



bethany home/grand canal flood control project

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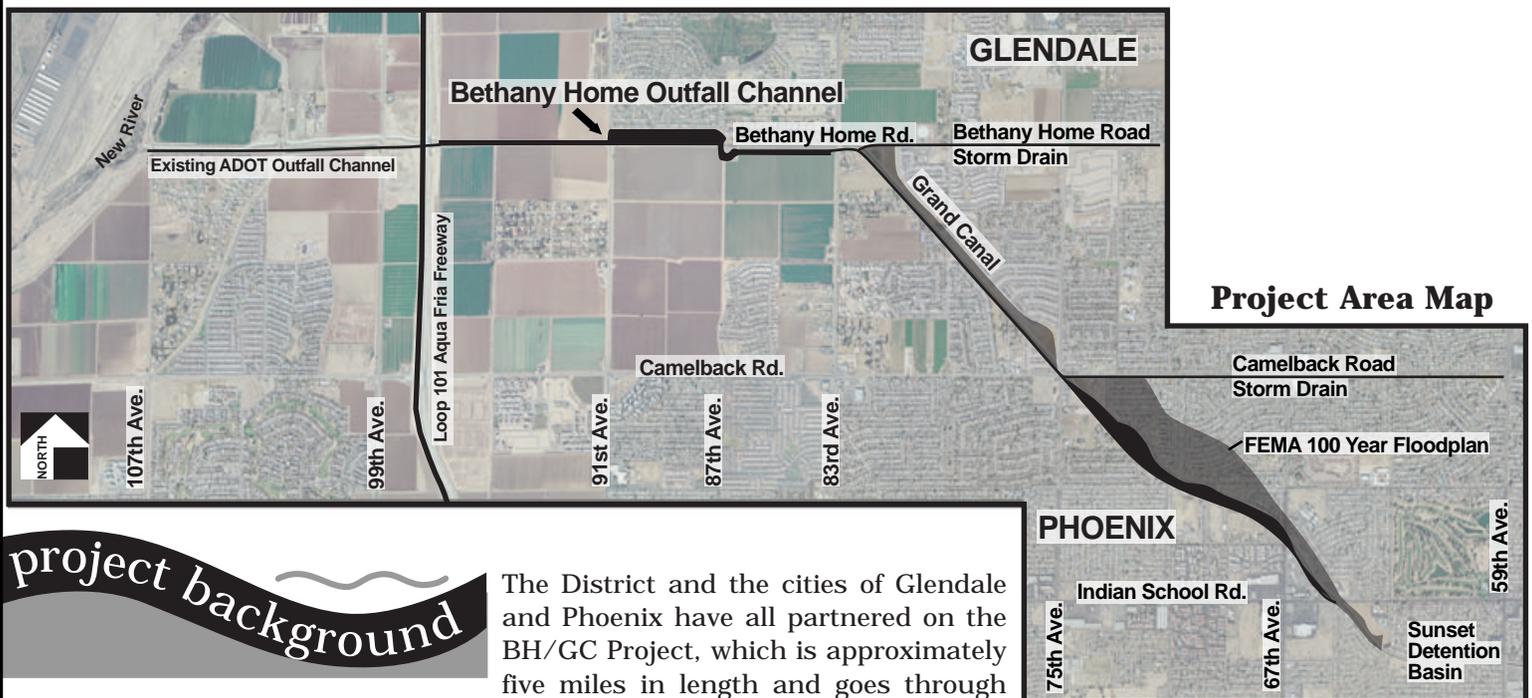
June 2002

project introduction

This is the sixth in a series of newsletters to be distributed by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (District) as part of the Bethany Home/Grand Canal Flood Control (BH/GC) Project. The purpose of this newsletter is to

inform you of the latest developments in the BH/GC Project and provide you with the current project schedule and status of property acquisitions.

Through a series of studies, the District has identified areas of significant flooding within the West Valley. These areas include downtown Glendale and the properties north of the Grand Canal from Indian School Road to Bethany Home Road. This flooding also affects several thousand residential properties and businesses between Grand Avenue and the Grand Canal, in both the cities of Glendale and Phoenix. Over 745 houses are in a federally delineated floodplain, and many are required to pay annual flood insurance.



project background

The District and the cities of Glendale and Phoenix have all partnered on the BH/GC Project, which is approximately five miles in length and goes through

agricultural, residential, and equestrian properties. Several channel cross-sections have been developed to best fit the flood control, neighborhood, and community needs. Opportunities to incorporate equestrian and multi-use trails into this flood control project were also implemented as part of an overall flood control Corridor Master Plan.

grand canal linear park

As a result of the multi-use opportunities in the City of Glendale, the Glendale Parks Department, in association with the District, has developed a recreation master plan referred to as the Grand Canal Linear Park (GCLP). The GCLP will consist of open grass areas, equestrian trails, multi-use areas, and park trailheads. The trailheads will provide public access and identify the GCLP's entrances.

Two public input meetings for the GCLP Master Plan were held in May 2001, at the Desert Mirage Elementary School in Glendale. At these meetings, a survey was distributed requesting that the public prioritize the recreational and social facilities to be implemented in the GCLP. Glendale citizens returned a total of 68 surveys to the project team. In general, a large majority of the public responded that they would use the park for walking, bicycling, and jogging. A small percentage of the public responded that they would access the park by horse but nearly fifty percent of these respondents indicated that they might use the bank of the Grand Canal for horseback riding. By asking the public to prioritize these facilities, the City of Glendale Parks Department was better able to identify which recreational and social facilities to implement.

In September 2001, the recommended GCLP Master Plan was presented to the Glendale citizens. The public approved of the Plan. A presentation of the Plan was then made to the Glendale Parks and Recreation Commission in October 2001, and concluded with the Commission approving the Plan. The final presentation of the GCLP Master Plan was made at a working session of the Glendale City Council in December 2001. The Council supported the Plan at this session.

current project development

A Project Aesthetic Advisory Committee was formed to facilitate public involvement and oversight during the design phase. The committee included neighborhood leaders, property owners, and citizens who live adjacent to the

Grand Canal. During 2001, the Committee conducted meetings to review and comment on the GCLP, landscaping, and aesthetic concepts.

Within the first design segment in the City of Glendale, from 97th Avenue to 83rd Avenue, the project will implement a multi-use trail, pedestrian/equestrian bridges over the Grand Canal, and trail crossings in certain locations under major cross streets. The design will also include shade ramadas, picnic tables, and drinking fountains at some of the park entrances/trailheads.

During the pre-design phase of the project, the City of Phoenix elected to implement a trail corridor concept as part of the Corridor Master Plan. Multi-use opportunities within the City of Phoenix will not be considered a formal park, but rather a greenbelt corridor with a trail system that also provides for informal recreation uses. The Corridor Master Plan was presented to the City of Phoenix Parks, Recreation, and Library Department Board in October 2001. At the request of the Board, City of Phoenix Parks' staff reviewed parking considerations and equestrian uses for the trail system. The staff's findings were reviewed and approved by the Board in March 2002.

project segments

The project was divided into five construction segments based on the characteristics of the flood control facility, adjacent land use, and mitigation of flooding impacts. Below is a brief description and status of the project segments.

■ 97th Avenue to 83rd Avenue

This segment consists of a grass-lined open channel and detention basin; two new vehicular bridges at 91st and 83rd Avenues; two box culverts under the Grand Canal; two pedestrian/equestrian bridges; multi-use and equestrian paths; seven park trailheads; landscape; lighting; and irrigation systems. Many of the structural elements include aesthetic treatments. Several of the recreation elements of the GCLP Master Plan have also been incorporated. The construction documents for this segment are currently being prepared. Property acquisition is nearly complete, with construction to follow in 2003.

■ 73rd Avenue to 67th Avenue

A large detention basin is required within this portion of the project, due to the significant amount of floodwater that accumulates within this neighborhood. Property acquisition and final design for this segment is anticipated to begin in 2003. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2004.

■ 83rd Avenue to 73rd Avenue

An underground box culvert will be constructed north of the Grand Canal, from just east of 83rd Avenue to 75th Avenue. The eastern portion of this segment, from Camelback Road to approximately 73rd Avenue, is the only portion of the project that will be constructed as a concrete-lined channel. One existing residence may be acquired for the project right-of-way. Final design for this segment is scheduled to begin in 2005 with construction scheduled for 2006.

■ 67th Avenue to 64th Avenue

An underground box culvert will be constructed within the existing alley between the Grand Canal and the residences. Pedestrian under crossings are planned at 67th Avenue and Indian School Road. This segment is currently scheduled for final design to begin in 2006 with construction in 2007.

■ Camelback Road Storm Drain (59th Avenue to 75th Avenue)

The Camelback Road Storm Drain is currently scheduled to be designed in 2007 with construction starting in 2008.

property acquisition

Property acquisition will be required for some of the segments, specifically for the construction of the large detention basin between approximately 73rd Avenue to 67th Avenue along the north side of the Grand Canal. A total of 72 homes will be acquired and the residents relocated. The District will be contacting the individual property owners that will be affected. The map on the right shows the boundaries where property will need to be acquired.



73rd Ave. to 67th Ave. Detention Basin Location

project schedule

The design and construction of this project will be phased over several years. As the schedule indicates below, the first phase of construction is planned to begin by 2003 from 97th Avenue to 83rd Avenue. Property acquisition is nearly complete for this segment of the project.

The public will be updated on the progress of this project by means of meetings and/or newsletters throughout the design and construction process. The public's interest and involvement in this project is appreciated.

The next public meeting will be held later in 2002 to update the public on the current project status.

PROJECT SEGMENT	YEAR							
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
97th Avenue to 83rd Avenue	■	■	■	■				
73rd Avenue to 67th Avenue		■	■	■				
83rd Avenue to 73rd Avenue				■	■	■		
67th Avenue to 64th Avenue						■	■	■
Camelback Road Storm Drain							■	■

■ Design and Property Acquisition ■ Construction

contacts

If you would like additional information, please go to the website at www.fcd.maricopa.gov, click on Projects, then Bethany Home/Outfall Channel. If you have questions or wish to provide your input on the project, please contact:

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Project information and updates are available 24 hours a day:

WEBSITE: www.fcd.maricopa.gov