McKelvey Park detention basin
Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project

Valley Water will construct a flood-storage detention area off of Permanente Creek in the McKelvey Park baseball fields. The detention area will temporarily store floodwaters until peak flows pass, reducing the need for more flood protection elements downstream.

The detention area will be approximately 4.5 acres in size and 18 feet deep with mildly sloping ramps down to the playing fields level. The parking lot will also be sloped with the top of the lot at street level and the bottom at field level. Flood flows would inundate the site very rarely and quickly drain away. A 100-year flood, which has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year, would fill the detention area and would drain out in one to four days. Post-flood cleanup could take approximately two to four weeks, after which the playing fields would be ready for use again.

Features
- New 0.7 acre mini park facility with playgrounds and other features
- Construction of an inlet and outlet to allow water flows to enter and exit the fields
- Architecturally treated retaining wall around the lowered fields
- Basin to collect peak storm flows from Hale and Permanente Creeks during an approximately 50-year flood event or larger
- Replacement planting and landscaping

Benefits
- Flood protection for thousands of homes and businesses in Mountain View and Los Altos, saving residents thousands of dollars on flood insurance each year
- Provides new facilities and amenities to park users
- Reduces construction impacts to downstream residential and business areas

The Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project will provide natural flood protection for Mountain View and Los Altos, create recreational opportunities and enhance the environment. This project is funded by the countywide Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program parcel tax passed by voters in November 2012.

The four project elements:

A. Floodwalls and levees north of U.S. Highway 101 (completed)
B. Flood detention area at City of Mountain View’s McKelvey Park
C. Widening and deepening of existing channels along Permanente and Hale Creeks (completed)
D. Flood detention areas at County of Santa Clara’s Rancho San Antonio Park

Questions?
valleywater.org/permanente-creek
(408) 755-0333

continued on back...
What to expect during construction

Construction of the McKelvey Park detention basin began in 2017 and is expected to be completed by November 2019. Valley Water and City of Mountain View are working together to minimize construction impacts as much as practical and in accordance with city ordinances. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we embark on this important flood protection project.

- Regular work hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Saturday work hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Majority of the construction work will remain within the McKelvey Park site boundaries.
- Throughout the construction of the project, temporary lane closures will occur along Mountain View Avenue, Park Drive, and Miramonte Avenue.
- For safety and to minimize traffic impacts, trucks will use El Camino Real, Miramonte Avenue and Mountain View Avenue north of Park Drive. Hauling will be limited between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. No trucks will be allowed through the residential areas to the west or east of McKelvey Park, nor along Miramonte Avenue or Mountain View Avenue south of the site.
- The safety of the community and our employees is our priority. Barricades, railings, lights, fences and other warning devices will be used for the greatest public safety and convenience.
- Alternate playing fields will be made available for McKelvey Park users during the construction phase.

What is a flood detention area?

Flood protection methods can include berms around buildings, widening channels, raising floodwalls, elevating structures and roadways, and/or constructing a bypass channel. In areas where development limits widening the creek or raising floodwalls, flood-storage basins are used to temporarily divert and store floodwaters until a major storm passes.