

Ongoing Updates

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Brian Nelson, City Engineer, City of San Luis Obispo

Kate Shea, Principal Environmental Specialist, County Public Works

DATE: June 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Updates

Wallace Group completed final design work in August 2024, and the project was publicly advertised from September 12th to October 10th. The City held a public bid opening on October 10th, 2024, and Souza Engineering Contracting Inc. was the low bidder with a bid of \$8,546,961.73. The City awarded a contract with Souza Engineering Contracting Inc. on November 2nd, 2024.

Since April, Souza has completed all major grading work outside of the jurisdictional limits, including the majority of both the Bianchi and South St Bypass Channels. In addition to grading work, Abutment 1 of the Bianchi Bridge has been completed including the cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) piers, pier cap, and abutment and wingwalls. Materials required for the upcoming creek diversion and bridge installation are being procured and stockpiled onsite to minimize material delays.

All private utility relocation has been completed leaving the site free of conflicts for the upcoming bridge construction. The Bianchi Lane Bridge is closed to through traffic from the public, and all vehicles are being directed to the temporary bridge installed at Matthews Open Space.

The final dewatering plan drafted by Souza has been approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Dewatering activities began on June 3rd at the Bianchi Bypass Channel Exit. The final revegetation is under review with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife after the final count and size of tree removed in January was reported. Revegetation must be completed within one year of the completion of vegetation removal.

Upcoming work will include creek diversion installation at the Bianchi Lane bridge which will remain in place until October 31st. Once the diversion is in place, Souza will begin work below top of bank to demolish the existing bridge, construct Abutment 3 and Pier 2 of the new bridge. While bridge work is ongoing, Souza will complete the remaining in stream sediment removal, vegetation removal, bench grading, and RSP installation starting at Marsh Street Bridge moving downstream.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Freddy Otte, Biologist, City of San Luis Obispo

DATE: June 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Creek Maintenance Updates

The Mid-Higuera Bypass Project is underway and this has been receiving attention for the flood control partnership it brings with the City, County and Zone 9. This project is truly impressive in its magnitude and with it finally being under construction is very fulfilling. Some monitoring of the creek channel has occurred and there are no threats identified as of yet. There are some standing dead trees that have been identified that will be removed before the upcoming winter season.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, County of San Luis Obispo

DATE: June 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Avila Beach First Street Drainage Study

The Avila Beach First Street Drainage Study has completed the first two parts of a three-part project. A peer review of the 2015 limited study and an alternatives analysis are complete. Staff has not yet authorized GHD on the 30% design component of the project. We hope to complete this third and final component of the scope by the end of the year.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Jon Hall, Land Conservancy

DATE: June 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Arundo Removal Updates

Next update will be August 2025.