

Zone 7
Report to the Zone Commissioners
By Jason Uhley, General Manager-Chief Engineer
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Current/Recent Construction Projects

Murrieta Creek Channel - Corps of Engineers (7-8-00021-01)

Murrieta Creek continues to be the District's highest priority project in Zone 7.

On October 27, 2000, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2001 was signed into law by President Clinton, which directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to proceed with a detailed engineering design for the Murrieta Creek Flood Control, Environmental Restoration and Recreation Project. More importantly, Congress committed to funding roughly \$60 million of the Project's \$90 million cost.

Historically, the cities of Murrieta and Temecula have experienced devastating flooding along Murrieta Creek, including a 1993 flood which caused \$20 million in damages. The purpose of the Project is to prevent such flooding by conveying the 100-year flow within Murrieta Creek.

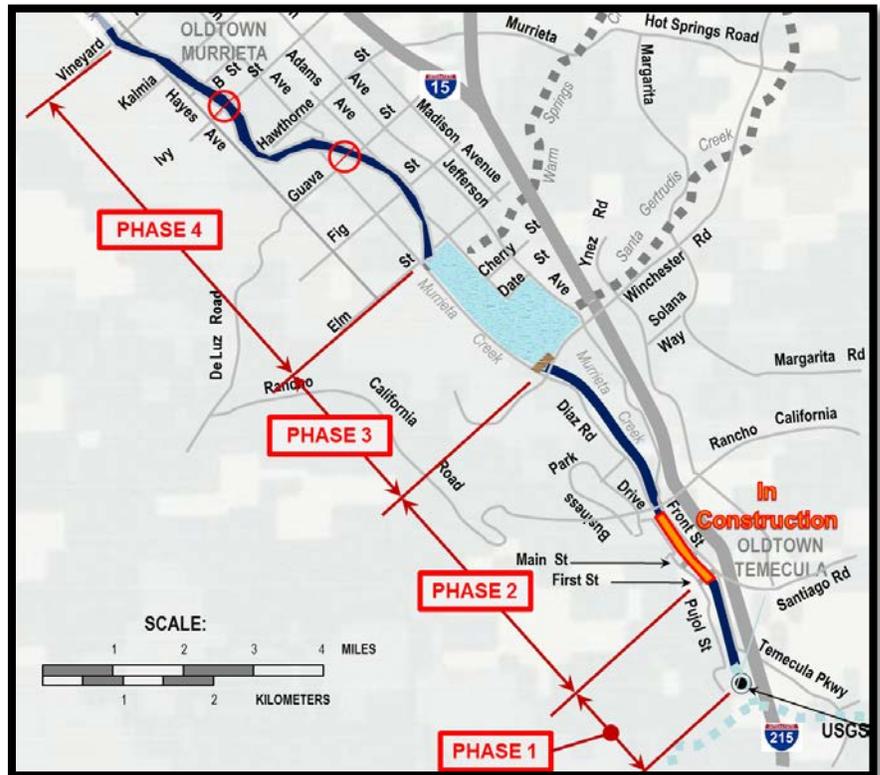
Currently, the Project is divided into four phases: Phase I - channel improvements from the Front Street/Highway 79 south junction upstream to First Street (Temecula); Phase II - channel improvements from First Street upstream to Winchester Road (Temecula); Phase III - the detention basin/environmental restoration/sports park (Murrieta/Temecula); and Phase IV - channel improvements from the detention basin upstream to Vineyard Parkway (Murrieta).

Phase I construction began in December 2003 and was completed in December 2004. The Project sustained some damage during winter 2004 and the Corps completed the necessary repairs in May 2007.

Phase IIA construction began in September 2015. Due to Corps funding constraints, Phase II is being constructed in multiple reaches. The contract for the first reach (Phase IIA), from the existing Phase I below First Street to a point 600 feet south of Rancho California Road, was awarded to OHL USA, Inc. for \$16 million and is expected to be completed in 2017. This phase of the Project was funded by the District through an amendment of the Project Cooperative Agreement that allowed the District to provide "accelerated funding" to the Corps of approximately \$17,100,000 in FY 2014-2015.

As originally authorized by Congress, the Project includes a relatively expensive "locally preferred option" (i.e., Phase IV) that lowers the Project's overall benefit/cost ratio. The benefit/cost ratio can be improved through a "Post-Authorization Change Report." Once completed, this report officially "defers" (i.e., deletes) Phase IV and the unconstructed portion of Phase I (called "Phase IA") from the federal Project, optimizes the design of Phase II to reduce its cost, and includes analysis of benefits not considered in previous reports. By doing so, the Corps will be able to claim a higher (and, therefore, more competitive) benefit/cost ratio for the revised Project (Phases I, II and III).

The Corps received some additional federal funding in 2017 to complete the Post-Authorization Change Report, supplemental environmental work, and the design and construction of Phase II. Meanwhile, the District continues to vigorously petition both Congress and the Corps for additional project funding. The Corps and District are working to secure federal funding in FY 2018 to complete Phase IIA, begin construction of the next reach of Phase II, complete the Post-Authorization Change Report, and turn over Phase I to the District for operation and maintenance.



Active Design Projects

Santa Gertrudis Valley - Browning Street Water Quality Basin (7-8-00025-60)

The District is analyzing alternatives to mitigate elevated levels of bacteria in the Santa Gertrudis Valley – Browning Street Storm Drain outfall. The Project is located in the unincorporated French Valley area off of Encanto Road, east of Winchester Road (Highway 79) and north of Murrieta Hot Springs Road in the Rancho Bella Vista development. The outfall of Browning Street Storm Drain discharges upstream of Tualota Creek which is tributary to Santa Gertrudis Valley Creek. Due to relatively flat topography, as well as vegetation ranging from grasses to small trees growing within the riprap, nuisance flows become trapped and pond near the storm drain's outfall. The additional time spent ponded under the sunlight propagates bacterial growth exceeding the Non-stormwater Action Level (NAL) set forth by the 2010 Santa Margarita Region MS4 Permit.

The District is investigating the possibility of a number of alternatives to mitigate the exceedance of the NALs including an outfall "retrofit" to alleviate the potential for ponding within the outfall, a low flow diversion to sewer, and further public education (alongside Eastern Municipal Water District) on overwatering landscape within the Rancho Bella Vista development.

Wildomar MDP Lateral C Basin (7-8-00075-03)

District-led project to reduce flooding along Bundy Canyon Wash in the city of Wildomar. The Project consists of a detention basin on a 19-acre site, as well as replacing an existing open channel along Monte Vista Street. Right of way for the basin site was secured in FY 2015-2016. Construction of the Project is fully funded by the District in the 5-year CIP. The District is currently obtaining topographic mapping for the site so that the design can begin for this Project.



Meadowview Stream Restoration (7-8-00361-60)

The Meadowview Stream Restoration Project is a proposed multi-agency collaborative streambank stabilization/restoration project in the city of Temecula. The Project would address existing hydromodification and erosion/sedimentation issues in the creek, as well as mitigate potential resulting water quality problems downstream. The Project is located approximately 200 feet south of the Calle Pina Colada – Del Rey Road intersection at Meadowview Creek and continues northwesterly along the creek for approximately 1,450 feet. The Project includes stream stabilization with native vegetation and bioengineering techniques such as laying back cut banks, adding rock riprap, compost rolls, and hydroseed in all disturbed areas.

