

## **Response to Meadow Way Bridge Residents' Comments from the January 2018 Survey**

**Comment: Please plant with fire-safe plants, something that does not tend to be fire-prone. Please check with a fire ecologist to determine best choices.**

Response: Per the Marin County Fire Department - Fire Protection Standard 220 - Vegetation Fuels Management Plan (which is part of the county planning permit for new development sites in Marin), we will use the following guidelines:

1. No pyrophytic vegetation will be planted per Marin County's list of fire prone species as well as Fire Safe Marin's fire prone list. (This is based on the preliminary plant list reported in the January 2017 Council presentation.)
2. New shrubs and trees will be spaced according to plant spacing and crown separation guidelines.
3. Maintenance practices such as fire resistant mulch and irrigation will be established. (We're looking into example approaches for similar sites for appropriate irrigation solutions.)

**Comment: Please make sure it (the wall/bridge/revetment) extends upstream far enough to prevent scour problems.**

Response: Scour and erosion control and prevention are top on our list. The foundations of the walls and bridge abutments, as well as the planned revetment and embankment slopes exposed to high-speed creek flows, will be heavily armored below the surface (three feet) with rock riprap calculated to weigh enough to stay put and protect these elements. Planting with trees, bushes, shrubs and vines will also contribute to creek, bank and soil stability at the site.

**Comment: Is there any possibility that the log-rootwad revetment could block the flow of the creek and create flooding?**

Response: The revetment structure will not induce flooding, such as by debris blockage. The structure will be configured so that wood pieces typically extend no more than 2-4 feet beyond a typical rock rip-rap slope protection structure. The structure will catch small woody debris near the bank, where the flow velocities are lower, but not in amounts that would increase potential for large debris jam to form, especially in this part of the creek where the channel is relatively very wide. The revetment will be customized for this site, taking into account the site's physical characteristics, hydraulics and details to minimize future maintenance.

**Comment: How much of a maintenance issue is the log-rootwad revetment?**

Response: The large wood pieces incorporated in the structure will be rot-resistant species, such as eucalyptus and redwood, typically obtained as re-purposed salvage from local urban tree removal companies. Multiple factors influence the longevity of these materials, but the expected lifespan is greater than 40 years. The structure will be designed so that the wood pieces are made integral with large rock riprap pieces. Should one or more of the wood pieces lose integrity before or after the 40-year mark, it will only serve to marginally diminish the velocity deflection and habitat enhancement function of the overall rock-and-wood bank erosion protection structure, but the overall structure will remain stable and not require excessive maintenance.

**Comment: Fish habitat is crucial!**

Response: This is one of the most fish-friendly projects in the watershed. It will create fish pools, the revetment, plants, and nooks and crannies that create refuge, cooler water and shade to facilitate fish migration during spawning times.

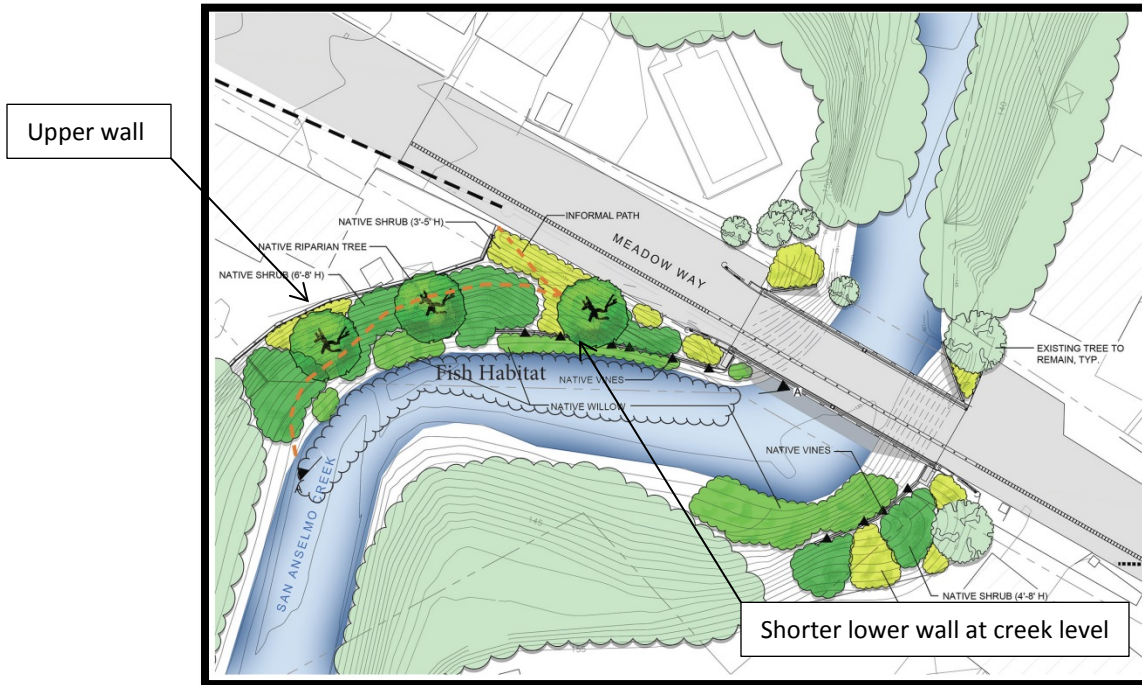
**Comment: There must be access to creek in case of emergency. Access to the creek on that side would be nice. It would be great to see fish there.**

Response: Private property lines surround the bridge, which make it infeasible to locate a public path to

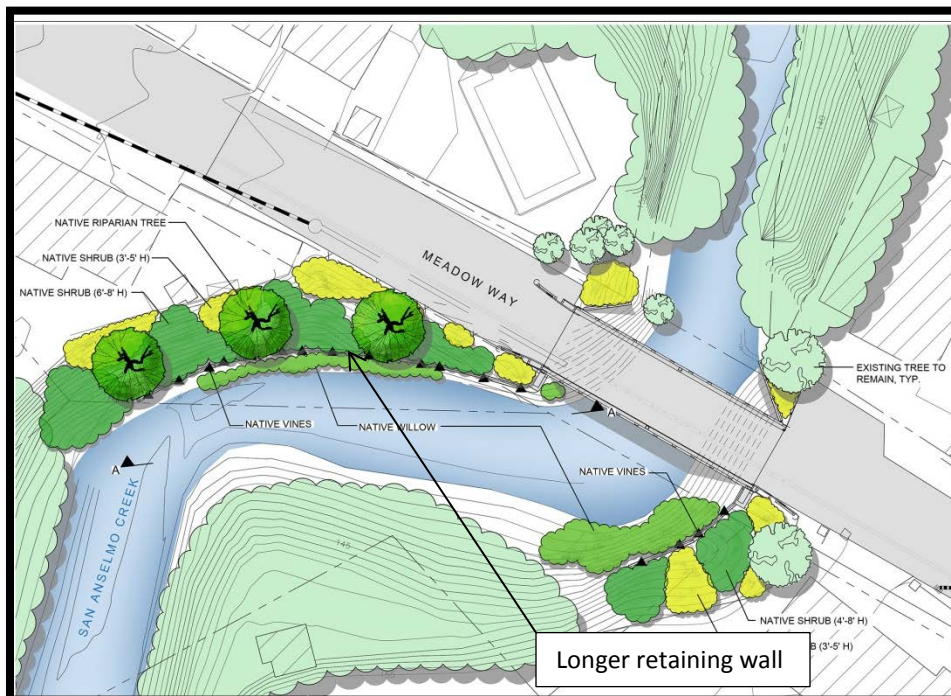
the creek without the consent of the property owner. However, the project team has received the consent of the owners of the property at the southwest quadrant of the project for informal access to the creek. We will be negotiating with them to formalize temporary construction easements and possibly a permanent one for the purpose of creek access.

**Comment: On the Retaining Wall Location and Layout Plan, it would be helpful to notate each of the walls and provide the 'old plan' alongside the 'new plan'.**

Response: Please see the exhibits below.



New Wall Plan



Old Wall Plan

**Comment: When is the most likely starting date for bridge construction?**

Response: Depending on regulatory agencies' response and process, as well as Caltrans response, construction of the project could start in June 2019.

**Comment: We don't know where the travel corridor and bridge location will be after completion of the project. Also, we don't know how wide the bridge is.**

Response: Various drawings have been posted on the web site and disseminated previously, showing the future travelway corridor and bridge location. The edges of street pavement will stay more or less the same as today and the travel corridor will be moved closer to the center of the roadway. The bridge beginning and ending will stay the same too, but the bridge will be moved over laterally a few feet to about the middle of the Town's right-of-way. To provide a physical demonstration of the new facilities in the field, the Town will inform the Meadow Way residents via email when it "paints" the lines showing the location of the bridge (hence, the future travel path) within the right-of-way.

Drawings with bridge dimensions and other specifics have also been posted on line in the past. The bridge will be 21.5 feet wide between the edges of its deck. This width is made of a 12'-wide lane, a 1' buffer, a 5'-wide pedestrian/bike lane and 1'-9" for each of the concrete railings along the two edges of the bridge.

**Comment: Can the revetment be shown on the exhibits posted on line?**

Response: The design team will show the limits of the revetment and extended fish pool on a drawing posted on line.

**Comment: Looks great, thank you for your continued hard work on the Meadow Way Bridge improvements.**

Response: Thanks to the residents for being involved! The design team and the Town management appreciate the positive response to, and reception of, the project.