



SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM | Grey. Green. Clean.

Upper Yosemite Creek Daylighting Project

Improving Our Sewer System and Benefiting the Community

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is daylighting the uppermost portion of Yosemite Creek which once flowed from McLaren Park near McNab Lake all the way to the San Francisco Bay.

The Upper Yosemite Creek Project will feature innovative green infrastructure technologies to manage and reduce stormwater entering the combined sewer system. Technologies will include rain gardens, infiltrative creek, subsurface storage and high-efficiency irrigation system that reuses stormwater.

Project Overview

The project will manage stormwater from 106 acres of McLaren Park including flows from Yosemite Marsh and McNab Lake. Daylighting the historic Yosemite Creek will mitigate excess stormwater that currently flows along Oxford Street, Wayland Street, and University Avenue.

The Upper Yosemite Creek Daylighting Project is a result of close coordination with San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department and public input from the local community and is the last of eight SFPUC green infrastructure pilot projects, which have been constructed over the last few years. These projects are part of the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP), a multi-billion dollar citywide investment to upgrade our aging sewer infrastructure for generations to come.

Project Status and Next Steps

After a period of delay related to the global pandemic and a reassessment of the stormwater management goals, the project resumed planning, design, and engagement in mid-2022. Current schedule anticipates final project design by Early 2024, with start of construction on the project likely to occur Late 2024, with project completion around Early 2026.

For more info about this project and green infrastructure technologies, visit sfpuc.org/greeninfrastructure



Current Street View



Design Concept

Proposed Green Features

- Daylighting historic creek
- Reduce volume of combined sewer discharges reaching the Bay
- Integrate proposed creek into existing parkland and surrounding neighborhood
- Provide high efficiency irrigation system that reduces park's potable water use

Additional Improvements

- Improve pedestrian accessibility along the proposed creek
- Create habitat for birds and butterflies using California native plants
- Upgrade the existing soccer field

Green infrastructure can help manage and treat stormwater onsite before it enters the sewer system and also provide livable city benefits like neighborhood beautification. Visit sfpuc.org/greeninfrastructure to learn more about green infrastructure in San Francisco.



Creek Daylighting

Uncover and restore creeks or streams that were previously buried in underground pipes and culverts or otherwise removed from view. The City of San Francisco has several historic creeks. Water from these creeks currently runs via the combined sewer system to treatment plants and then to the Bay and ocean.



Rain Gardens

Capture stormwater runoff from streets, roofs, and parking lots. Plants and soil absorb that water, reducing the amount of runoff overwhelming the sewer system.



Underground Stormwater Cistern

Collecting and using rainwater for non-potable use, such as irrigation and toilet flushing. Reusing rainwater reduces potable water use.

Final Concept



LEGEND

- Creek Alignment
- - - - - Underground pipe
- - - - - Historic Creek Alignment
- Existing Path
- New Sidewalk/Path
- New Landscape
- Improved Soccer Field & Underground Stormwater Cistern
- ▲ Plaza

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Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

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