



**Valley Water**  
Santa Clara Valley Water District  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San José, CA 95118-3686  
[www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

Phase 2A underground high flow diversion tunnel.

## About Valley Water

Valley Water 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 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. Valley Water has invested more than \$1 billion in flood protection efforts to protect nearly 100,000 parcels, with many more projects planned. Valley Water performs work annually under its Stream Maintenance Program to repair damages to creeks to reduce the risk of flooding and keep our communities safe.

For more information, contact Neighborhood Liaison, Jose Villarreal at (408) 630-2879 or by email at [JVillarreal@valleywater.org](mailto:JVillarreal@valleywater.org).

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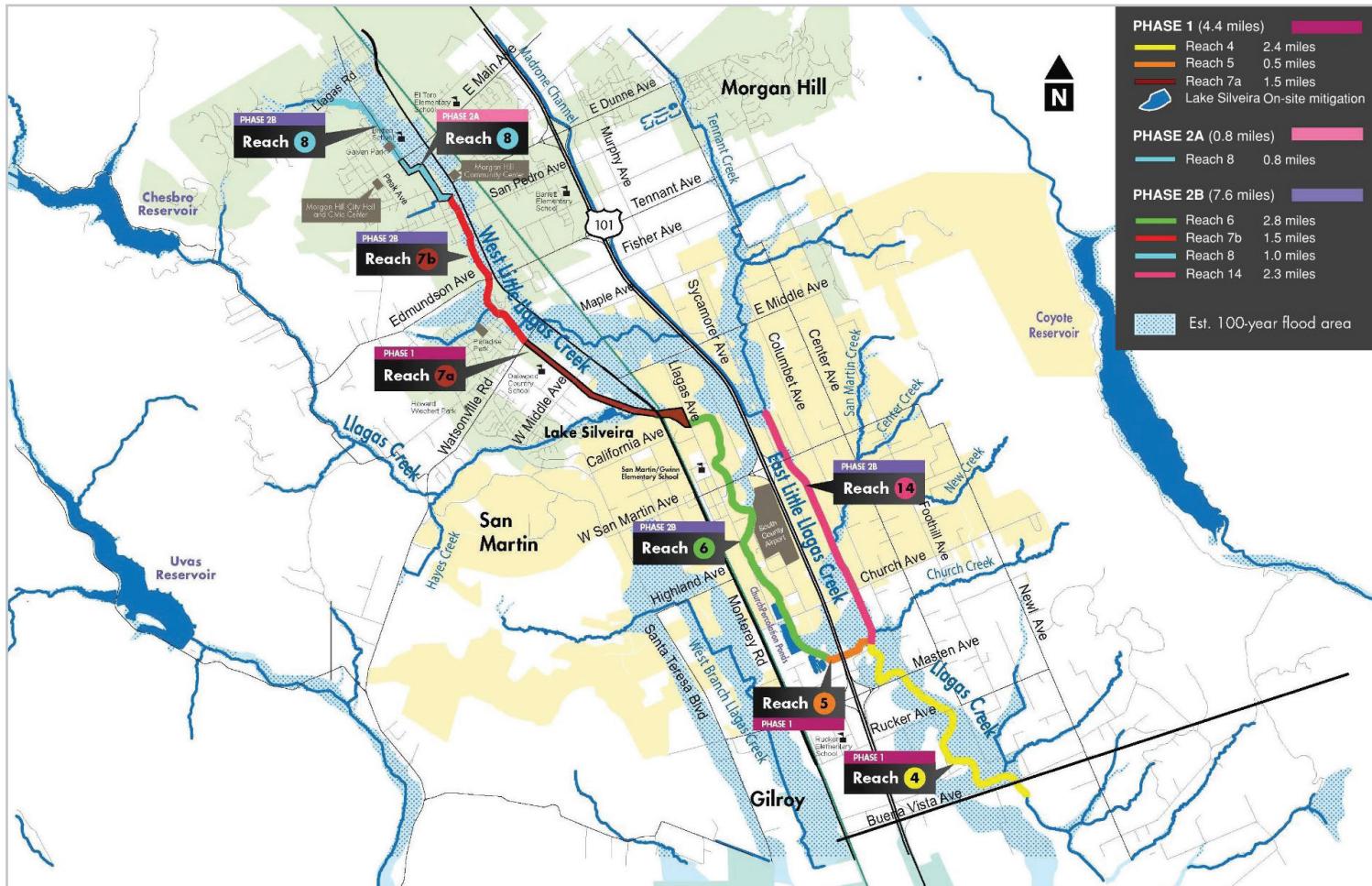
**Safe, Clean Water  
and Natural Flood Protection**

# Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project

## Phase 2B Project Mailer



**PRIORITY E** Provide flood protection to homes, businesses, schools, streets and highways



**Safe, Clean Water  
and Natural Flood Protection**

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### Phase 2B Project Mailer

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## You're invited!



**When:**  
Tuesday, September 3, 2024  
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



**Where:**  
Morgan Hill Community Center, El Toro Room  
17000 Monterey Road  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/86406989123>  
Web ID: 864 0698 9123  
Call in: (669) 900-9128



**Contact:**  
Jose Villarreal  
[jvillarreal@valleywater.org](mailto:jvillarreal@valleywater.org)  
(408) 630-2879

Phase 1 Lake Silveira compensatory mitigation wetlands completed in April 2022.

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## Protecting people and property

Valley Water is dedicated to keeping residents and businesses safe through its flood protection programs. Each winter, hundreds of households and businesses in Morgan Hill are susceptible to flooding from Llagas Creek and its tributaries during major storm events. The Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project consists of approximately 13.9 miles of flood protection improvements along East Little Llagas Creek, West Little Llagas Creek, and Llagas Creek within the cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and the unincorporated area of San Martin. The project is separated into sections, called reaches, with each reach representing a geographic start and end point for specific project activities shown on this project map.

When completed, the project will:

- Provide flood protection for approximately 1,100 homes, 500 businesses, and more than 1,300 acres of agricultural land in southern Santa Clara County.
- Save residents and businesses thousands of dollars on flood insurance each year (upon completion and Federal Emergency Management Agency certification).
- Provide increased public safety by protecting residences and businesses from flooding.
- Preserve and enhance the creek habitat for fish and wildlife.

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



# Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project

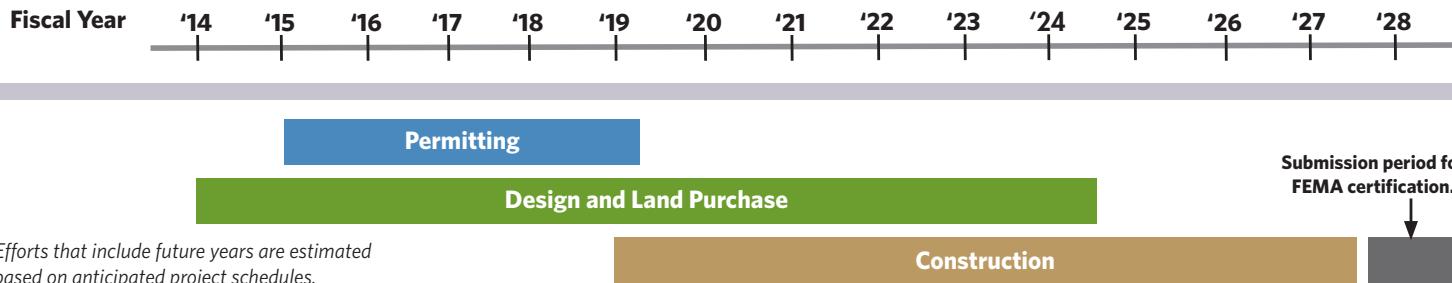
## Phase 2B Project Mailer

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### Upper Llagas Creek Project Timeline (Updated)\*



Efforts that include future years are estimated based on anticipated project schedules.

### Removing properties from the flood zone

Upon completing the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project, Valley Water will submit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) the Letter of Map Revisions (LOMR), which begins the process for FEMA to review and certify the project. The LOMR maps properties that will be in a FEMA 100-year floodplain zone.

### Construction overview

The project includes three construction phases. Phase 1 began in September 2019 and was completed in May 2022. The project's three-year native plant establishment period is underway and anticipated to be complete by spring 2025. Phase 2A, which includes the underground tunnel, twin reinforced concrete box culverts, and utilities relocation in downtown Morgan Hill, began construction in June 2021, with completion anticipated by the end of August 2024. Phase 2B includes the remaining portion of Reach 6 (approximately 2.8 miles), Reach 7B (approximately 1.5 miles), Reach 8 (approximately 1 mile), and Reach 14 (approximately 2.3 miles). Some constructed elements will consist of creek channel widening and deepening, box culvert replacements, utility relocations, revegetation of streamside habitat, and instream habitat improvements for wildlife.

Construction will occur year-round, with in-channel work done during the dry season (early May through mid-October). Phase 2B construction in residential areas will take place Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Work in these areas will be subject to local noise ordinances.

Work in non-residential areas could take place until 10 p.m. These nighttime activities could include construction on bridges, roadways, utility relocation, mobilization, preparatory work, traffic control, and clearing of vegetation or other items.



Phase 2A underground twin reinforced box culvert construction completed in 2024 at Hale Avenue and W. Main Avenue in Morgan Hill.

Residents can expect increased truck traffic, noise, dust and temporary road and trail closures at various project locations during construction. Valley Water will continue to use best management practices to minimize construction disturbances (i.e., noise, dust, etc.) to the neighborhood as much as is practical and work with the contractor to address resident concerns as they arise.

### REACH 6 | PHASE 2B

Creek channel improvements in Reach 6 will involve widening and deepening the channel with a cross-section which includes a meandering low flow channel, a stable creek channel with terraces approximately 30 feet in width, and improved creek banks. Improved channel banks will be revegetated with native trees and shrubs after instream construction is complete. A maintenance road will be constructed for access along each side of the creek. Work will occur underneath the Llagas Avenue Bridge to fortify the structure so channel improvements can be completed.

**What to expect:** During construction hours, neighbors and businesses will experience truck traffic, noise, and dust at the project access points and along Llagas Creek from Llagas Avenue and Llagas Creek downstream to Murphy Avenue and Llagas Creek.

### REACH 7B | PHASE 2B

Creek channel modifications will follow the existing creek alignment between Watsonville Road and Ciolino Avenue. Improvements will include deepening and widening of the existing creek channel, utility relocations, box culvert improvements, and storm drain outfall modifications. Improved slopes of the creek channel will be revegetated. Existing city public trails will be temporarily closed during construction and reopened post-construction.

**What to expect:** During construction hours, neighbors and businesses will experience truck traffic, noise, and dust at the project access points and along West Little Llagas Creek from Ciolino Avenue downstream to Watsonville Road.

### REACH 8 | PHASE 2B

Reach 8 is near downtown Morgan Hill and will follow the existing creek alignment. This reach includes construction of a drainage inlet structure and sediment trap for the tunnel under Nob Hill which was constructed in Phase 2A. The existing creek channel will be widened and deepened upstream of Wright Avenue to Llagas Road.

**What to expect:** From Llagas Road downstream to W. Main Avenue, residents can expect to see additional heavy machinery, truck traffic, and haul trucks on the road. There will be temporary road closures along Hale Avenue, stockpiling of soil, staging of materials and equipment at designated sites. Additional noise, not to exceed the jurisdictional noise ordinance, and an increase in dust from construction activities are expected. The contractor will implement best management practices to minimize these anticipated disturbances.

### REACH 14 | PHASE 2B

Reach 14 is located parallel to and east of Highway 101. This reach includes widening of the existing creek channel, storm drain modifications, installation of maintenance roads along both sides of the channel, and native plant revegetation post-construction.

**What to expect:** During construction, neighbors and businesses will experience truck traffic, noise, and dust at the project access points along East Little Llagas Creek from Sycamore Avenue downstream to Lena Avenue.