Florin Creek Multi-Use Basin
SAFCA Project

FACT SHEET

Notice of Intent to Construct

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) is proposing to construct a multi-use basin to provide an increased level of flood control for areas within the 100-year flood plain of Florin Creek at the Southgate Florin Creek Park site at 7460 Persimmon Avenue, Sacramento, CA.

The Florin Creek Multi-Use Basin (Proposed Project) could potentially store up to 35 acre-feet (the new basin would be approximately 8’ at its deepest point) of Florin Creek flows, which are presently handled solely by the existing channel. The existing channel—also set for improvement under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers direction—cannot safely handle flows in larger flood events. A new detention basin would improve flood protection in the area as well as expand recreational facilities at the park site.

Project Objectives

The overall objective of the Proposed Project is to provide 100-year flood protection to structures within the City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento downstream of the project site by reducing flood risk and by facilitating the completion of the Federal Project being undertaken by the Corps in conjunction with SAFCA and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB). In addition, the Project would be a part of and consistent with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) American River Basin (ARB) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

When completed, this Proposed Project would:

1. Significantly reduce flood risk affecting structures in the Florin Creek floodplain downstream of Hwy 99 with the construction of two (2) detention basins at the Florin Creek Park with a maximum depth of 8’ below current ground elevation.

2. Detention basins will remain dry in most years and only have water in them during extreme storm events when they will capture and contain creek overflows that will return back into the drainage channel when Florin Creek recedes.

3. Provide, in conjunction with the Federal Project, 100-year flood protection to structures further downstream of Florin Creek and within the SSSG floodplain eliminating the affected property owners’ obligation to purchase
high-cost flood insurance to more than 450 properties in the surrounding neighborhoods.

4. Greatly enhance recreational opportunities by doubling the size of soccer fields, replace lights along interior park pathways, construction of new sidewalks for better access which meet ADA standards, reconstruction and expansion of the fish pond and expansion of the park size by 2.8 acres.

5. The Proposed Project would include creation of about an acre of mixed willow/scrub shrub and riparian vegetation with some native grasses in addition to replacing the existing open water feature on the site. Further, the Project would include the planting of native plant species and the incorporation of additional native trees into the park creating about an acre of riparian habitat around the perimeter of a wetland/pond complex. These environmental enhancements would provide ecological benefits and increase habitat connectivity of the Park with the Florin Creek corridor. The acreage of the park’s existing water features would be expanded.

6. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2014 or early 2015 and last approximately 4 months.

7. All construction related work would take place at the park site with no foreseen impacts to any privately owned structures.
Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) has prepared an Initial Study with the intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Proposed Florin Creek Multi-Use Basin Project (Project). The Project is proposed to be located in an unincorporated portion of Sacramento County west of State Route (SR) 99 in and adjacent to Florin Creek Park, which is, in general, bordered by Orange Avenue to the north, Persimmon Avenue to the east, homes on Circle Parkway to the west, and Florin Creek to the south. The Project would be constructed on land that is currently part of the Southgate Recreation and Park District (Park District), private undeveloped land that may be acquired by SAFCA, and public land.

Florin Creek is a tributary to Morrison Creek that traverses the City of Sacramento and unincorporated Sacramento County. It floods out of bank in moderate floods (more frequent than the 100-year event), placing people and property at risk and requiring the owners of 450 structures to carry flood insurance. In combination with the US Army Corps of Engineers South Sacramento Streams Group Project, the Project would provide flood protection for these structures downstream of the Project site. The Project includes construction and operation of a weir along the bank of Florin Creek and two detention basins with a maximum depth of about eight feet below current ground elevation with a total flood storage volume of approximately 32.5 acre-feet. The detention would store stormwater flows from Florin Creek during the 25-year to 100-year storm events. Because the Park District will work with SAFCA as a project partner, the Project would improve recreation and public access. The Project site would encompass approximately 16 acres for the multi-use basin portion and approximately 4 acres of construction staging and soil disposal areas.

Flood easements would be created over the Project site that would allow the construction and operation of the Project. The Project would not disturb the existing Community Center at the northeastern corner of the existing park site and would avoid major infrastructure. Copies of the Initial Study can be viewed at SAFCA’s offices at 1007 7th Street, Sacramento, California from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday or online at http://www.safca.org/Programs_SoSacStreams.html. The 30-day comment period on the Initial Study starts on March 12, 2014 and ends on April 10, 2014. The Mitigated Negative Declaration will be considered for adoption by the SAFCA Board of Directors at its regularly-scheduled meeting at 3:00 p.m. on April 17, 2014 to be held at the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors Chambers, located at 700 H Street, Sacramento, California, 95814. Comments on the Initial Study can be directed to Pete Ghelfi at the SAFCA address listed above.