

From the **Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan**, which was approved at the May 7, 2024, BOS meeting. Also-there is information in the report where they mention water risks and wildfire risks, as well as climate info, etc... that can be referenced in the scoping comments.

Pages 23-24 list local economy info for how they see the county's growth.

Look at the airport's statement: Airport – The Nogales International Airport is located along SR-82, northeast of the City of Nogales. The Airport and the surrounding land areas are ideal for industrial and commercial land use. Development near the airport should complement long-term expansion opportunities, including restricting noise-sensitive developments. Industrial growth will continue to be limited by the lack of a major road linking SR-82 and I-19. **They do mention restricting noise-sensitive developments, but South32 doesn't have this restriction. Also - the last sentence - "Industrial growth will continue to be limited by the lack of a major road linking SR-82 and I-19." South32 plans on putting a road from Harshaw to SR82 to Nogales.

Page 25 of the report, and about page 165 of the agenda packet. And look at the second paragraph where they list what type of growth each area may see. Also - this is what they wrote about South32. Look at what they included THOUGH about South32 doing a surface water study. It is at the bottom of the first paragraph. So, to me, this shows SCC is not concerned about South 32's water usage?

"The region also saw growth in commercial development, such as the construction of twenty-four new commercial facilities, including warehouses, wineries, and a truck stop with two new restaurants. The total valuation of these new commercial facilities was \$70,991,100, indicating that the area is attracting new businesses. This commercial development trend will likely continue as the area grows and attracts new businesses. South32/Hermosa announced its plan to invest \$1.7 billion in the development of the Hermosa Project Development in Santa Cruz County, Arizona, between 2022 and 2027. The project aims to produce zinc, lead, and silver concentrates and is expected to create an estimated 2,000 jobs during construction and operation. South32/Hermosa has completed the project's initial phase, including constructing two water treatment plants and a tailings storage facility. The project's next phase will involve the construction of an underground mine, processing plant, and other supporting infrastructure. This phase is expected to commence in 2022 and will continue until 2025. During the construction phase, the Hermosa Project Development is expected to bring significant economic benefits to Santa Cruz County. The project will generate employment opportunities, increase demand for local goods and services, and boost the local economy. The construction phase is estimated to create around 1,500 jobs, including direct and indirect employment opportunities. Once the mine is operational, the Hermosa Project Development is expected to contribute to the local economy by providing employment, local procurement, and taxes. The project will generate an estimated 500 jobs, including direct and indirect employment opportunities. In addition, the project is expected to generate approximately \$200 million per year in economic output, which includes both direct and indirect economic benefits to the region. South32/Hermosa did a surface water study and found that their activities would only increase surface water flooding in a 100-year flood by ¼ of an inch."

"Future Trends: Given the strong growth in both residential and commercial development, it is likely that this trend will continue in the future. As more people and businesses move into the area, there will be an increased demand for services, infrastructure, and amenities. This will

likely lead to additional development, including new schools, healthcare facilities, and retail centers. Anticipated development over the next Plan cycle includes:

- Continued winery and tourist development in the Sonoita/Elgin/Canelo region.
- I-19 Corridor warehouse development continuing south of Ruby Road.
- Rex Ranch Guest Ranch property in Amado is under redevelopment.
- Neighborhood commercial retail development South of Palo Parado between I-19 and W. Frontage Road will continue.
- Mixed-use commercial development, including med-high density housing, a motel, an entertainment venue, and a commercial retail center, is progressing on the west side of I-19 at the Tubac exit.
- An expanded commercial truck parking lot is proposed on the southeast corner of East Frontage Road and Old Tucson Road. The identified development trends will potentially impact the community's vulnerability. The increase in residential development may increase population growth, affecting more residents in the event of a wildfire, flooding, or severe weather."

Here is the link to the report contained in the May 7 BOS agenda.

[1865 \(santacruzcountyaz.gov\)](https://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/1865)

Here is the standalone report.

[Santa-Cruz-MIHMP-Draft-12-6-23- \(santacruzcountyaz.gov\)](https://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/Santa-Cruz-MIHMP-Draft-12-6-23-)