

City of Gilroy Benefits

What is the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Renewal?

The Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program funds upgrades to pipelines, dams, and critical water infrastructure to improve water supplies and prepare for the risk of natural disasters and climate change. The updated program will also continue to reduce toxins, hazards, and contaminants in our waterways, provide county-wide flood protection, and protect and improve our natural environment for the overall benefit of residents and wildlife.

KEY RENEWAL BENEFITS

- Provides funding to support approximately \$2 billion for local capital infrastructure projects that will spur economic activity and is estimated to create approximately 40,000 jobs for the local and regional economy.
- Provides \$53.1 million in grants and partnerships for cities like Gilroy, as well as organizations and individuals, for water conservation, pollution prevention, creek cleanups and education, wildlife habitat restoration and wildlife corridors and crossings, flood-inducing blockage removal, and access to trails and open space.
- Provides \$38.7 million to continue the ongoing coordination with cities like Gilroy and agencies to help clean up large creekside encampments that may contaminate waterways. This cooperative effort includes working with local municipalities, social services, and nonprofit advocacy groups that will help provide housing alternatives to the unhoused population.
- Provides \$54 million to the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit project that protects Santa Clara County from inundation and destruction in the event of a dam failure, makes us more resilient in the event of a natural disaster, enhances the valley's water supplies, while also providing additional habitat benefits downstream.
- Continues planning and design for future multi-benefit water projects like the Pacheco Reservoir project that would increase the reservoirs capacity from 5,500 acre-feet to up to 140,000 acre-feet, enough to supply up to 1.4 million residents with water for one year. The project also provides downstream flood protection as well as benefits for fish habitat.
- Continues the restoration of natural creek functions, such as Bolsa Road Fish Passage Project on Uvas-Carnadero Creek, through the use of geomorphic data to design and construct projects that increase the stability of eroding creek banks and helps restore the natural functions of stream channels.
- Restores and maintains healthy fish populations by providing \$44 million for environmental stewardship projects, including identifying and helping to remove priority barriers to fish passage, and improving habitat with instream gravel, boulders, and large wood on streams.

