

Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project



The Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure photographed in spring of 2020.

About the project

Valley Water (Santa Clara Valley Water District) provides flood protection to homes, businesses, schools and highways. As part of our commitment, Valley Water will design and construct a seismic retrofit and rehabilitation of the Palo Alto Flood Basin (PAFB) Tide Gate Structure to extend the service life of the existing structure as part of Phase 1. In Phase 2 of the effort, a long-term tide gate structure replacement will be worked on with the United States Army Corps of Engineers under the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Phase II Project. The existing structure is located where the PAFB connects to the San Francisco Bay, half a mile northeast of the Byxbee Park parking lot on the Adobe Creek Loop Trail. The structure protects against coastal flooding and controls the downstream water levels for Matadero, Adobe and Barron creeks, which all drain to the PAFB. This project will provide significant flood protection benefits to nearby homes, businesses and schools and a portion of U.S. Highway 101. Additionally, the project will continue to protect local wildlife and habitat.

Background

The PAFB Tide Gate Structure was constructed in 1957. Due to its age and location in a corrosive marine environment, the tide gate structure shows signs of deterioration including spalled concrete and exposed reinforcement steel. Seepage was previously addressed by an emergency repair effort in 2012. In 2017, Valley Water attempted minor maintenance repairs that would have extended the life of the structure. However, construction was suspended when difficulties were encountered in dewatering the work area.

Project objectives

Phase 1:

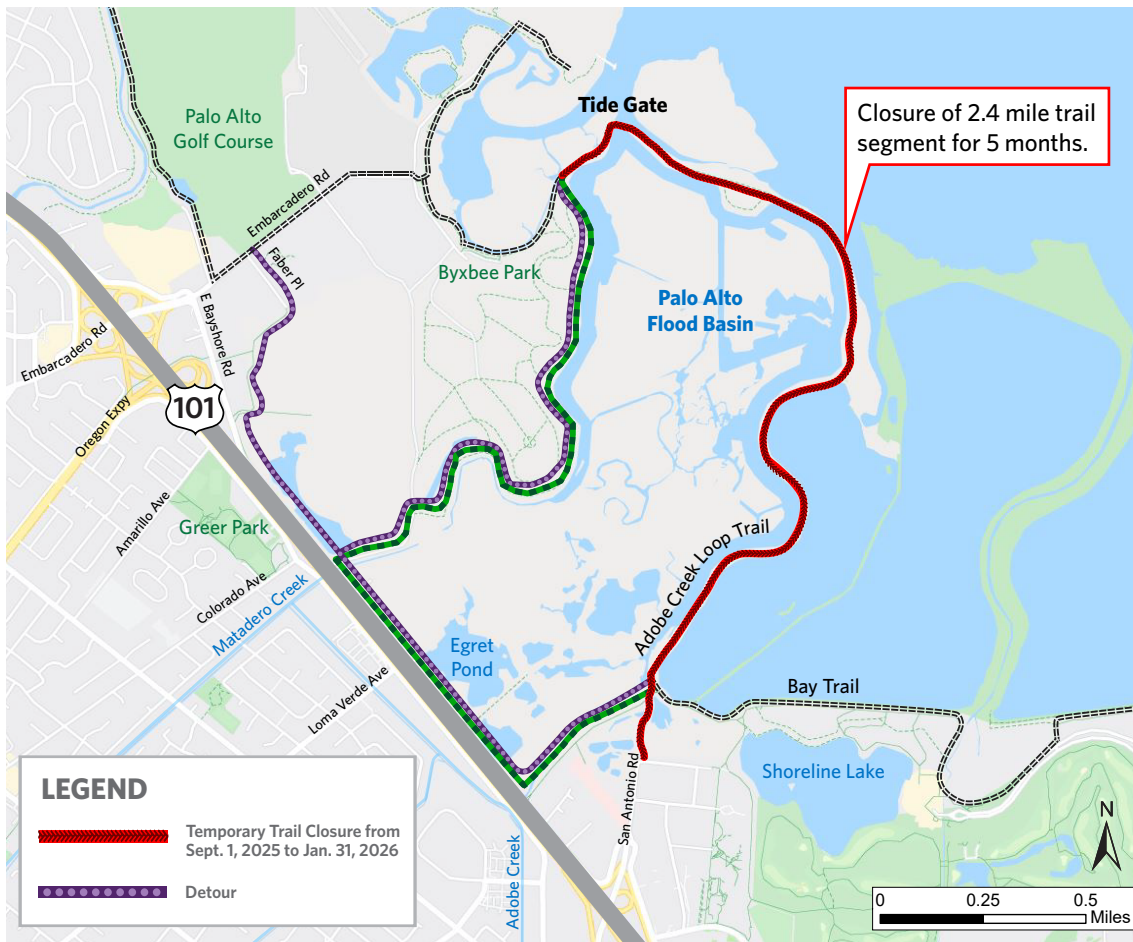
- Retrofit and rehabilitate the tide gate structure to reduce seismic vulnerabilities and extend its service life.

Phase 2:

- Coordinate with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct a long-term replacement tide gate structure that will ensure alignment and elevation compatibility with the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Phase II Project.



Profile view of the PAFB Tide Gate Structure.



Map of the PAFB Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project's location and planned detour.

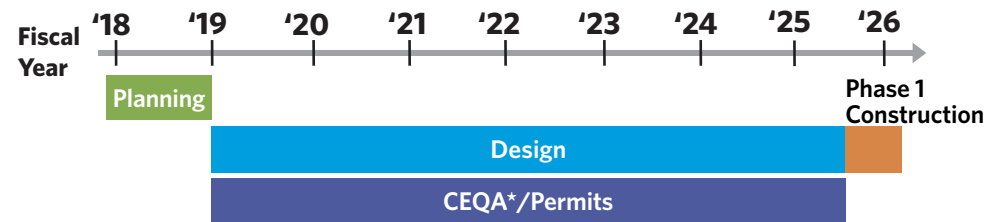


Geotechnical exploratory drillings occurring near the PAFB tide gate structure.

Design phase

Phase 1 is currently at 60% design, which includes design preparation, engineering studies, environmental reviews and coordination with agencies and stakeholders. The remaining Phase 1 work includes the preparation of detailed construction plans and specifications, along with refining cost estimates and permit acquisition details.

Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project Schedule



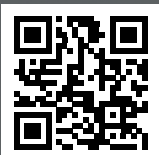
*California Environmental Quality Act

Learn more

For the latest information on the **Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Structure Replacement Project**, email Peter Park at PPark@valleywater.org or visit delivr.com/2zvqk.

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