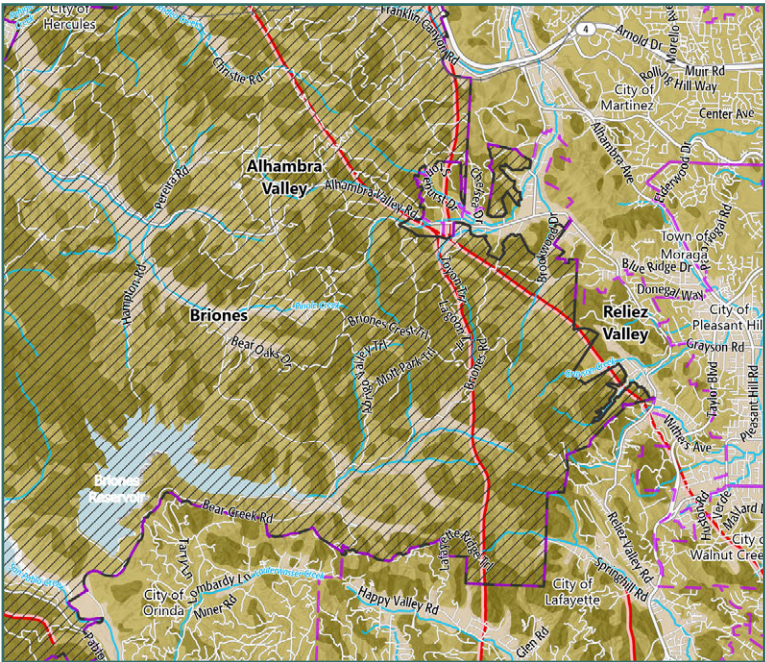
(Community-submitted photo.)



HAZARDS	
	Agricultural pests and diseases (Briones)
	Drought
	Extreme heat
	Flooding (Alhambra Valley)
	Fog
	Human health hazards
	Landslides
	Seismic hazards
	Severe storms
	Wildfire

MAJOR VULNERABILITIES	
Seniors and seniors living alone are vulnerable to extreme heat, human health hazards, landslides, and wildfire.	
Persons living on single access roads, persons without access to lifelines, and persons with disabilities are vulnerable to extreme heat, flooding, landslides, seismic hazards, severe storms, and wildfire.	
Highway 4, Alhambra Valley Road, Reliez Valley Road, and Bear Creek Road are vulnerable to flooding, landslides, severe storms, and wildfires.	
Agricultural operations in Briones are vulnerable to damage from agricultural pests and diseases.	
Briones Regional Park, chaparral and scrub habitat, woodland habitat, and outdoor recreation are vulnerable to drought, extreme heat, landslides, severe storms, and wildfire.	

The information on this page presents a summary of hazards and vulnerabilities in Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones based on the Contra Costa County Vulnerability Assessment; please see the [online Vulnerability Assessment](#) for a full description of these hazards and vulnerabilities.



LANDSLIDE

Landslides

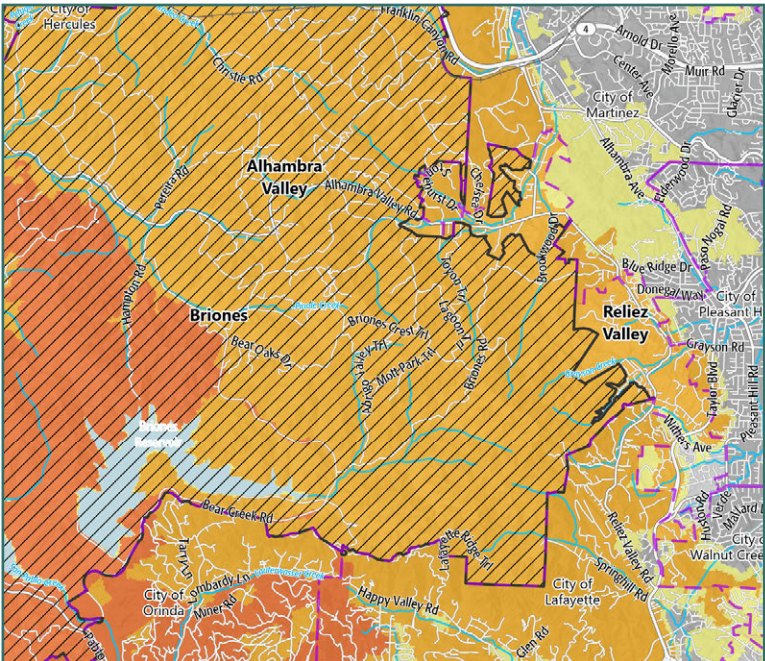
- Mapped landslides
- Few large mapped landslides, but contains scattered small landslides and questionably-identified larger landslides
- Areas of gentle slope at low elevation that have little or no potential for landslides

Legend:

- Incorporated Cities
- Urban Limit Line
- Outside Urban Limit Line
- Regional Faults
- Railroads
- Creeks and Drainages

0 1
Scale (Miles)

Source: California Geologic Survey, 2008; Contra Costa County, 2018; PlaceWorks, 2022.



WILDFIRE

Wildfire Severity Zones

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Unincorporated Areas

Legend:

- Incorporated Cities
- Urban Limit Line
- Outside Urban Limit Line
- Railroads
- Creeks and Drainages

0 2
Scale (Miles)

Source: CAL FIRE, 2018; Contra Costa County, 2018; PlaceWorks, 2022.



PLANNED LAND USE

Land use designations for Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones are shown on Figure LU- 1, General Plan Land Use Map, and are defined in the Land Use Element. Each community has been planned to maintain existing low- or very low- density residential uses, surrounded by rural agricultural lands, resource conservation, and parks and recreation areas. There are no commercial areas planned in Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, or Briones. The Land Use Map envisions that new development will either enhance and diversify existing agricultural uses or serve and accommodate the community's existing population.



Existing fire station in Briones.



Existing agricultural uses in Briones.



Existing single-family use in Alhambra Valley.



Existing open space in Alhambra Valley.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following guiding principles articulate the values, priorities, and aspirations for the future shared by Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones community members:

1. The secluded qualities and rural lifestyle in the Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones communities should be preserved and maintained.
2. The existing balance between developed and rural land uses should be preserved.
3. The diversity of existing agricultural uses in the region, including vineyards, should be supported.
4. Residents of Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones who lack housing should have access to quality services. Vital, easy-to-access community programs related to homelessness, housing, and elderly services should be available. Residents who are at risk of losing housing should be protected from displacement.
5. The residents of Alhambra Valley, Reliez Valley, and Briones should have access to quality transportation, housing, and program services that accommodate multi-generational community needs.



POLICIES

1. Continue adhering to the Briones Hills Agricultural Preservation Area compact, which states that the surrounding jurisdictions (Contra Costa County and the cities of Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, Orinda, Richmond, Pinole, and Hercules) voluntarily agree not to annex any lands within the 64 square mile area for the purposes of allowing urban development (see Figure LU-5). This rural area includes large properties owned by the East Bay Municipal Utility District and East Bay Regional Park District, which respectively are designated Resource Conservation and Parks and Recreation on Figure LU-1, General Plan Land Use Map. The remaining properties are used primarily for grazing cattle and are designated Agricultural Lands. (3-132)
2. Require new development to be consistent with the community's rural character in terms of massing and scale.
3. Prioritize roadway infrastructure maintenance and improvement, especially repair of collapsed roadways.
4. Support and promote the expansion of transportation services, affordable housing, and health resources for the growing senior population.
5. Support and encourage increased internet access and telecommunication services.
6. Maintain Fire Station 19 and fire services to protect from wildfire hazards.

ACTIONS

1. Update the Alhambra Valley Specific Plan.