



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

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Azalea Avenue Bridge Replacement Update

The initial contract for preliminary design and environmental phases of the bridge replacement project was approved by the Town Council in September and executed on September 15th. The engineering firm of California Infrastructure Consultancy was selected as the Town's consulting team for this project, which is also an important element of the Ross Valley Watershed Flood Control Program in Fairfax by Marin County Flood Zone 9. The Town has received 100% project funding, including federal funds through Caltrans and local funds from Marin County, for design, environmental process and construction related to the project.

The initial phase of the project will begin with identification of utilities in the field, ground and aerial site surveys, structure foundation borings and investigation, and creek flow analyses consistent with the County's flood control program. The first of these activities will be pavement markings for the utilities under Azalea Avenue and Arroyo Road by USA (Underground Service Alert) during the week of October 10. This will be closely followed by field topographic surveys starting on the 13th.

Limited environmental studies will get underway in parallel with preliminary bridge and retaining wall studies. In addition to professionals conducting the initial activities mentioned above, the consulting team also includes a public outreach firm to process project updates and organize public workshops, as well as other experts such as traffic engineers, creek erosion control engineers and an architectural firm for developing structural aesthetics.

The goal of the initial phase is to develop at least two bridge concepts, with retaining walls at all four corners that connect with two existing walls and add upstream elements to safely channel the flood-stage flows through the site while protecting the streets and properties above. After developing these concepts, they will be presented at the project's first public workshop, to be scheduled for the early months of 2017. After selection of the preferred concept and Town Council approval, design and environmental studies will get underway in earnest. A detailed schedule of the design, environmental process and construction will be presented shortly.

In the meantime, the project's web site at www.fairfaxbridges.com will be updated periodically with new information. To be notified of the future web site postings, project developments and workshops, we have arranged for emails to be sent to the Town and the project team through this site. Please let us know you are a resident in the neighborhood of the Azalea Avenue Bridge so that we can update you with a specific email each time new materials or events are posted.