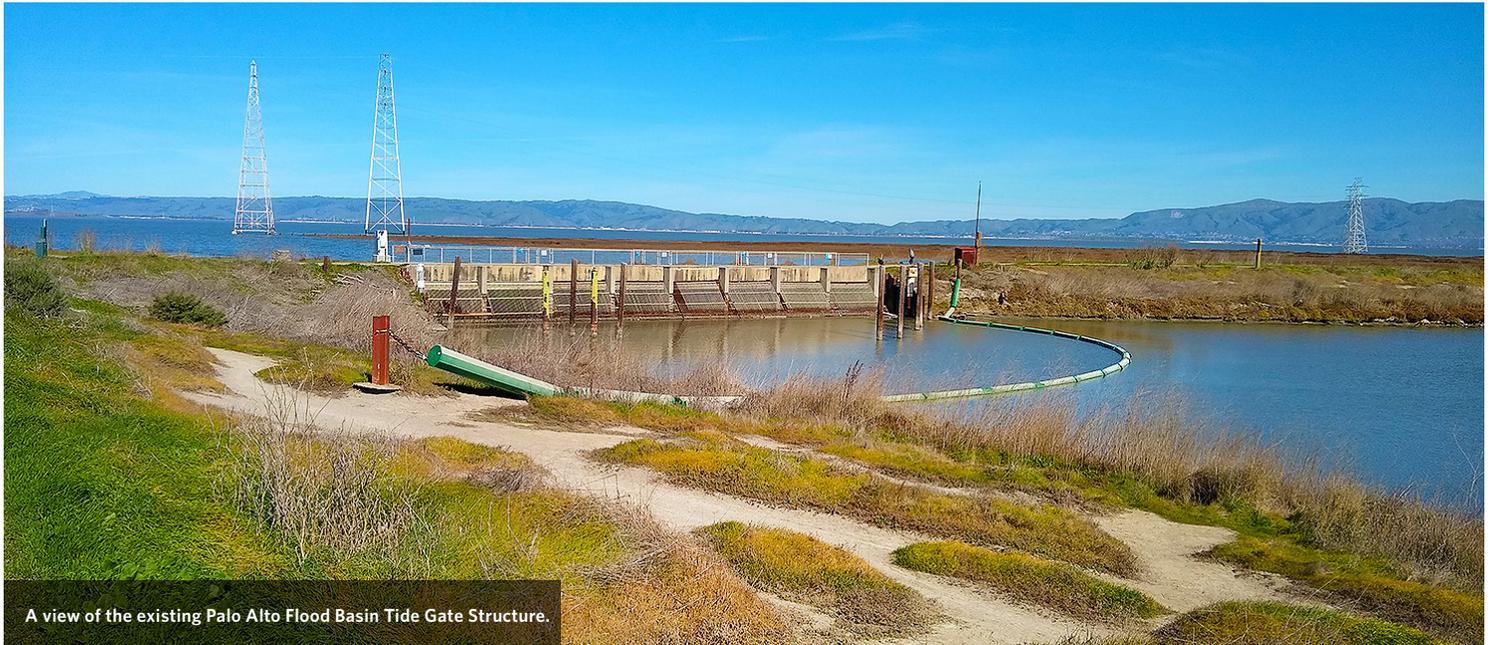


Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project



A view of the existing Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure.

About the project

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) provides flood protection to homes, businesses, schools and highways. As part of our commitment, Valley Water will replace the existing aging Palo Alto Flood Basin (PAFB) Tide Gate Structure. The structure is located where the PAFB connects to the San Francisco Bay, half a mile northeast of the Byxbee Park parking lot on the Adobe Creek Loop Trail. Originally built in 1957, it has outlived its 50-year projected life. Additionally, the existing structure is vulnerable to projected future sea level rise, which reduces the tide gate's ability to drain the flood basin. If the PAFB Tide Gate Structure fails, approximately 400 to 700 homes and businesses in Palo Alto, in addition to a portion of U.S. Highway 101 would be at risk of regular coastal flooding. The new structure will be sized to account for projected future sea level rise. The PAFB Tide Gate Structure protects against coastal flooding and controls the downstream water levels for Matadero, Adobe and Barron Creeks, which all drain to the PAFB. Upon completion, the new structure will provide significant flood protection benefits to Palo Alto homes, businesses and schools near Matadero, Adobe and Barron creeks, and U.S. Highway 101, and will continue to protect existing wildlife and habitat in the PAFB.

Project Background

Due to its age and location in a corrosive marine environment, the tide gate structure shows signs of deterioration, including spalled concrete, exposed reinforcement steel, and water seepage through cracked concrete and leaky tide gate seals. Seepage was previously addressed by an emergency repair project in 2012. In 2017, Valley Water attempted minor maintenance repairs that

would have extended the life of the structure. Construction was suspended when dewatering the work area revealed additional evidence of damage from aging. Valley Water has determined that replacement of the structure, rather than repair, is warranted to ensure flood protection for residents along the lower reaches of Adobe, Barron and Matadero Creeks and U.S. Highway 101.

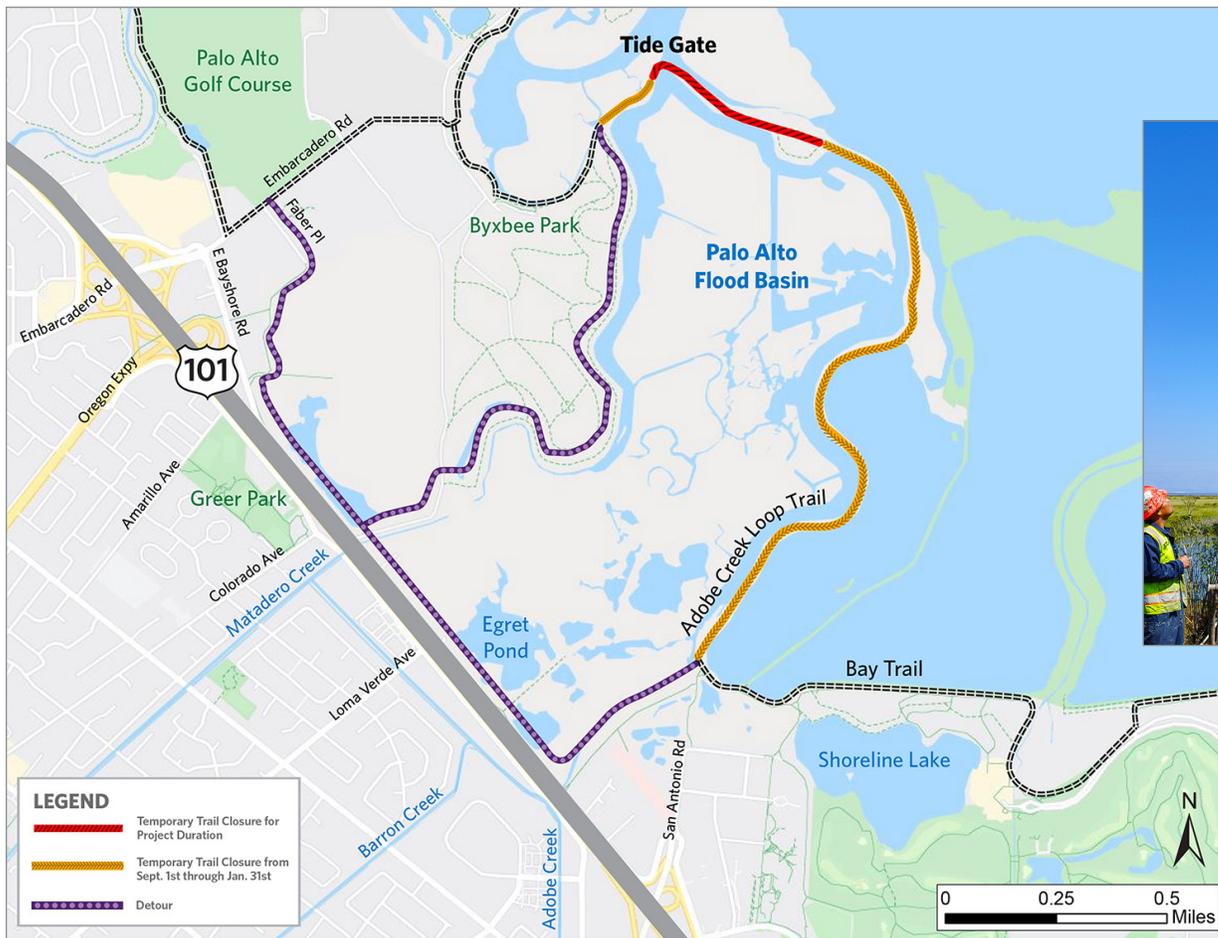
Objectives

The project objectives are to:

- Continue to provide flood protection for homes and businesses along the lower reaches of Adobe, Barron, and Matadero Creeks and U.S. Highway 101.
- Continue to protect existing basin habitat by preventing tidal inundation of the PAFB.
- Replace the aging tide gate structure with a new structure designed in anticipation of future projected sea level rise.



Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure



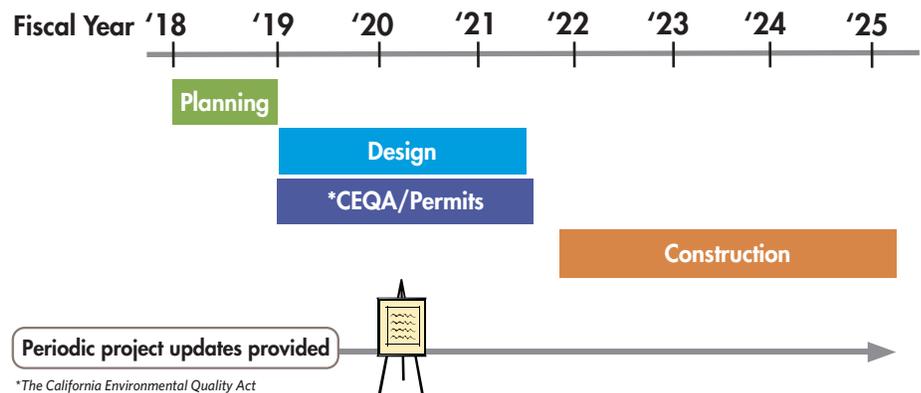
Geotechnical exploratory borings being taken near existing tide gate structure.

Design phase

The project is in the design phase. At the 30% design phase, the project is currently preparing design and engineering studies, environmental reviews and coordinating with agencies and stakeholders, in addition to seeking public input.

Upon reaching 60% of the design phase, the project will be creating more detailed technical plans and specification along with a refined cost estimate and details on acquiring permits.

Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project Schedule



CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water Water's Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project, visit valleywater.org/PAFBtidegates.

To submit questions or comments, contact **Robert Yamane** at ryamane@valleywater.org or (408) 630-2925 or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <https://delivr.com/2x9ff>.



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