

The River Roding Project

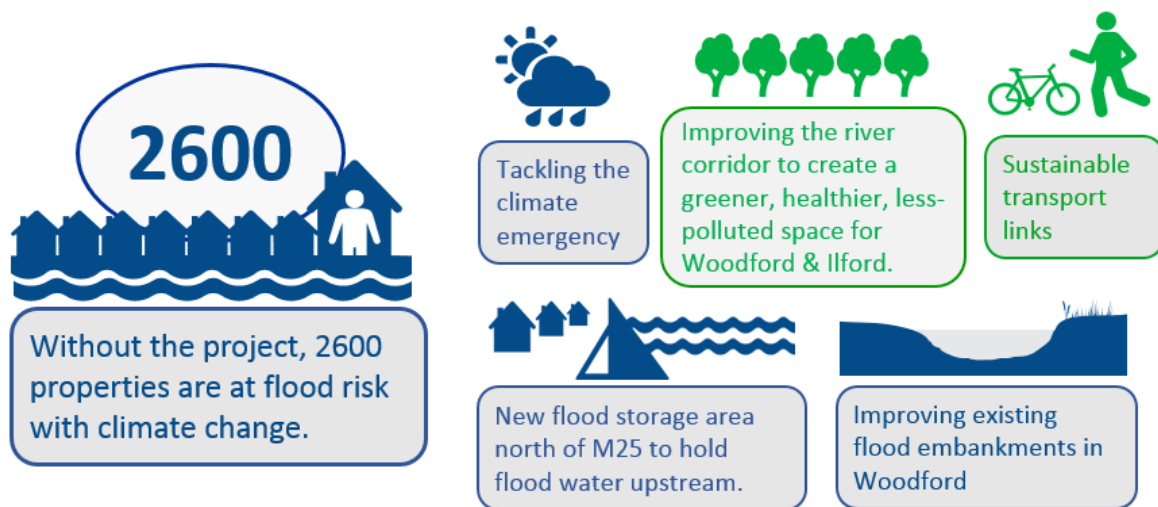
Project Background

Aug 2020

We are working with London Borough of Redbridge to create a better place for people and wildlife that is more resilient to the impacts of flooding and climate change. We want to tackle both the climate and biodiversity emergencies head on.

This project will help achieve our new [EA2025](#) strategies three main goals;

- a nation resilient to climate change
- healthy air, land and **water**
- green growth and a sustainable future.



We will build a flood storage area to hold back high flows upstream in rural Essex and improve existing river defences in Woodford. We are also exploring how we can improve the River Roding corridor in Woodford and Ilford, including riverside landscaping and re-naturalising the river. We want the community to reconnect with nature and improve the access to the river corridor to make it a better green space to enjoy.

New Delivery Partners: The Environment Agency has entered a new Collaborative Delivery Framework for all capital flood schemes across England over the next 4 years. We are pleased to announce in March we awarded contracts to our new delivery partners Jacobs and BAM Nuttall. Transferring to the new framework did take longer than expected however the programme of works is now underway.



JACOBS are progressing the designs from Outline Design to Detail Design. This will include finalising the plans of the flood storage area and defence refurbishments. They will also support our application for planning permission and the necessary licenses needed to build the project.



BAM Nuttall are our contractors, who will build the project. Throughout the detail design phase they will advise on costs, materials and the best way to build the project causing the least disruption.

Key activities: Here are some of the main activities we have recently completed and what we have planned over the next few months.

2020	
Feb.	Presented at the Redbridge West Forum, for councillors and residents
Mar.	Awarded detail design contract to Jacobs
Jun.	Ecology surveys to understand baseline environmental conditions
Jul.	Geophysical surveys to determine indicative extent/ nature of archaeology
Aug.	Agree basis of detail design to confirm project priorities and constraints
Sep.	Ground investigation of the Chigwell Road embankment Topographic surveys Presenting at London Borough of Redbridge Scrutiny Committee
2021	
Mar.	Pre-planning external consultation
May	Submit application for planning permission
June	Submit Full Business Case for approval
Oct	Pending full funding, permissions and weather conditions.

Funding: We have made great progress securing partnership funding for the flood risk measures, however until the detail design is completed costs may increase, including COVID related risks. We will continue to work closely with London Borough of Redbridge to secure full funding.

Subject to final approvals, we hope to secure a large contribution of over £4m from Highways England due to reduced flooding and disruption to the M11.

We also want to deliver extra environmental enhancements to improve the river corridor and river access in Woodford and Ilford to achieve wider community benefits. However, we do not yet have funding towards these extra improvements.

Engagement: Over the coming months engagement will be very important to ensure stakeholders both impacted and benefiting from the works are fully aware and have chance to comment. We also need to raise awareness of the current flood risk now until the project is built, and the residual risk once it is built.

Due to the current COVID-19 related restrictions, we will need to adapt our traditional face-to-face engagement to online platforms and increase our online presence in the affected communities, so your help sharing our messages and advertising future events would be really appreciated. Please get in touch if you can help. We will continue to use our project webpage to keep stakeholders up to date, <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/hnl/the-river-roding-project-information-page/>.