



NOTICE OF SUBSURFACE CONTROLLED BLASTING

Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project – Phase 2A: Below Ground Tunnel Excavation Beneath Nob Hill

Dear Neighbor:

As you might be aware, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) began construction of Phase 2A of the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project (Project) in June 2021. The Phase 2A Project work includes construction of an approximately 2,300-foot-long, 14-foot wide by 12-foot-high underground stormwater flood protection tunnel which is currently being excavated beneath Nob Hill within downtown Morgan Hill. To date, approximately 1,500 feet of the tunnel has been mechanically excavated.

As tunneling continues for Phase 2A beneath Nob Hill, it is anticipated the rock will become too hard for mechanical excavation to continue. Controlled blasting of the rock may be necessary to complete the tunnel excavation. Underground controlled blasting is comprised of small explosive charges placed within drilled rock. This procedure is safe and is often performed within residential and commercial areas for similar types of public works projects. Blasting is strictly controlled by on-site certified personnel to ensure all necessary safety measures are in place. These safety measures include, but are not limited to, noise and vibration monitoring within the project limits. Additionally, the overnight on-site storage of explosives is prohibited.

The tunnel excavation varies to approximately 150-feet beneath the top of existing Nob Hill, so residents are not expected to notice any indication a controlled blast has occurred. Nonetheless, Valley Water, the City of Morgan Hill, and Valley Water's Phase 2A Contractor, Flatiron West, Inc. are coordinating the underground controlled blasting work to notify the neighbors within the vicinity of this tunnel construction. Residents within several hundred feet of the existing tunnel entrance work site, located near the intersection of Warren Avenue and Hale Avenue, may hear a series of short and long safety warning horn alarms for construction personnel before and after a controlled blast is performed.

The underground controlled blasting is anticipated to occur once a day from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm (noon) for the next several weeks. This notice indicates the start of the controlled blasting and will be disseminated to residents 24 hours prior to the start of the controlled blasting. As work continues, the blasting notifications will be posted on the City of Morgan Hill's NextDoor application and/or by email or text message. If you would like to receive additional prior notification, please provide your contact information (i.e., phone number and/or email address) to Valley Water's Resident Engineer, Mr. Scott Hensler at (408) 722-0138 or at scott.hensler@mottmac.com.

The Project team appreciates your cooperation to facilitate the completion of this critical public works Project which will eventually provide 100-year flood protection to the residents and businesses of the City of Morgan Hill. Should you have any questions regarding the underground controlled blasting, please contact **Resident Engineer, Scott Hensler** at (408) 722-0138 or email scott.hensler@mottmac.com

For more information about the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project, please contact Valley Water's Capital Manager, Stephen M. Ferranti at (408) 630-2677 or by email at sferranti@valleywater.org