

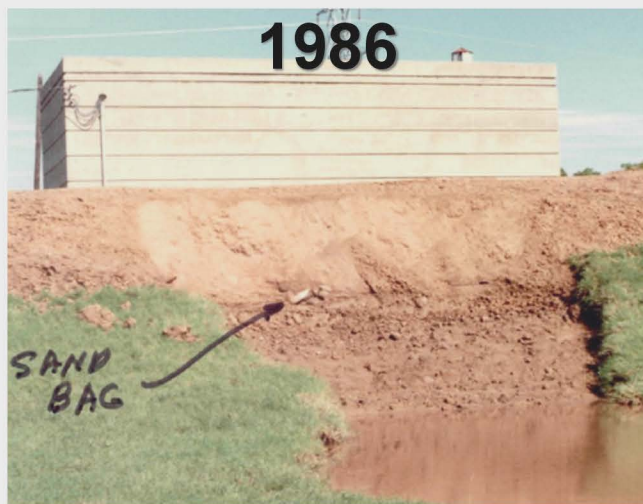
Tulsa & West Tulsa Levee Safety Project



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Levee Safety Program

The Tulsa and West Tulsa levee system provides vital flood protection to portions of Tulsa County. Built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in 1945, the 20-mile system of earthen levees and concrete floodwalls helps protect more than 10,000 people and over \$1 billion in property from the Arkansas River and tributary flooding.

While the levees have prevented major flooding to the area for decades, the floods have taken their toll and the levees are in need of significant repairs to continue protecting homes and businesses.



Levee Background

The Tulsa and West Tulsa levee system was authorized by Congress in 1941 to reduce the risk of flooding in Tulsa and Sand Springs. Since the Keystone and Kaw Dams were built, which help regulate Arkansas River flows, there have still been several major flood events that have tested the levees, including the floods in 1986 and 2019. These events have weakened the levee system over time.



Current Condition of the Levees

USACE has classified the levee system as "High Risk." This means:

- There is a high likelihood of levee failure during a major flood.
- The levees experience significant seepage when the Arkansas River is high.
- Levee failure could lead to loss of life and property damage, with potential flood depths of over 10 feet.

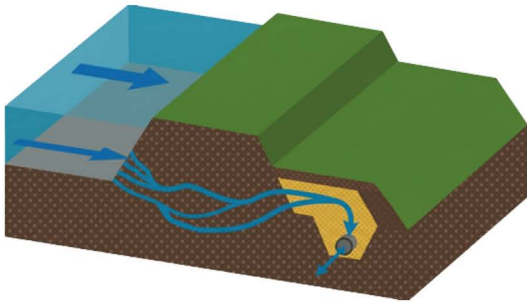
The levees have required heroic flood fighting efforts in the past to prevent a major disaster, including containing a partial breach in 1986 and fortifying the Charles Page Floodway with sand in 2019. The system is at significant risk of failure and needs immediate action.

Levee Safety Project Construction

The good news is that a major rehabilitation project is underway to fix the levees. The goal is to reduce the risk of levee failure by fixing the parts of the levee that are most likely to seep or fail.

What will be fixed?

- The project will install modern features known as filter berms and toe drains to control seepage.
- New or improved sections of floodwall.
- Armored levee section where the Arkansas River can safely flow over the top of the levee.



When will construction start?

- The project will be built in phases, starting with the highest-risk sections.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2027 with the Terwilliger and Bigheart Segments.
- The full rehabilitation of the levee system will take many years, with final completion estimated for 2035.

Impacts During Construction

Fixing the levees is a major construction project and will cause some temporary disruptions. Here's what you can expect:



Construction Traffic: You will see more trucks and heavy equipment in the area. Main haul routes will be along Charles Page Boulevard.



Noise and Dust: There will be typical construction noise and dust.



Restricted Access: Some areas near the levees will have restricted access for safety.



Property: The project may require the removal of some trees, fences, or other obstructions near the levee. The project team will work with landowners on any real estate or easement needs.

What to Do During a Flood

Even with the levees, it's important to be prepared for a flood. Here's what you should do:



- **Stay Informed:** Pay attention to local news and emergency alerts. If flooding is imminent, the National Weather Service will issue a flood warning, and Tulsa County may activate sirens.
- **Be Ready to Evacuate:** If you are told to evacuate, do so immediately. Have a "go bag" ready with important documents, medications, and other essentials.
- **Know Your Risk:** Understand that even if the river doesn't overtop the levee, there is still a risk of a levee breach.



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For More Information Visit Our Website:

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