



## Senator Angelique V. Ashby, 8<sup>th</sup> Senate District

### **SB 639 – Sacramento Flood Control Authorization Act**

*Extends the deadline to 2030 for certain Sacramento flood projects to meet ULOP*

#### **SUMMARY**

SB 639 is a district bill that ensures the City and County of Sacramento achieve their urban level of flood protection (ULOP) by extending the deadline required to reach ULOP from 2026 to 2030.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Sacramento City and County are protected by the State Plan of Flood Control, and are prohibited from approving new development or increasing housing density unless there are flood protection measures in place. Specifically, these areas must meet urban level of flood protection, which requires the protection necessary to withstand a 200-year flood event.

Areas that have not yet achieved urban level of flood protection must make adequate progress towards meeting this requirement by 2026.

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency oversees efforts to improve the regional flood protection system, including projects across Sacramento County such as the South Sacramento Streams Projects, ARCF Natomas Basin, and American River Levee Improvements. All of the capital improvements required to handle the state-defined 200-year event have been completed, except for three which are at risk to not be finished by the end of 2025: The American River Watershed Common Features Natomas Project Reach A<sup>1</sup>, the Sweeney Ranch Pump Station, and Pump Station 89.

#### **THE PROBLEM**

The three remaining projects are currently on track to be completed, but internal procedures and anticipated changes in staffing at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers could lead to delays, hindering the projects' completion dates.

Additionally, the Corps permitting process may take anywhere from two to five years to complete, furthering the need for an extension.

Without the deadline extension, critical infrastructure and transportation development projects such as the Innovation Park California Northstate University Hospital, Panhandle Project, Edgewater at Delta Shores, SMForward Project, and WattEV Innovation Freight Terminal, will likely experience delays. Additionally, building permits, subdivision maps, development agreements, and other types of land use entitlements may be put on hold causing major disruption to planned development in the City and County of Sacramento.

#### **THE SOLUTION**

SB 639 extends the deadline for three district projects to achieve the urban level of flood protection by 2030. This will ensure that these projects can be completed without delaying critical development in Sacramento.

#### **SUPPORT**

- City of Sacramento (Co-sponsor)
- County of Sacramento (Co-sponsor)
- SAFCA

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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<sup>1</sup> [American River Watershed Common Features Natomas Basin Project - SAFCA - Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency](#)