

Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project



View from N. Milpitas Boulevard looking downstream.

Lower Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Background

Valley Water 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.

About the project

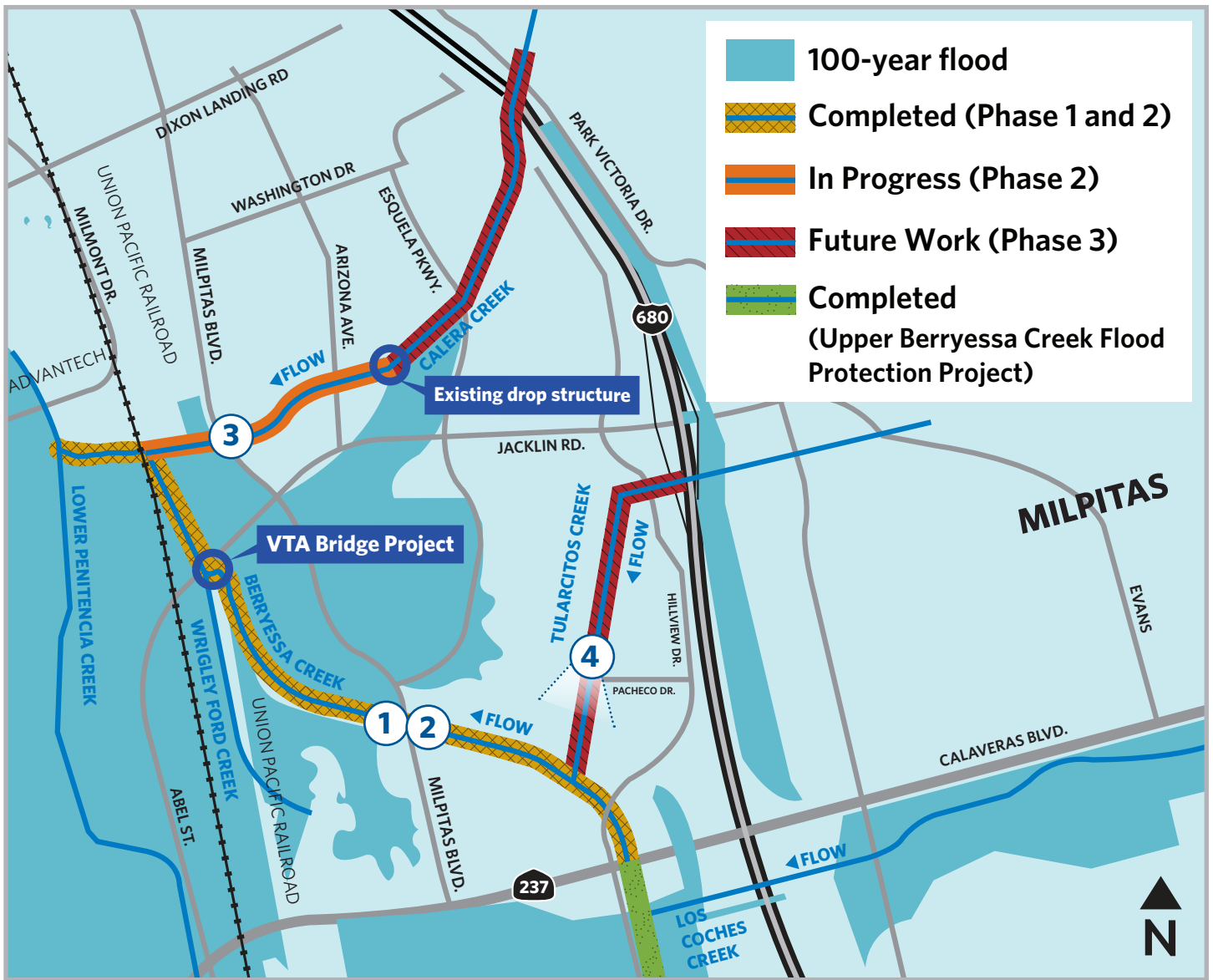
Valley Water's Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project, when completed, will protect almost 2,500 parcels in Milpitas from the threat of a 100-year flood event, which has a 1-in-100 chance of occurring in any given year. The Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project includes both the Upper Berryessa Creek portion (completed in 2017) 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.

Improvements are planned on 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.

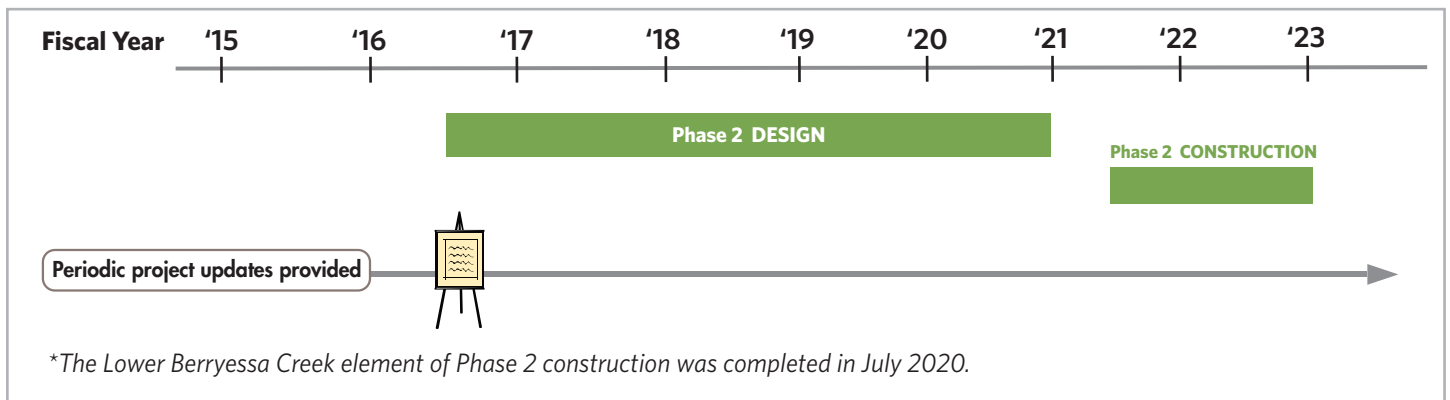


View from N. Milpitas Boulevard looking upstream.



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



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 (Completed)

This phase stretches from the confluence at Lower Penitencia Creek to Abel Street. The flood protection improvements for this phase included 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.



Downstream view of Lower Berryessa Creek from N. Milpitas Boulevard.

Phase 2 (Lower Berryessa Completed)

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 included improved earthen levees on the north side of the creek and concrete floodwalls on the south side of the creek.

An area for riparian habitat was included in the creek channel. Construction of this section was completed in July 2020.



Upstream view of Lower Berryessa Creek from N. Milpitas Boulevard.

Phase 2 (Calera Creek)

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 and expected to be completed in January 2021. Construction is expected to begin in June 2021 and last through the end of 2022.



Photo rendering of Calera Creek at North Milpitas Boulevard.

Phase 3

Staff have completed the planning phase and evaluated design alternatives. Funding options are being explored. Valley Water will need to finish the design and obtain permits from regulatory agencies before constructing Phase 3.



Tularcitos Creek looking downstream from Pacheco Drive.

Partnership with VTA

Valley Water 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. The crossing supports the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor Project (a.k.a. "BART" to Silicon Valley) to safely convey flood flows. Construction of the bridge was completed in 2011.

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

A watershed is the area of land that drains 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 fills reservoirs for drinking water, replenishes the underground aquifer and creates 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.



Si habla español y tiene preguntas sobre el contenido de este mensaje por favor de comunicarse con Jose 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 Hoan Cutler HCutler@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-3135.

如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問，請聯繫 Julia Tat，電郵 jtat@valleywater.org，或者電話：(408) 630-3168。



CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, contact **Jose Villarreal** at (408) 630-2879 or jvillarreal@valleywater.org or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <https://delivr.com/2x9ff>.



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