

## **J Levee Construction Underway in Hamilton City**

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Hamilton City, Calif. -- Construction is underway on the J Levee project in Hamilton City.

This is a multi-million dollar Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Project that started in 2016.

This is phase 2 of the project, right now they're building a new 2 mile stretch of setback levee north of the Highway 32 Bridge to protect the city from flooding.

In the fall of 2016, the core of engineers completed the majority of the first phase of construction, which is about 3 miles.

Along with building the levee, they will also be doing habitat restoration, which is the restoration and re-vegetation of areas associated with both phases of construction.

Melissa Vettel has lived by the Sacramento River in Hamilton City for almost 20 years. She said there's a big flood about once a decade, but just about every year the water rises up to her yard.

"You don't know how high it's going to rise, so you have to be prepared to be gone a couple of days," she said.

The levee won't affect her, but it will affect hundreds of people in the city, and stories like hers are why the J Levee is being reconstructed.

There are 4 phases total, and the reconstruction is scheduled to be done by 2020.

There will ultimately be almost 7 miles of new levee providing Hamilton City with protection against a 75-year flood event.