About the project

The Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project will improve flood protection for Mountain View and Los Altos, create recreational opportunities and enhance the environment.

Funded by the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, this project will provide natural flood protection for approximately 2,200 properties, prevent flooding of Middlefield Road and Central Expressway, and prevent potential damages in excess of $48 million (1999 value).
Your flood protection project

After years of planning and design, the Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project is in construction. Once completed, the project will provide natural flood protection for at least 1,664 properties and prevent potential damages in excess of $48 million (1999 value).

In developing the project designs, Valley Water worked with the County of Santa Clara and the cities of Mountain View, Los Altos and Cupertino, along with their residents, through community and project task force meetings. Public comments and feedback helped the project team develop sustainable designs that are economically viable, technically feasible, environmentally compatible and publicly acceptable.

The project stretches along 10.6 miles of Permanente Creek, from San Francisco Bay’s southwest shoreline through Mountain View to Foothill Expressway in Los Altos. It includes four design features: floodwalls, channel widening and flood detention basins at Rancho San Antonio County Park and McKelvey Park.

A history of flooding

Each winter, thousands of households, schools and businesses in Mountain View and Los Altos are susceptible to flooding from Permanente Creek during a major storm.


Flooding can result in millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses and schools. In addition, disruption to businesses and transportation networks can result in significant loss of productivity and revenue.
Looking ahead

All project elements are in the construction phase. Pre-construction meetings with the neighboring communities were held and progress updates will be provided throughout the project.

Project Schedule

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Periodic community meetings and project updates

Your tax dollars at work

The project is funded by the countywide Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program parcel tax passed by voters in November 2012. The 15-year plan makes it possible to protect homes, schools and businesses from flooding, while improving the health of creek and bay ecosystems and creating trails and parks for recreational enjoyment.

The Safe, Clean Water Program provides $49 million to design and construct the project, which will:

- 提供自然防洪保护，保护大约2200个物业（超过项目要求保护1664个物业）
- 防止米德尔菲尔德路和中央高速公路的洪水
- 预防潜在损坏超过4800万美元（1999年价值）
- 增加8英亩的野生栖息地在拉诺圣安东尼奥县公园

High water in 1983 along Permanente Creek near Blach School.

Upper Permanente creeks.
More about us

Valley Water, with a history dating back to 1929, 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 2 million residents. Valley Water effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, and a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory. Of the more than 800 miles of streams in Santa Clara County, Valley Water owns and manages about 275 miles of streams. We operate nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds. We provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers who deliver drinking water to homes and businesses. Valley Water is the flood protection authority for Santa Clara County, annually preparing creeks for winter rains through levee maintenance, sediment removal, bank repair and vegetation management. We have invested more than $1 billion in flood protection efforts to protect nearly 100,000 parcels with many more projects planned.

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 aquifer and create better habitat for fish and wildlife.

This project is in the West Valley Watershed, an 85-square-mile area of multiple small-creek watersheds. Characterized by the contrast between its channelized creeks on the valley floor and its more natural streams in the hillsides, this watershed is the county’s smallest.

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 Ngọc Nguyễn tại NNguyen@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-2632.

如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問, 請聯繫
Sarah Young, 電郵 SYoung@valleywater.org,
或者電話: (408) 630-2468.

3 Ways to get project updates

1. Visit valleywater.org/permanente-creek
2. Use Access Valley Water (http://delivr.com/AVWapp), the Valley Water’s customer request and information system, to request project information or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a water Valley Water staff person.
3. Sign up to receive project updates via email using the QR code below.

CONTACT US

For more information, contact Jose Villarreal at (408) 630-2879 or by email at JVillarreal@valleywater.org. Or use our Access Valley Water customer request and information system at https://delivr.com/2yuxx to find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a Valley Water staff person.

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