



COUNTY OF MONTEREY
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



ASSEMBLY BILL 102 PAJARO FLOOD RELIEF PROJECTS

Mid-Year Update
2025

AB 102 PROJECT LIST

Focus Area	Project	Project Partner	Status	Budgeted	Obligated	Expended
Individual & Economic Recovery	Individuals and Households Disaster Assistance	Catholic Charites, Community Bridges	In Progress	\$6,000,000	\$613,760	\$5,386,240
	Small Business Disaster Assistance	Workforce Development Board	In Progress	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000
Community Resources	Pajaro Community Grant Program	Community Foundation for Monterey County	In Progress	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000
Infrastructure	Safe Streets	Public Works- Roads and Bridges	In Progress	\$2,000,000	\$437,005	\$1,562,945
Natural & Cultural Resources	Pajaro Library	Public Works- Facilities	In Progress	\$3,500,000	\$1,494,287	\$2,005,714
	Pajaro Parks	Public Works- Parks, Pajaro Sunny Mesa Community Services District	In Progress	\$1,200,000	\$1,070,000	\$44,785
Emergency Preparedness & Response	Emergency Response & Flood Fighting	North County Fire Protection District	In Progress	\$500,000	\$163,884	\$336,116
	Digital Message Board	Department of Emergency Management	In Progress	\$100,000	\$0	\$0
	Emergency Preparedness & Recovery Planning	Department of Emergency Management	In Progress	\$300,000	\$50,743	\$121,858
Contingency	Small Business Disaster Assistance	Workforce Development Board	In Progress	\$400,000	\$236,081	\$113,919
	Pajaro Library	Public Works- Facilities	In Progress		\$50,000	\$0
Total				\$20,000,000	\$4,115,760	\$15,571,627

Individuals and Households Disaster Assistance

Catholic Charities Diocese of Monterey & Community Bridges

Project Description: The Pajaro Unmet Needs Individuals and Households Disaster Assistance Program provides support to households impacted by the March 2023 Pajaro Levee Breach, covering the gap between available aid from insurance, federal, state, county, and non-profit sources.

Numbers as of September 2025

Phase 1: Evacuation Support

EVACUATION FOOD
SPOILAGE ROUND 1
\$200-\$1000 per eligible household

\$469,773
Distributed

687
Households

EVACUATION FOOD
SPOILAGE ROUND 2
\$200-\$1000 per eligible household

\$475,015
Distributed

666
Households



Total Distributed: \$944,789

Phase 3: Community Resilience

October 2025

The third wave of direct payments to support families. The goal is to ensure all remaining funds go directly to the community, ensuring that all families who qualify receive additional support to close the remaining gaps and stabilize their recovery

Phase 2: Flood Losses

VEHICLE REPAIR/
REPLACEMENT
Max Award based on actual repair cost

\$268,971
Distributed

68
Households

HOME REPAIR
ASSISTANCE
Max Award based on actual repair cost

\$664,018
Distributed

38
Households

HOUSING
ASSISTANCE
*Max Award of \$20,000**

\$35,915
Distributed

14
Households

PERSONAL
PROPERTY
*Max Award of \$20,000**

\$2,982,888
Distributed

322
Households

*Personal Property and Housing Assistance has a combined maximum of \$20,000 per household.



Total Distributed: \$3,742,601

Administrative Costs: \$489,658

\$5,386,240

Total Expended

Small Business Disaster Assistance

Monterey County Workforce Development Board



Project Description: The Pajaro Unmet Needs Small Business Disaster Assistance Program aims to assist small businesses impacted by the March 2023 Pajaro Levee Breach, supporting their recovery and preventing permanent closure.

	Losses and Damages	Beautification 1	Beautification 2
# Applications Received	90	62	41
# Applications Approved	73	53	39
# Applications in Follow-Up	3	2	1
# Applications Withdrawn	1	1	1
# Applications Denied	13	6	0
Amount Obligated	\$2,658,650	\$707,160	\$553,352
	Administrative Costs		\$290,841
	Total Obligated / Expended		\$4,113,919

\$4,113,919

Total Obligated/Expended

The Small Business Disaster Assistance program received an additional \$350,000 from contingency funds to approve additional applications from businesses that are pending final approval.

Anticipated Completion Date:
November 2025



Pajaro Community Grant Program

Community Foundation for Monterey County

Project Description: This program aims to support community projects that enhance Pajaro's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters, leveraging local non-governmental organizations.

- The application in Fall 2024 received 39 applications, requesting nearly \$4 million.
- A volunteer grant committee reviewed applications and provided recommendations.
- In December 2024, \$1.8 million in grants were awarded to 22 organizations, across a variety of wide-ranging community projects, which work towards increasing the ability of the community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and natural disasters.

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"Pajaro is a resilient and vibrant community. We're honored to be a trusted partner along with local residents to award these funds where they will be most effective."

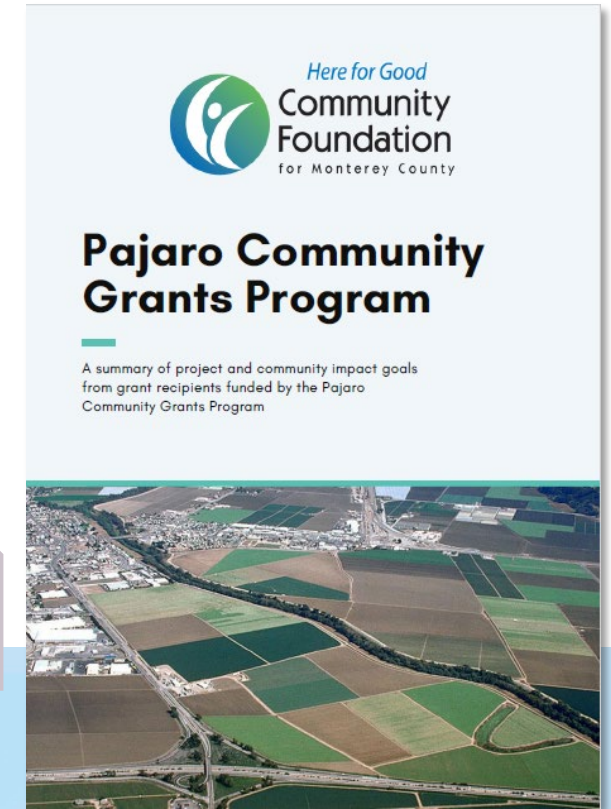
- CFMC President/CEO Dan Baldwin

”

\$2,000,000

Total Obligated/Expended

For a full list of projects see the
Pajaro Community Grants Booklet



Anticipated Completion Date:
November 2025

Artist's rendering of proposed mural in Pajaro being created in partnership between Community Bridges and Hijos del Sol.



Pajaro Community Grant Program

SUCCESS STORIES



A Climate Resilient Pajaro Middle School Campus

Watsonville Wetlands Watch

Construction of a new outdoor classroom, school garden, and orchard at the Pajaro Middle School and hosted a Celebration of Trees event. Planted 55 new shade trees and fruit trees and 800 native and drought tolerant plants throughout the campus. 64 trees adopted by Pajaro residents to plant in their home gardens.



Pajaro Community Resources, Economic Development, & Language Access Program

Mujeres en Accion

Started a Mixteco support group with residents from Pajaro. Through this group, participants received support and guidance needed to strengthen their leadership skills. Additionally, over 239 Pajaro residents were reached through disaster preparedness education, helping families learn how to stay safe and ready in case of emergencies.



Legal Services

Watsonville Law Center

Over 185 consultations on employment, housing, immigration, consumer protection, State Disability Insurance, and Paid Family Leave, benefiting more than 720 individuals. Secured over \$400,000 in monetary benefits for clients and hosted 3 community workshops.



Pajaro Business Group Incorporation & Resiliency Project

Monterey Bay Economic Partnership (MBEP)

Hired an Executive Director to form a permanent non-profit Pajaro Business Group to serve as a support system for the business community.

Pajaro Community Grant Program

SUCCESS STORIES

Pajaro Middle School Resource Center, Clinic, & Food Pantry

Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Salud Para La Gente, Second Harvest Food Bank

The reimagined Resource Center at Pajaro Middle School opened on August 6. It provides direct access to healthcare and social services, including two exam rooms, with pediatric and family practices, and a food pantry. An average of 50 students a day pick up food at the site.



Support for Pajaro's Unhoused & Low-Income Population

The Salvation Army Watsonville Corps

The grant covered costs of food distributed to individuals experiencing homelessness and low-income families from Pajaro. It also increased the inventory of blankets, jackets, socks, and rain ponchos to distribute to the homeless community.



Proudly Pajaro

Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County

18 Pajaro residents were part of the Proudly Pajaro leadership academy from March- June 2025. Topics included: leadership, government, public speaking, climate change and climate justice. Residents decided to focus on 3 community issues.



Creating Connections Through Community Mural & Art Workshops

Hijos del Sol Arts

Mural with Community Bridges and Pajaro mural community day on October 11, 2025. Conducted 9 art workshops with 25-50 participants at each, giving away 40 \$25 gift cards and 50 art kits.

Digital Equity for Resiliency for Pajaro's Businesses & Seniors

Loaves, Fishes & Computers

Worked with 30+ seniors, small business owners, and childcare providers to build digital confidence through workshops. Participants received a laptop or iPad.



Pajaro Resilience & Beautification Initiative

Catholic Charities Diocese of Monterey

Conducted gardening, nutrition, and home education courses with 100 Pajaro residents, including distribution of gardening supplies

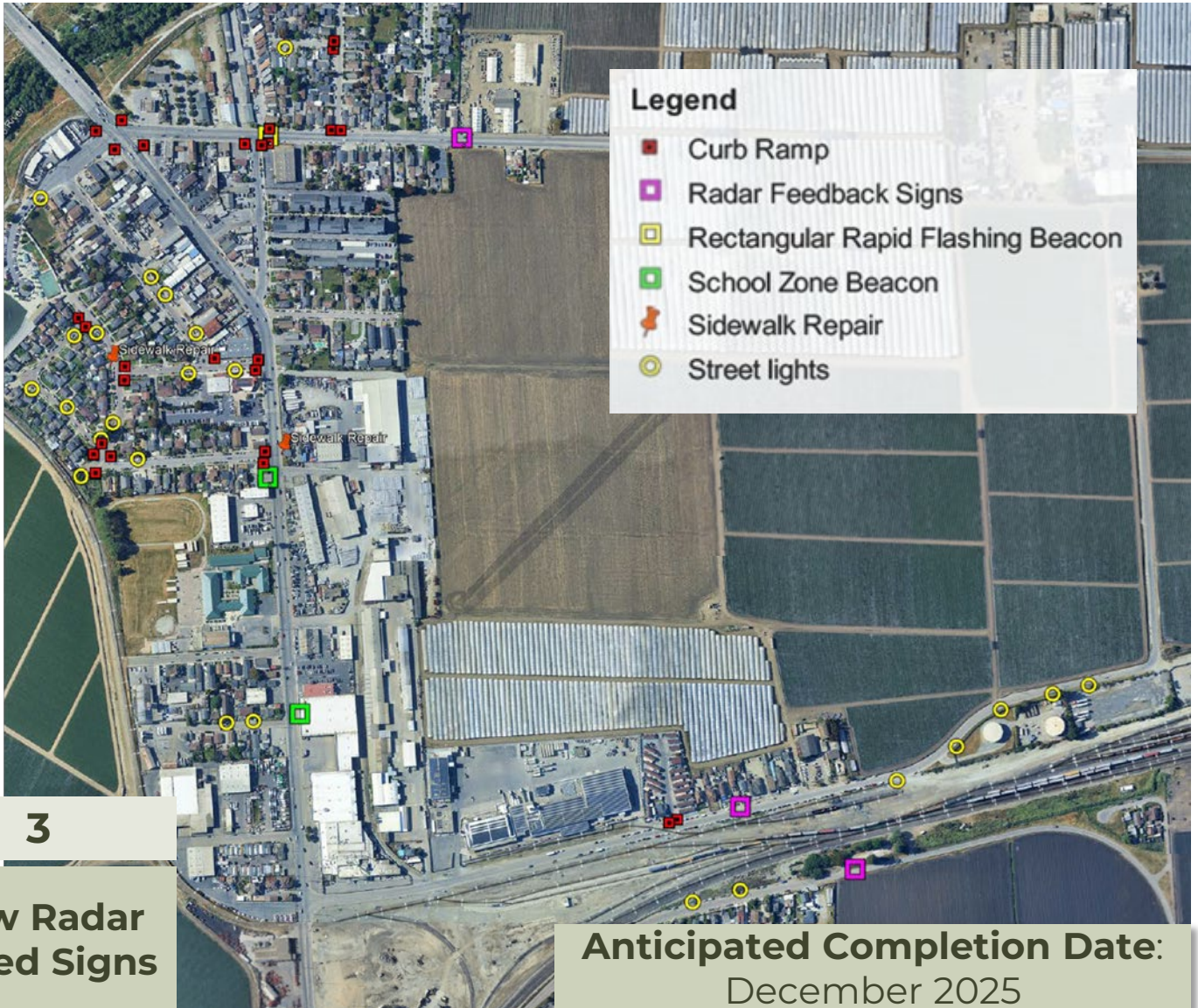
Safe Streets

Monterey County Public Works, Facilities, and Parks



Project Description: The Safe Streets project is intended to enhance transportation safety through initiatives that increase community resilience.

In Progress: Signal and crosswalk upgrades at San Juan Rd at Porter Dr and Salinas Rd at Pajaro Middle School



\$1,562,995

Total Expended

24	2	27	3
Improved Curb Ramps	School Zone Warning Beacons	New Streetlights	New Radar Speed Signs

Anticipated Completion Date:
December 2025

Pajaro Library

Monterey County Public Works, Facilities, and Parks



Project Description: This project assists with repairing the Pajaro Library post-flood and provides initial funding for the required design work for the upgrades to the Library, adding access to the 2nd and 3rd floors.

Flood Repairs

- The library was heavily damaged during the Pajaro Levee Breach. Due to the necessity of ensuring the facility’s exterior, including roofing, windows, and siding, is intact before proceeding with interior upgrades, AB 102 funds were re-allocated to complete repairs.
- In April 2025, the Board of Supervisors re-allocated \$3,155,412 of AB 102 funding to complete flood repairs
- This reallocation will ensure the AB 102 funds are fully expended within the grant deadline.
- Minor cost overruns have occurred due to the need for increased security on site.

2nd and 3rd Floor Upgrade

- \$344,588 of AB 102 funding was used for design on the upgrade project
- The upgrade project at the Library is still scheduled as the Board allocated additional County funds to complete the 2nd and 3rd floor renovation

\$2,005,714

Total Expended

June 10, 2026	December 2025	June 2026	December 2026
Notice to Proceed Issued	AB 102 Funds Expended	Flood Repairs Complete	Library Upgrade Complete



Pajaro Park Upgrade

Monterey County Public Works, Facilities, and Parks



PAJARO / SUNNY MESA
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



Project Description: The Pajaro Park Upgrade aims to revitalize the park, improving facilities and making it a more accessible community gathering space with improved access to government services during disasters.

- In February 2025, the County executed an Agreement with Pajaro Sunny Mesa CSD to complete the proposed work.
- Monterey County Parks has initiated a contractor, with construction planned for Fall 2025.
- Improvements include replacement of the turf field and playground upgrades.

Project Schedule

FIELD TURF REPLACEMENT

10/13 – Order Material (4 Week Lead Time)

10/27 – Begin Existing Turf Removal

11/10 – Deliver Turf Material (Between 11/03 – 11/13)

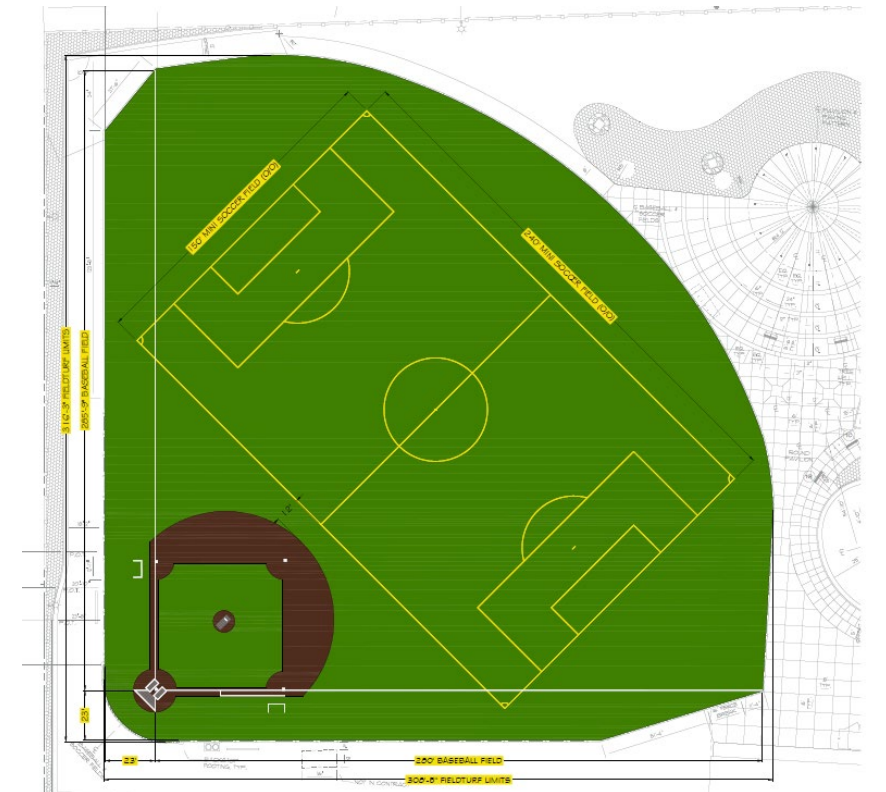
12/10 – Turf Installation Complete

PLAYGROUND AREA REPAIR

10/14 – Order Materials (4 Week Lead Time)

11/10 – Deliver Turf Material (Between 11/03 – 11/13)

11/21 – Complete Repair



Anticipated Completion Date:
December 2025

Digital Message Board

Monterey County Department of Emergency Management



Project Description: Installation of a digital message board to share information with the public during emergencies.

Challenge: The County planned to install a digital message board at Pajaro Middle School, but contract issues and grant compliance concerns prevented an agreement, leading to the project's termination.

Solution: The County is purchasing mobile digital message boards to deploy during emergencies. The project budget will be reduced, and remaining funds will be assigned to the contingency fund.

Primary Purpose:

- Directing residents to evacuation routes and shelters.
- Posting road closure or detour information during floods.
- Providing safety messages
- Displaying meeting points/resource centers during recovery.
- Serving as backup communications if power or internet goes out.

Anticipated Completion Date:
December 2025



Example Message Board

Emergency Response & Flood Fighting

North County Fire Protection District



Project Description: This project aims to enhance the flood-fighting capabilities of North County Fire Protection District, the local fire agency for Pajaro. Acquiring specialized equipment and training will improve their ability to respond to emergencies in the Pajaro community.

Fall 2025	November 30, 2025
Conduct Flood Rescue Training	High Water Vehicle Delivered

Equipment	Cost	Status
Tractor + Trailer (Debris Removal)	\$107,280	Delivered
Boat & Trailer (Flood Rescue)	\$31,405	Delivered
Flood Safety Equipment	\$9,906	Delivered
Generator for Command Trailer	\$10,974	Delivered
Emergency Mobile Radio	\$11,286	Delivered
Flood Rescue Training	\$10,000	In Progress
High Water Recue Vehicle	\$350,254	On Order

\$336,116

Total Expended

Anticipated Completion Date:

November 2025



Emergency Preparedness

Monterey County Department of Emergency Management



Project Description: The Emergency Preparedness project aims to enhance community resilience by empowering residents with the knowledge and resources needed to respond to and recover from disasters together.

Proudly Pajaro Preparedness Fair: In collaboration with non-profits, the County is organizing a community preparedness fair on November 8, 2025.

Community Preparedness Go Bags: 1,000 Go-Bags have been purchased to distribute to the community at the Proudly Pajaro Preparedness Fair in Fall 2025.

Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD): The County partnered with the Community Foundation for Monterey County to develop the Monterey County COAD to strengthen collaboration among local community organizations during disaster response and recovery efforts.

Pajaro Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): In collaboration with Community Bridges, bi-lingual CERT training is being offered for free to the community. 200 CERT backpacks have been distributed to residents who complete training. Check out this [video](#) to learn more about the Pajaro CERT Program.

Pajaro Levee Emergency Action Plan: The County is participating in a US Army Corps of Engineers-led effort to improve emergency communication and plan for emergency response at the Pajaro Levee.



\$121,858

Total Expended

Anticipated Completion Date:

December 2025



Credit: Roseann Cattani, The Salinas Californian

NEXT STEPS

- Complete AB 102 Projects by end of 2025
- Grant closeout in January 2026
- Provide Final Report to the Board of Supervisors and Community in February/March 2026



PAJARO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR

LET'S COME TOGETHER AND PREPARE FOR TOMORROW!

NOVEMBER 8, 2025
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
PAJARO MIDDLE SCHOOL

About Our Event!

Join us for a day of connection, preparedness, and resilience!

Bringing neighbors, local agencies, and resources together to help our community stay safe, informed, and ready for anything.

Event Highlights

- Visit Interactive Booths** ◀
Meet local emergency responders, community organizations and service providers.
- Get Resources** ◀
Get resources on flood safety, evacuation routes, health topics, and recovery support.
- Preparedness Presentations** ◀
Learn practical tips on emergency kits, family communication plans, and disaster recovery.
- Food, Music, and Raffles** ◀

Contact us
estradaal@countyofmonterey.gov

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COUNTY OF MONTEREY

Pajaro Emergency Preparedness Fair
Saturday, November 8, 2025
Pajaro Middle School

