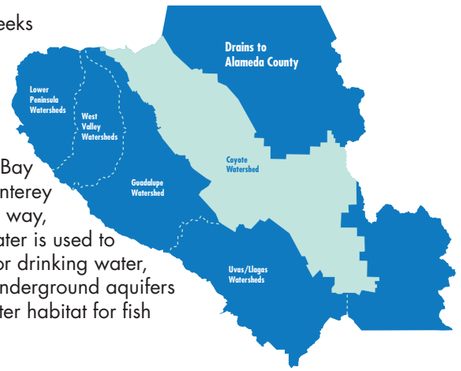
Funding information

The project is funded through the Santa Clara Valley Watershed Stream Stewardship Fund and through funding from the Department of Water Resources, Proposition 1E: The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006.

You're in a watershed

No matter where you are, you're in a watershed. A watershed is the area of land that drains to a common waterway. In Santa Clara County, our creeks catch rain and runoff from storm drains and carry the water north to San Francisco Bay or south to Monterey Bay. Along the way, some of the water is used to fill reservoirs for drinking water, replenish the underground aquifers and create better habitat for fish and wildlife.



This project is in the Coyote Watershed. Sixteen major creeks drain this 350-square-mile area. The county's largest watershed extends from the urbanized valley floor upward to the vast natural areas of the Mt. Hamilton range. Coyote Creek, its main waterway, is the longest creek in the county.

More about us

The Santa Clara Valley Water District manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's 1.9 million residents. The district effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory, nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds and more than 275 miles of streams. We provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers who deliver drinking water directly to homes and businesses in Santa Clara County.

3 ways to get project updates

1. Visit ***www.valleywater.org/services/LowerBerryessaCreek.aspx***
2. Use Access Valley Water (***www.valleywater.org/avwapp/***), the water district's customer request and information system, to request project information or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a water district staff person.
3. Sign up to receive project updates via email using the QR code below.

We speak your language

Si habla español y tiene preguntas sobre el contenido de este mensaje por favor de comunicarse con José Villarreal al JVillarreal@valleywater.org o (408) 630-2879.

Nếu bạn nói tiếng Việt và có thắc mắc về nội dung của thông báo này, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Triet Trinh tại TTrinh@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-3211.

如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問,請聯繫 Jane Zhou, 電郵 JZhou@valleywater.org,或者電話:(408) 630-2631

CONTACT US
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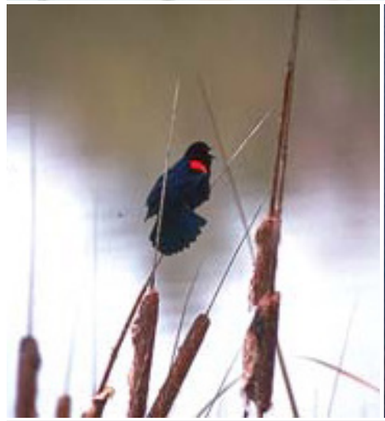


Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project

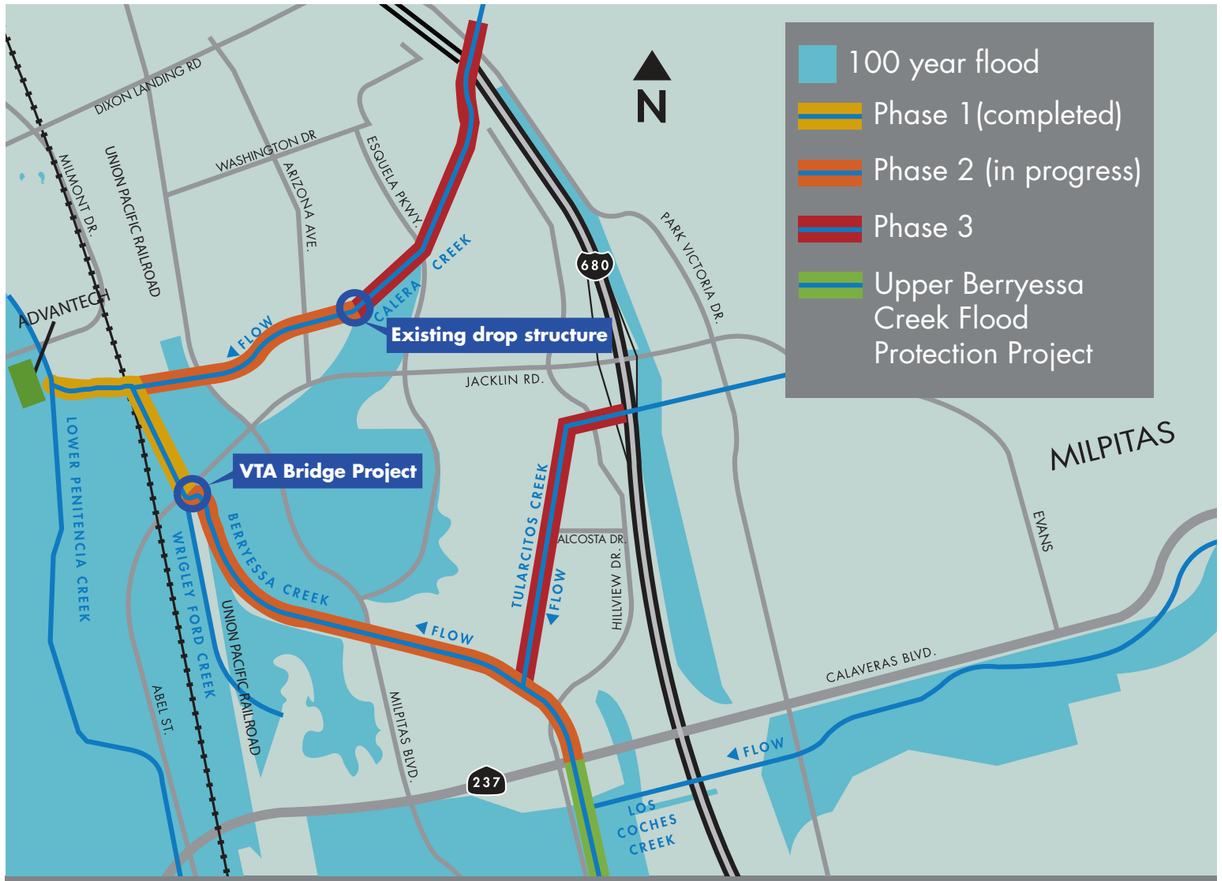
The Santa Clara Valley Water District is dedicated to keeping residents and businesses safe through its flood protection programs. The Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project will provide 100-year flood protection to approximately 1,800 homes, schools and businesses in Milpitas.

Santa Clara Valley Water District

Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project

The Santa Clara Valley Water District's Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project, when completed, will protect almost 2,500 parcels in Milpitas from the threat of a 100-year flood event, which has a 1-in-100 chance of occurring in any given year. The Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project includes both the Upper Berryessa Creek portion and the Lower Berryessa Creek portion.

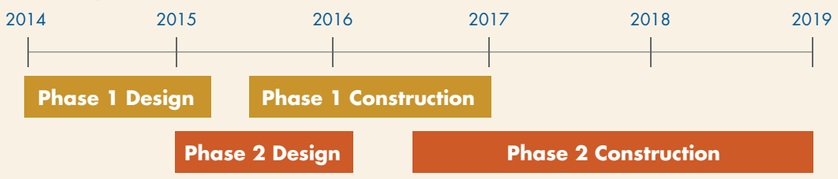
The Lower Berryessa Creek portion of the project, which includes Calera and Tularcitos creeks, will protect approximately 1,800 parcels and is underway in three phases. FEMA-certifiable improvements are planned about 1.7 miles through Milpitas, from its confluence with Lower Penitencia Creek, south to Calaveras Boulevard. The project also includes 2.1 miles of Calera and Tularcitos creeks, two smaller creeks that flow into Berryessa Creek.



The Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project extends approximately 1.7 miles through the city of Milpitas, from its confluence with Lower Penitencia Creek south to Calaveras Boulevard.

Project schedule

Calendar years



***Phase 3:** The schedule for Phase 3 will be established once funding is identified.

Project highlights

The Lower Berryessa Creek project will build floodwalls, improve levees, widen the creek channel to accommodate high flows, and enhance and enlarge tidal and freshwater wetlands and riparian habitat. The project will be implemented in three phases.

Phase 1

This phase stretches from the confluence at Lower Penitencia Creek to Abel Street. The flood protection improvements for this phase include earthen levees on the east and north sides of the creek and 6- to 9-foot concrete floodwalls on the west and south sides of the creek. Revegetation of freshwater wetlands was established within the creek channel. Construction of Phase 1 was completed in December 2016.

New concrete floodwalls constructed along the west levee of Lower Berryessa Creek facing south. Abel Street Bridge is shown in the background.

Phase 2

This phase has two sections. The first section of Phase 2 is along Lower Berryessa Creek, stretching from Abel Street to Calaveras Boulevard. The flood protection improvements for this section include improved earthen levees on the north side of the creek and concrete floodwalls on the south side of the creek. The floodwalls are 12- to 14-feet high from Abel Street to North Milpitas Boulevard, 4- to 8-feet high from North Milpitas Boulevard to North Hillview Drive, and 3- to 4-feet from North Hillview Drive to Calaveras Boulevard. A riparian habitat area will be included within the creek channel. Construction of this section began in 2016 and is scheduled to be completed simultaneously with the Upper Berryessa Creek portion of the project in 2018.

The second section of Phase 2 is along Calera Creek, stretching from the Lower Berryessa Creek confluence to the drop structure (see map). This section is in the design phase.

Photo rendering of Lower Berryessa Creek at North Milpitas Boulevard

Photo rendering of Calera Creek at North Milpitas Boulevard

Phase 3

This phase is in the planning phase and options, as well as funding, are still being explored. The water district will need to obtain permits from regulatory agencies before constructing Phase 3.

Photo rendering of Tularicitos Creek at Alcosta Drive

Partnership with VTA

The water district partnered with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) to design and construct a new, wider and longer railroad crossing over Berryessa Creek near the Abel Street bridge. This new crossing supports the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor Project (a.k.a. "BART" to Silicon Valley), and is needed to safely convey flood flows. Construction of the bridge was completed in 2011.