



# Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project

April 3, 2025



# AGENDA



Project Objective



Project Schedule



Project Features and Maps



Operations & Maintenance



Questions and Answers



# PROJECT OBJECTIVE

3

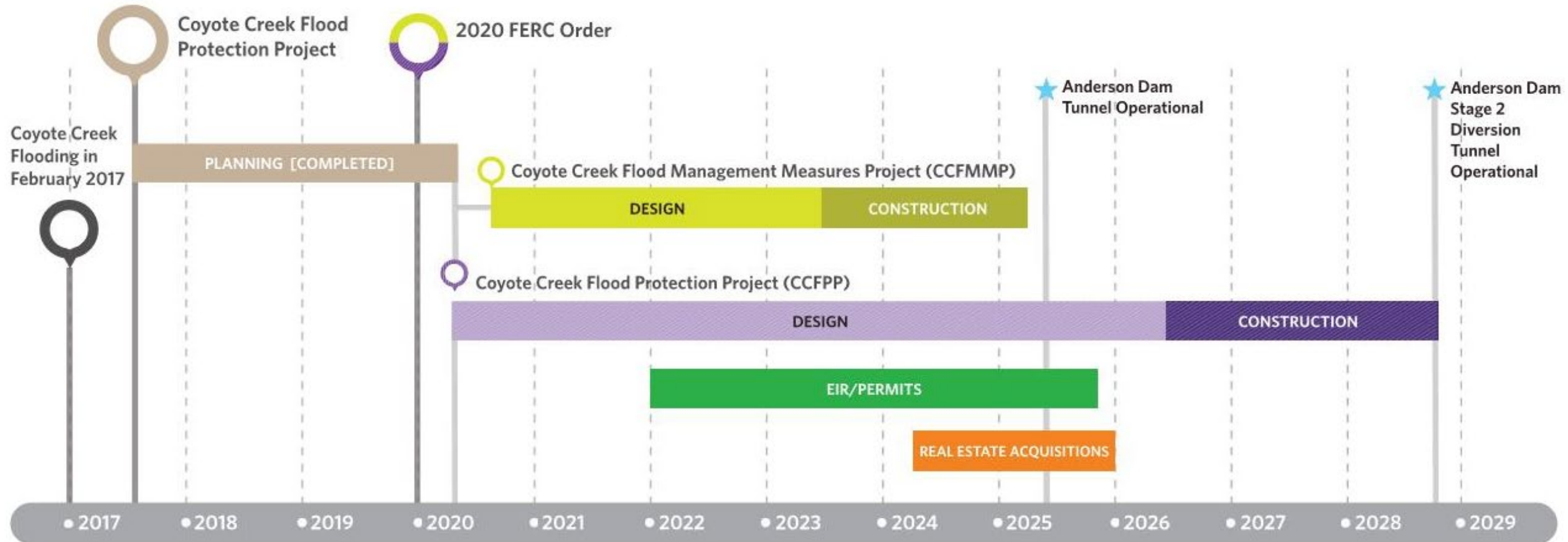
Reduce risk of flooding to homes, schools, businesses, and transportation infrastructure from a flood event equivalent to the February 2017 event.





# PROJECT SCHEDULE

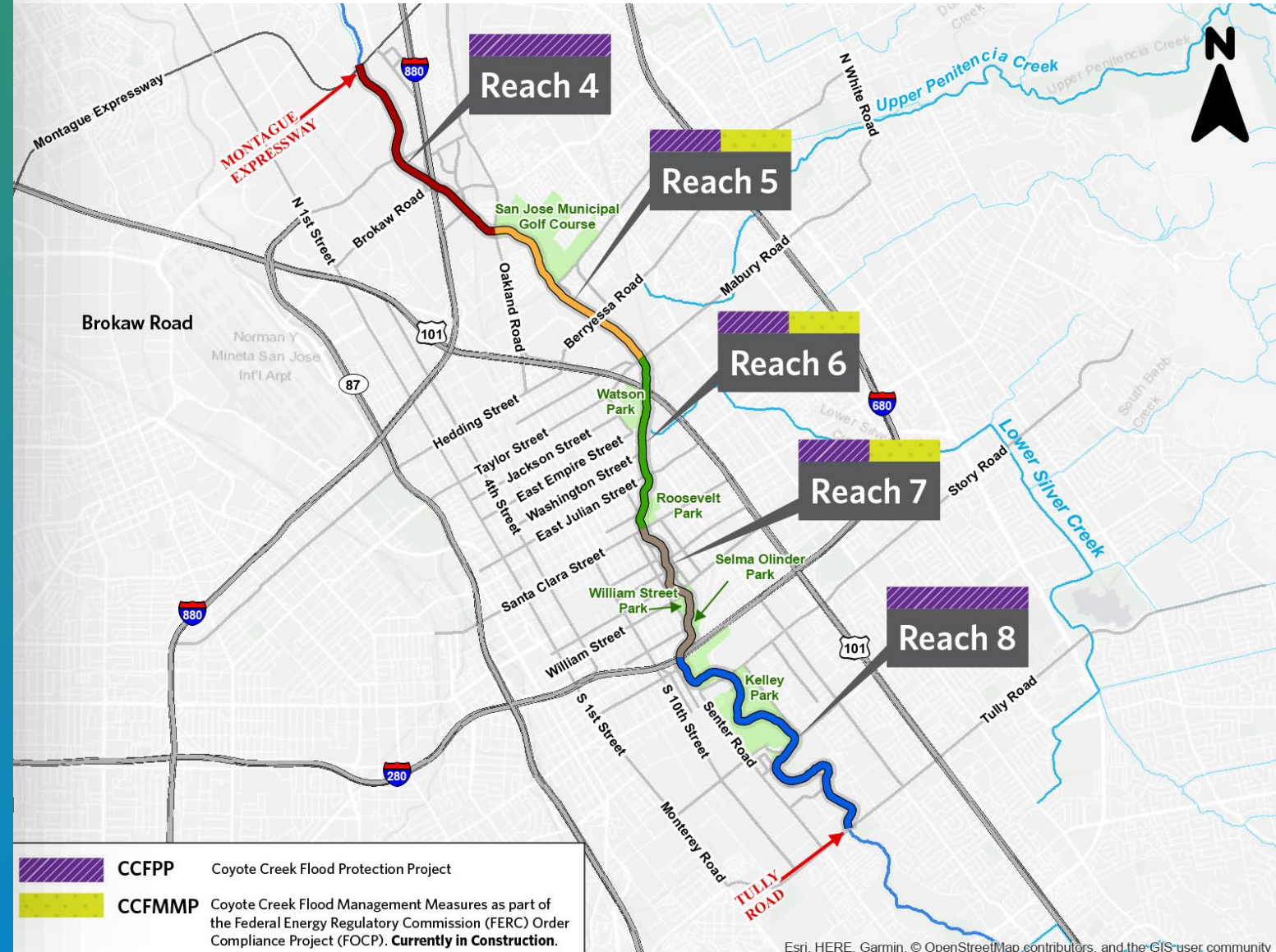
4





# Project Area

- 9 Miles: Montague Expressway to Tully Road
- Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project (Phase 1)
  - Reaches 5, 6 and 7
  - Near completion
- Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project (Phase 2)
  - Reaches 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
  - In Design
  - Construction Mid-2026





# Project Elements

- Floodwalls
  - Vertical walls that contain and redirect flood flows
    - Sheet pile floodwalls
    - Reinforced concrete floodwalls
- Berms
  - Ridges or embankments that contain and redirect flood flows
- Passive Barriers
  - Hidden at ground level
  - Storm waters rise and lift the barriers
  - Contain floodwaters





# Project Elements

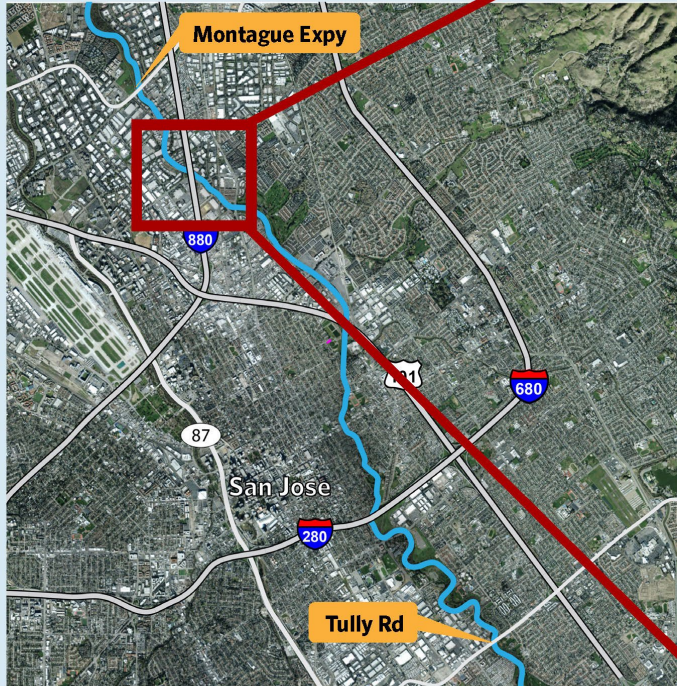
- Flap Gates
  - Device installed along a storm drainpipe to prevent backflow from the creek to the street during high flow events
  - Allows storm water to flow into the creek when creek level is below the gate
- Tree and Vegetation Removal
  - Pre-construction activities will include removal and trimming of trees and vegetation within the work area for access during construction





## REACH 4

Install floodwalls and berms along Coyote Creek and add new headwalls on Charcot Ave. Bridge to prevent flooding of the surrounding areas.



Key Map

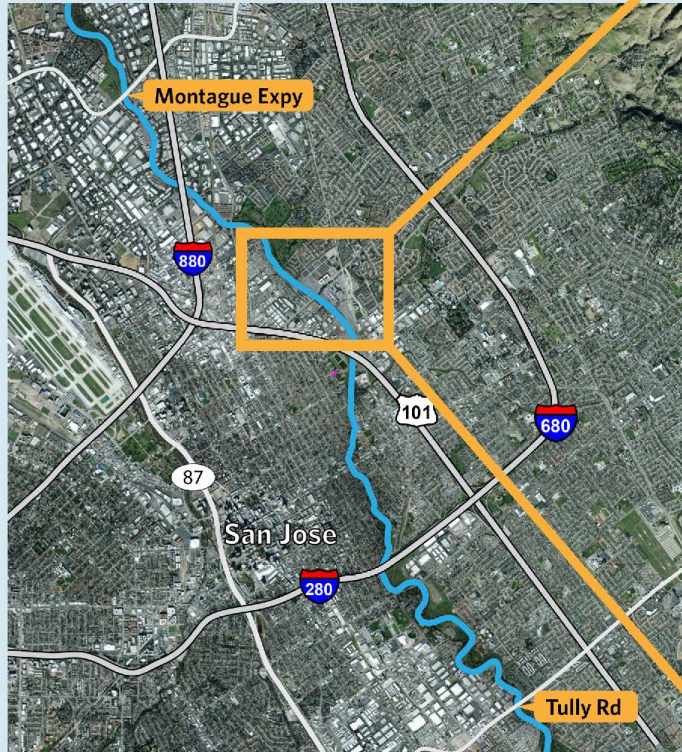


Reach 4 Project Area



## REACH 5

Install storm drain flap gates.



Key Map

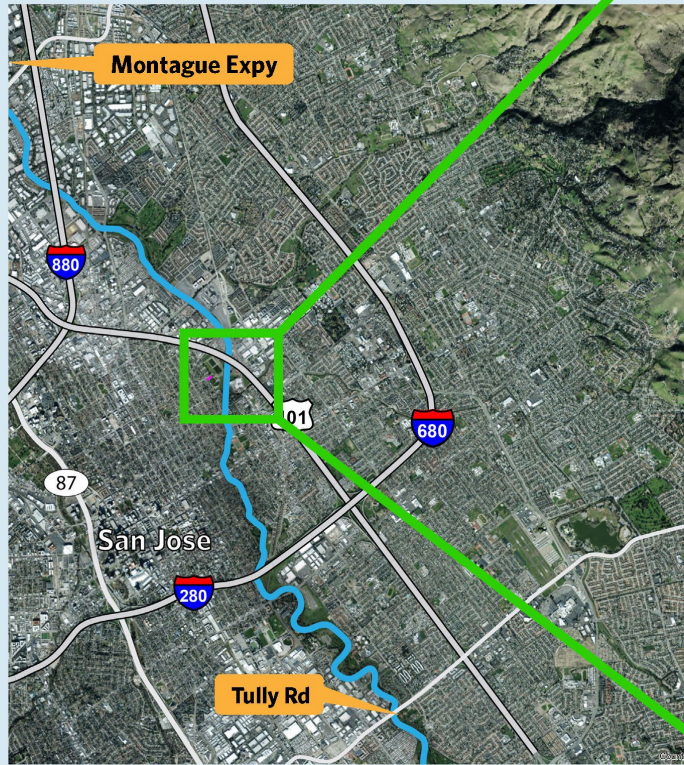


Reach 5 Project Area

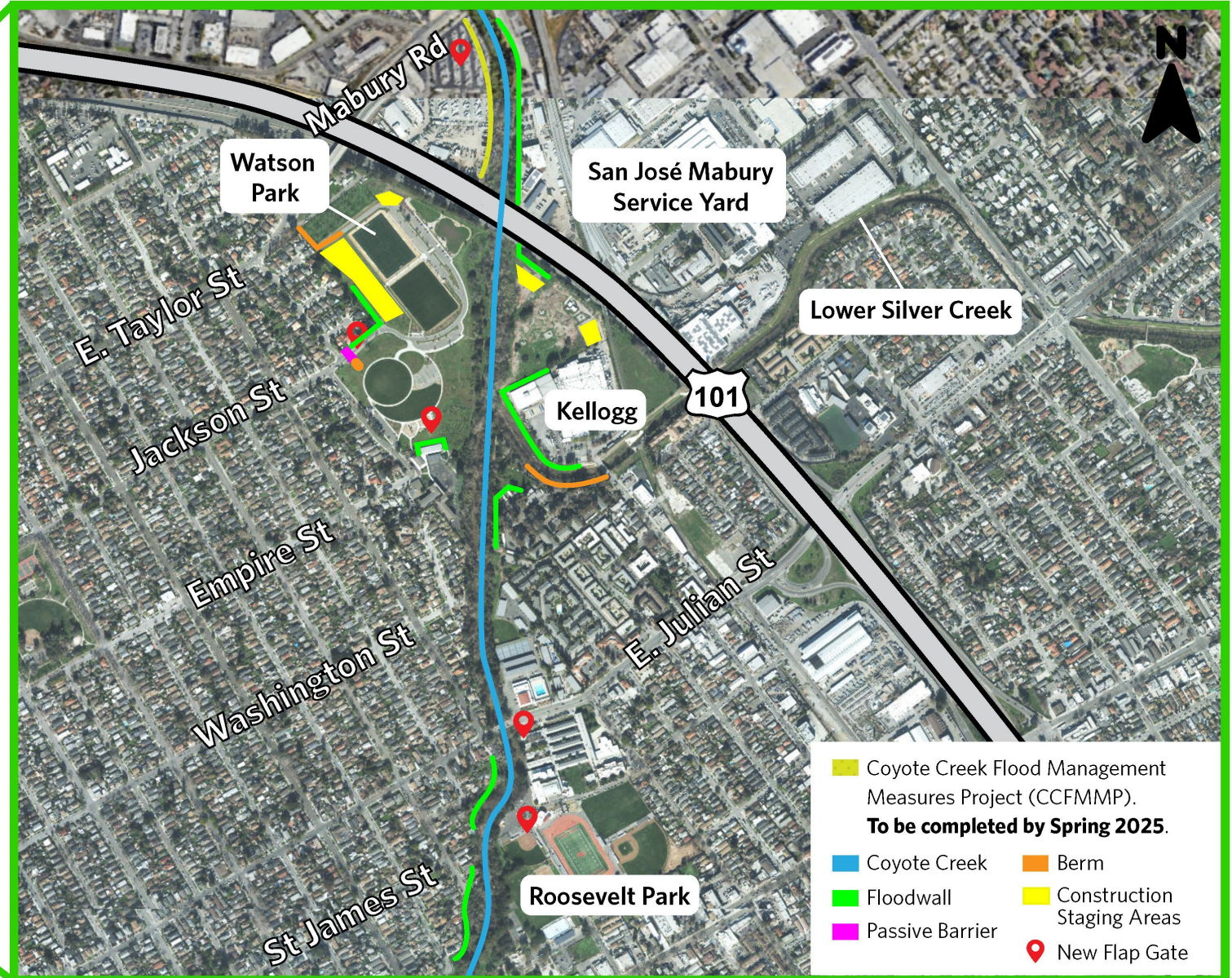


## REACH 6

Install floodwalls, berm, and passive barrier to protect residential, businesses and industrial areas.



Key Map

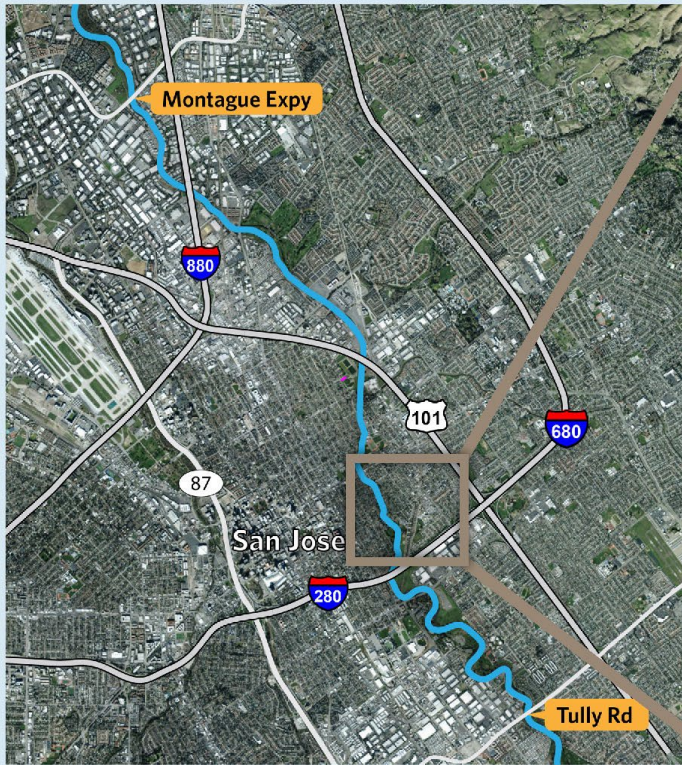


Reach 6 Project Area



## REACH 7

Install floodwalls, passive barriers, and berms to protect residential areas, a school, and businesses.



Key Map

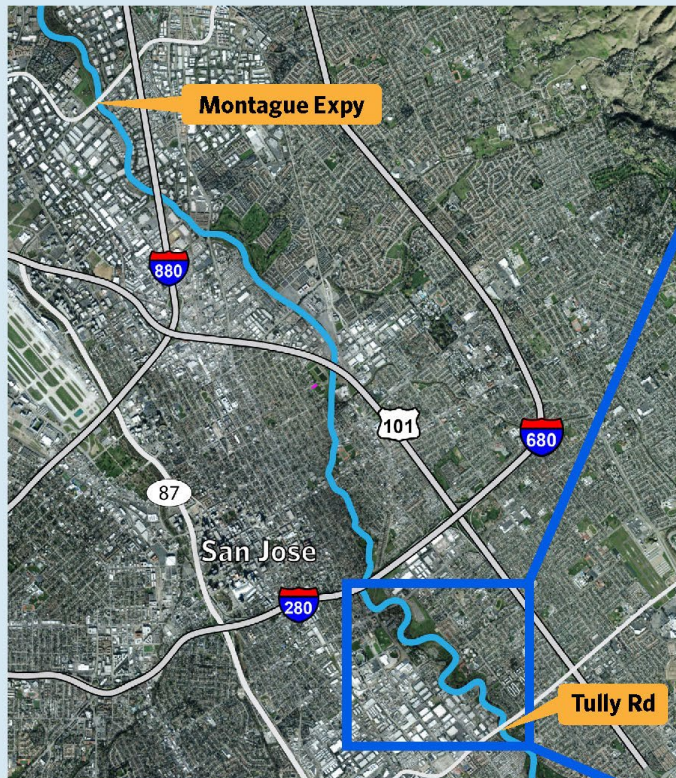


Reach 7 Project Area

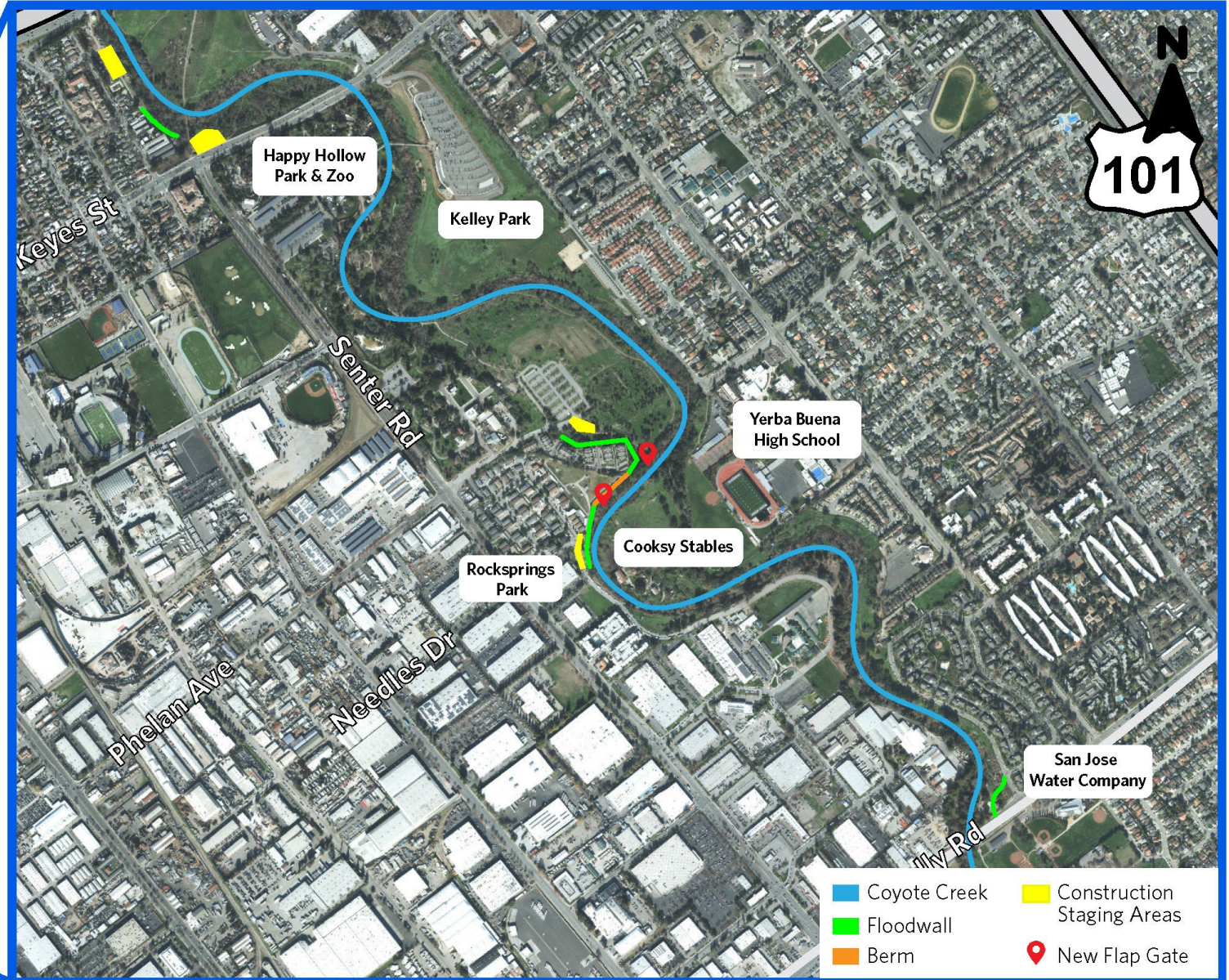


## REACH 8

Install floodwalls and a berm to protect residential, businesses and industrial areas.



Key Map



Reach 8 Project Area





# Operations and Maintenance

- Three-year Native Plant Establishment Period



[valleywater.org/learning-center/healthy-creeks-and-ecosystems/creekside-property-program](https://valleywater.org/learning-center/healthy-creeks-and-ecosystems/creekside-property-program)



### Stream Maintenance by Valley Water and Others

There is not a singular entity in charge of creeks. Valley Water owns or has access to maintain approximately 333 of the 800 miles of creeks in the urbanized valley areas of Santa Clara County. The remaining stretches of creeks are owned by private property owners whose lands extend into the creek, and by public agencies including Santa Clara County, and cities in which the creeks are located. Of these 333 miles, Valley Water has built flood protection projects (improved channels) on 185 miles; the remaining 148 miles are natural channels (unmodified channels with no design flow capacity). Valley Water maintains property where it has built flood protection projects (capital improvement projects) and possesses land rights. Routine work activities are defined and permitted under a Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), a multi-year program approved by seven state and federal regulatory agencies.

#### Valley Water maintenance as a **Landowner**

Valley Water performs work on properties it owns in fee title or where otherwise obligated by permit or agreement.

**Activities performed** may include weed abatement, downed tree management, hazardous tree removal, pruning for access, care of planted mitigation sites, fence and erosion repair, and graffiti, trash, and debris removal including encampment management activities.



#### Property Owner's Responsibility for Creek Maintenance

Every landowner has a duty to maintain their property in a reasonably safe condition that does not interfere with a neighbor's ability to enjoy their property. A landowner's creek maintenance duties may include vegetation management, erosion repair, and removal of graffiti, trash, debris, and downed trees. Some activities are subject to permitting by local, state, and federal regulatory agencies prior to work. A property owner is not required to enlarge or increase the capacity of a creek for flood protection purposes.



#### Valley Water maintenance on **Easements**

Valley Water performs limited work on properties owned by others where Valley Water has an easement on a natural or unmodified channel. Easements are generally acquired for flood protection or water management and storm drainage purposes and grant Valley Water the right, but not the obligation, to take actions in accordance with those purposes.

**Valley Water may perform** flood protection activities such as downed tree management or removal of other obstructions to flow. While activities conducted on natural channels may have a flow conveyance benefit, work is not conducted to meet a defined flow conveyance target as no such threshold or stream maintenance guidelines exist for natural channels. For Valley Water to determine that removal of a debris blockage needs to occur in a natural channel under typical flood protection-related easement language, the debris would have to be blocking the main channel across most of the cross-section and be significant enough to push the water over the banks.

**Valley Water does not perform** activities such as weed abatement, erosion repair, graffiti or trash removal, or encampment management activities on easements as these are landowner responsibilities. Unless otherwise stated, erosion repair on easements is a property owner responsibility.

**The landowner retains rights** to use the easement but cannot take actions, such as construction of a building, that conflict with the Valley Water easement right. A typical easement deed requires a property owner to seek Valley Water's approval for certain construction activities, such as grading and fencing.



# Contact Info

🌐 [valleywater.org/coyote-creek](http://valleywater.org/coyote-creek)

🌐 [access.valleywater.org](http://access.valleywater.org)



# END OF PRESENTATION



## Questions & Answers







# Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection