

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District  
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# Natomas Reach A site preparation activities set to continue this November

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the California Central Valley Flood Protection Board, California Department of Water Resources, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, will be constructing levee improvements along the Garden Highway levee from Farm Road to Gateway Oaks Drive. This work is part of the American River Common Features - Natomas Basin project authorized by Congress in 2014.

Geotechnical engineering analyses have shown that the levees are susceptible to seepage, which can cause the levees to fail. Additionally, many portions of the levee have significant stability and long-term operation and maintenance issues. Upcoming levee improvements are designed to address these deficiencies.

## Why Levee Improvements are Needed

The Natomas Basin is considered by flood risk management experts to be one of the most at risk regions in the nation for catastrophic flooding. Levee improvements in the Natomas Basin were originally authorized in 1996; however high water events in 1997 and 2006 identified serious underseepage issues throughout the basin.

In 2010, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed a post authorization change report that detailed an updated plan for improving Natomas levees, and the project to improve the 42 mile long ring levee that surrounds Natomas was authorized by Congress in 2014. While SAFCA completed construction on the first 18 miles, the Corps began construction on the remaining 24 miles in 2018. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2025.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When/Where will this work be taking place?

Site preparation work will occur along the full 3.5 mile long extent of Reach A between Farm Road and Gateway Oaks Drive (see map above). The contractor will be working Monday-Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Residents can expect increased construction traffic and noise for the tree cutting activities.

### Why can't the trees along the landside slope stay in place?

Trees are being cut or trimmed to complete vital flood risk reduction work. Removal and trimming of trees is necessary to provide clearance for construction equipment to access the project area and/or because they are located within the levee construction footprint. Only trees necessary for construction and utility relocation are being removed.

### Will utilities be relocated underground?

It is anticipated that utilities being relocated to allow for construction of the necessary flood risk reduction features will be relocated in the same manner as their existing configuration.

## Significant Dates to Know

(as of October 15, 2021; subject to change)

### September 2021

Construction contract awarded

### November 2021

Site preparation activities resume, including tree removal and tree trimming within construction footprint

### Spring 2022

Begin levee improvement construction

### Fall 2024

Complete levee improvement construction

## What to Expect

### Site Preparation Activities

Relocate utilities, remove encroachments, cut and trim trees located within the construction footprint. These activities are scheduled to begin again in November 2021 and will be ongoing through February 2022.

### Levee Construction

Improvements to the 3.5 mile long Reach A levee include: construction of an adjacent levee, which will essentially widen the levee on the landside of the existing Garden Highway, installation of seepage cutoff walls, and construction of seepage berms on the landside of the levee. The type of improvements implemented will vary by location.

### Traffic Impacts

Expect temporary single lane closures to occur along Garden Highway between Farm Road and Gateway Oaks Drive during tree trimming and removal, utility relocations, and construction. There may be potential full closures at discrete locations during construction. Additional construction related information will be included in subsequent updates.

## For More Information

For the latest and more detailed information related to our Natomas Reach A construction please visit [www.natomaslevees.com](http://www.natomaslevees.com)

You can also follow our social media page

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