## Grayson Creek and Murderer's Creek Project

The Grayson and Murderer's Creek Project is an on-going Feasibility Study in conjunction with the US Army Corps of Engineers of unimproved Grayson Creek and Murderer's Creek in the Cities of Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek. The study is intended to determine the economic justification for a federal flood control project to mitigate flooding in the Pleasant Hill area. It is also evaluating alternatives of constructing a detention basin and bypass pipes to control the flooding while enhancing existing stream channels and providing ecosystem restoration.

On New Year's Eve 2005, Grayson/Murderer's Creeks overflowed, flooding approximately 80 homes and causing \$2M-\$3 M in damages (a 35-40 year rainfall event). In December 1997 the creeks also escaped their banks and flooded with a similar amount of damage during an 18 year storm event. Murderer's Creek escaped its banks again on January 4, 2008.

This project responds to public concern for flooding in a neighborhood of approximately 400 homes that was added to the 100-year floodplain maps by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The Grayson and Murderer's Creeks flood control project will improve flood protection in a densely populated area, while leaving the creek in its natural state, thus

- Reducing/eliminating the potential for future flooding;
- Providing habitat for migratory birds, fish and other wildlife; and
- Allowing for linkages with recreational and park land.

Phase I of the feasibility study was completed in the spring of 2007 with a recommendation from the USACE to move forward with Phase II of the feasibility study. The Phase I report indicated that "the without-project flood damages are significant and that continuation of the feasibility study is warranted because it is likely that an economically-justified project can be developed."

## Total Cost of Project and Detailed Budget Breakdown:

Total \$4,904,000 Federal \$2,452,000 Local \$2,452,000

The 50% local share is funded equally by the Contra Costa Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the City of Pleasant Hill.