

Levee Access

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Sacramento River Parkway Master Plan?

The Sacramento River Parkway Master Plan of 1975 (the Parkway Plan) is a development plan the Sacramento River Parkway to assist in the preserving and enhancing of the Sacramento River as a resource for Sacramento area residents. The Parkway Plan was updated in 1997 and reaffirmed in 2012.

What is the governance structure of the levee?

The levees fall under the governance of three entities:

- Federal: Army Corp of Engineers
- State: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (the Flood Board) and Maintenance Area 9
- City of Sacramento: Recreational property maintenance

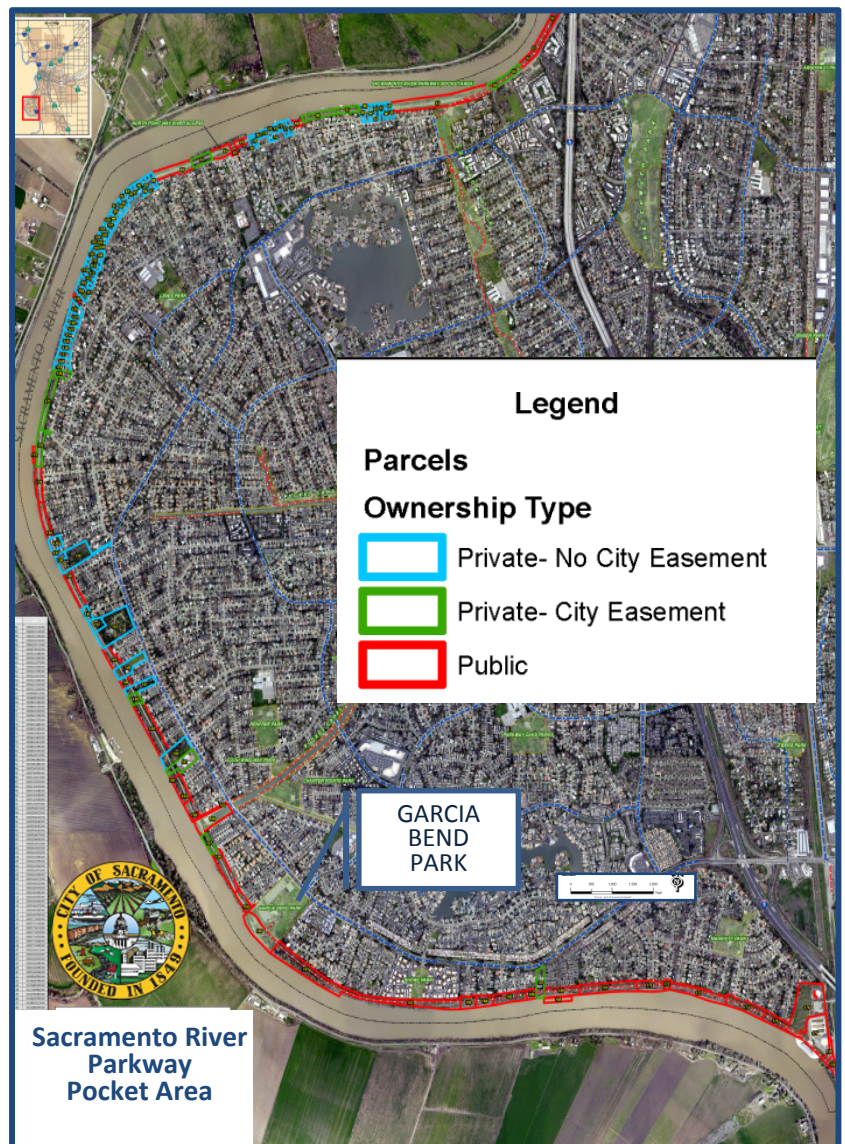
Are there recreational rights along the entire levee?

No. There are certain areas where public recreational easements exist (for example along Garcia Bend Park or by Zachariah Park). But, there are also several locations where there is only a flood control easement set aside for the use of the Flood Board. See map:

Red areas indicate public recreational access

Blue indicates private areas

Green indicates city easements



What access to the levee is permitted?

In areas where a public recreation easement exists, the public is permitted to walk or bike or enjoy the natural scenery. Such areas are evident by the presence of signage and, in most cases, fully paved bike paths.

Where there is no public recreation easement, there is only a flood control easement retained by the Flood Board. These areas are designated by signage indicating private property and/or “authorized access only.”

Who regulates the cross-levee fences?

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board, a California state agency, regulates all cross-levee fences. No cross-levee fence may be erected without the permit of the Flood Board. Any cross-levee fence installed without a permit from the Flood Board is subject to removal by the State.

Fences that run parallel to the levee, however, may be regulated by the City of Sacramento and similarly require a permit.

This has been an on-going issue for decades, when will the Parkway be completed?

It depends on funding. The City of Sacramento is currently pursuing full recreational access to the levees. However, the process of doing so requires efforts to obtain public recreational easements and development of the levee to withstand such use and to ensure safety while doing so. Yes, this has been a long road, but it is one that is moving towards full recreational access.

Who do I contact for more information?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Councilmember Rick Jennings</i> City of Sacramento, District 7 916.808.7007• <i>Bill Edgar, President</i> Central Valley Flood Protection Board 916.574.0609• <i>Capt. Dave Peletta</i> Sacramento Police Department 916.808.6150	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Sheryl Patterson, Deputy City Attorney</i> City of Sacramento 916.808.5346• <i>Pamela Sloan, Interim Director</i> Sacramento Parks and Recreation 916.808.5200
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