



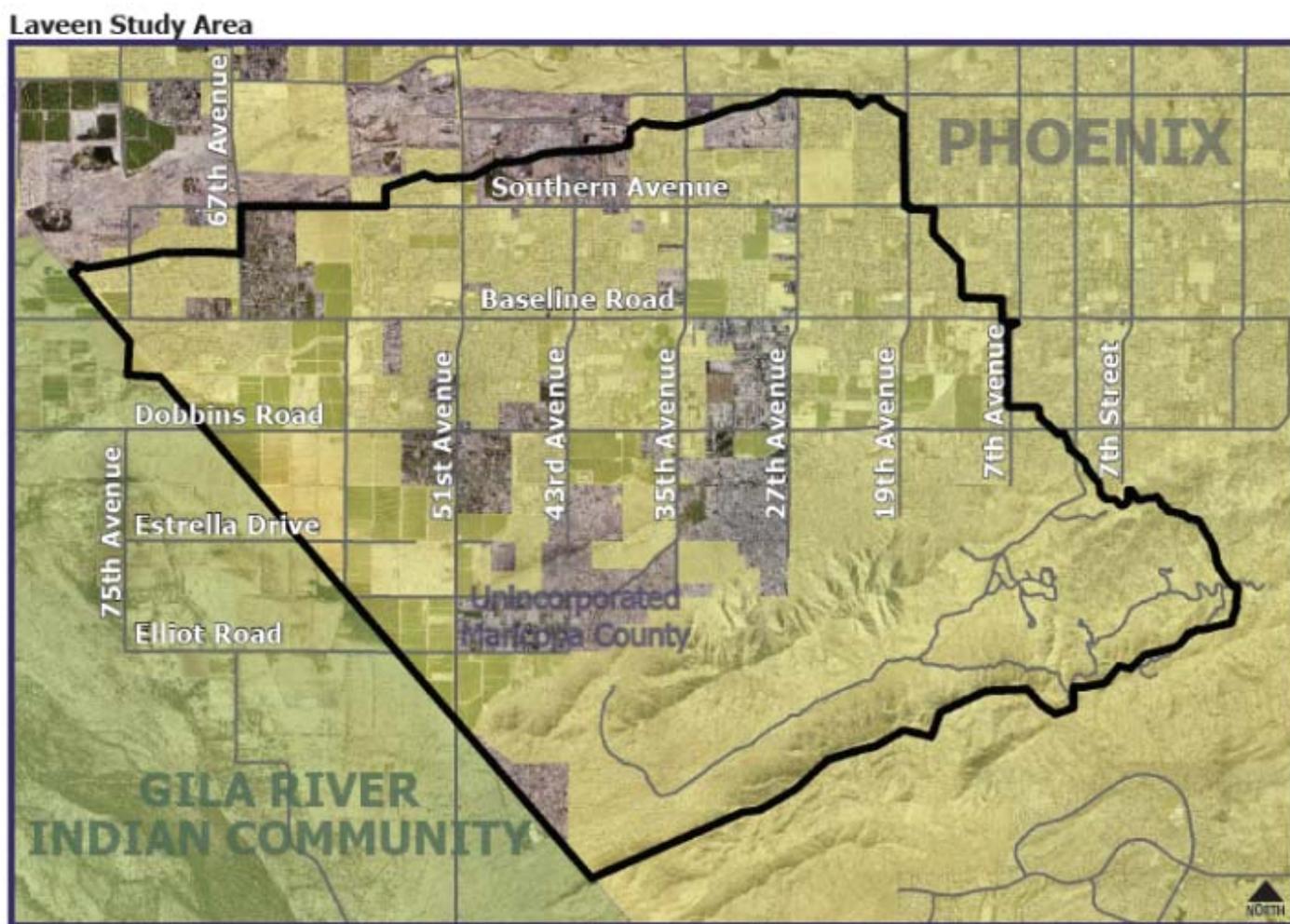
Flood Control District of Maricopa County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LAVEEN AREA DRAINAGE PLAN TO HELP REDUCE FLOODING FOR SOME DISTRICT 5 RESIDENTS

Construction on Some Proposed Drainage Features to Start Next Fiscal Year



Map not to scale.

PHOENIX (March 7, 2018) – Laveen area residents have experienced repeated flooding over the past few years, including during the unprecedented storm events of 2014. In response, the Flood Control District (FCD) of Maricopa County, in partnership with the City of Phoenix, began a study in late 2015 to pinpoint the extent of potential flooding throughout the Laveen area. In addition to categorizing flood hazards, alternatives were developed with the goal of reducing or eliminating the current flood risk. Today, the District's Board of Directors approved the plan and authorized the District to begin the process of implementing flood solutions. The next steps in this process include completing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Phoenix and eventually securing project contracts.

The study area covers approximately 37 square-miles located within southwest Phoenix and unincorporated Maricopa County. Laveen is bounded by the Salt River to the north, South Mountain to the south, 7th Avenue to the east, and the Gila River Indian Community to the west. Utilizing new mapping and comprehensive flood modeling software, the District identified flood prone areas and developed 11 potential mitigation alternatives. These alternatives were presented at two public meetings in 2017 and input from residents was instrumental in helping the District and City finalize five drainage recommendations.

“New technology has helped more clearly identify existing and potential flooding risks in our community,” explained **Supervisor Steve Gallardo, District 5**, “This plan will help the District address flooding issues that became more apparent during the 2014 and 2016 storms, protect our residents and reduce damage to our neighborhoods and infrastructure.”

The plan, once implemented, will reduce flooding issues along Hidden Valley, 51st Avenue & Sunrise Drive, 35th Avenue & Dobbins Road, 27th Avenue & Olney Avenue, and 19th Avenue & Dobbins Road.

“Just a few inches of water from flooding can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage,” explained **Chris Hall, FCD Deputy Director**. “The District and City of Phoenix have been very pleased with the public’s feedback and are working together to implement the drainage elements of the recommended plan.”

Project design for 27th Avenue & Olney Avenue will begin in the fiscal year starting July 1, 2018, with projected construction starting the following year. Additional solutions will be implemented as funding availability allows.

For more information on how to reduce your risk, flood insurance and steps you can take to better prepare for storms, visit fcd.maricopa.gov.

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The Flood Control District of Maricopa County reduces risk from flooding so that property damage and loss of life is minimized, economic development is supported in a safe and responsible manner and stormwater is recognized as a resource for the long-term benefit of the community and environment. Learn more by visiting FCD.Maricopa.gov.