

Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program



The Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program is a voter approved, 15-year program to ensure uninterrupted water resources services in Santa Clara County.

Project E6

Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project Buena Vista Avenue to Wright Avenue – Morgan Hill, San Martin, Gilroy

Preferred project: A federal-state-local partnership

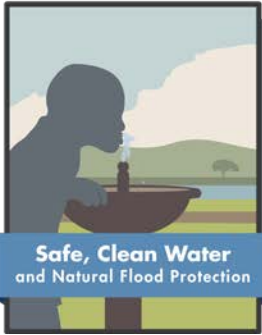
This project continues a Clean, Safe Creeks project in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the state to plan, design, and construct improvements along 13.9 miles of channel. The project extends from Buena Vista Avenue to Wright Avenue, including West Little Llagas Creek in downtown Morgan Hill. The federally authorized preferred project protects the urban area of Morgan Hill from a 1% (or 100-year) flood, and reduces the frequency of flooding in surrounding areas. Construction includes channel modifications and replacement of road crossings. Valley Water continues to work with Congress to aggressively pursue federal funds to bring this project to full fruition. In 2012, project limits were extended 2,700 feet upstream to Llagas Road to address public concerns.

Flooding History and Project Background

The area sustained damage in 1937, 1955, 1958, 1962, 1963, 1969, 1982, 1986, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2017. In 2009, many businesses and residences in downtown Morgan Hill were flooded under 1 foot of water. The project builds on the planning, design and property acquisition initiated under the Clean, Safe Creeks plan of 2000.

Benefits

- Preferred project provides 1% flood capacity for 4 miles of channel in downtown Morgan Hill, protecting approximately 1,100 homes and 500 businesses
- Preferred project provides 10-year flood protection to approximately 1,300 agricultural acres in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin
- Locally-funded-only project provides 1% flood protection for a limited number of homes and businesses in Morgan Hill
- Improves stream habitat and fisheries
- Creates additional wetlands
- Improves stream water quality
- Identifies opportunities to integrate recreation improvements with the City of Morgan Hill and others as appropriate



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Key Performance Indicators (15-year Program)

1. Preferred project with federal and local funding: Provide flood protection to 1,100 homes, 500 businesses, and 1,300 agricultural acres, while improving stream habitat.
2. With local funding only: **Construct flood protection improvements along Llagas Creek from Buena Vista Avenue to Highway 101 in San Martin (Reaches 4 and 5 (portion), Monterey Road to Watsonville Road in Morgan Hill (Reach 7a), approximately W. Dunne Avenue to W. Main Avenue (portion of Reach 8), and onsite compensatory mitigation at Lake Silveira. Provide 100-year flood protection for Reach 7 only (up to W. Dunne Avenue in Morgan Hill).**
~~A limited number of homes and businesses will be protected.~~

Geographic Area of Benefit: Morgan Hill, San Martin and Gilroy