

Discovery Park

King County Reservoir Emergency Overflow Channel Easement Project

Civic Development, Public Assets and Native Communities Committee

July 17, 2019

Seattle Parks and Recreation



City of Seattle

What Is the Project?

- Upgrade Water Reservoir Facility at Discovery Park to meet current standards.
- Install 460-foot pipe from reservoir to discharge site, 15 feet below surface.
- Will keep overflows away from treatment plant and populated areas.



WHAT'S THE PROJECT?

King County is updating the underground Water Reservoir Facility at Discovery Park. We are committed to protecting public health and promoting a healthy environment.

The facility has two reservoirs of drinkable and process water. Drinking water is used at West Point Treatment Plant, the lighthouse and drinking fountains in the park. Process water is used for industrial purposes at the treatment plant. The project will upgrade the facility to meet current standards and allow safe and efficient access for annual inspections required by Seattle Public Utilities. Installing a 460-foot pipe from the reservoir to a discharge site will keep overflows away from the treatment plant and other populated areas. This project protects water sources and equipment.

FAST FACTS

- West Point Treatment Plant serves more than 700,000 people.
- Treats wastewater from homes and businesses in Seattle, Shoreline, north Lake Washington, north King County and parts of south Snohomish County.
- The treatment plant was built in 1966. The reservoir was built around the same time.



Water Reservoir Facility and Planned Upgrades



Water Reservoir Facility Plan

SCALE IN FEET

King County
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

1001 1886, Discovery Park, Seattle, WA 98148

Location of Reservoir, Outfall within Discovery Park



How Will Easement Work?

- Most of pipeline is subterranean and the easement is for below-surface rights and limited-surface rights. The pipeline does not create a barrier to park use and will be largely invisible to park users.
- King County will restore the property impacted by the pipeline installation.
- The subsurface presences of the pipeline will not inhibit park use, including planting vegetation above the pipeline's alignment.
- If King County needs to access the pipeline across park property outside of the easement area a Parks Revocable Use Permit (RUP) and full restoration of related impacts will be required, including trees, vegetation and ground.
- King County will have foot access to the pipeline within the easement area without having to obtaining a park permit. Access requiring use of a vehicle or transport of equipment over park trails and service roads will require RUP.
- The easement purchase price is \$156,000.00 (based on appraised value).



Need for Easement/History

- Per state code (WAC 246-290) and Seattle Public Utilities requirements, water separation is required for the incoming water supply for treatment plant. This and need for emergency drainage necessitate King County to modify its reservoir.
- Overflow easement is within an area identified by the County as the most practical in terms of location and topography. The pipeline terminates in a glade with a natural “bowl” and quick draining soil.
- The treatment plant and reservoir were built in 1966, which predates the use of area as a park. The original easements were established between King County Metro and the federal government. The plant currently serves more than 700,000 people.
- The reservoir is sited on property that was conveyed to the City, Seattle Parks and Recreation in 1973 from federal ownership.



King County Will Restore Site

- Trail improvements.
- Approximately 26 trees are recommended for removal. These will be replaced at a ratio of 2:1.
- New planting of vegetation with a native planting palette that blends into the natural environment.
- An appraisal of the pipeline easement was completed December 2018 and reviewed by the City's Appraiser.
- King County and the City have coordinated efforts in the most efficient way for the good of the public.



The surface of the reservoir will be updated with new entry hatches.



Existing structure



New structure



Existing conditions pre-construction



Post-construction and planting



After planting establishment period

After plant establishment, the presence of the pipeline will blend in with the surroundings.

Rigorous Public Notification

- King County **website** posted, *Dec. 14, 2018*
- Informational **open house**, *Feb. 23, 2019*
- Project **briefing** with Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center, *March 1, 2019*
- Individual phone or email **correspondence** (earliest date for multiple correspondence):
 - Friends of Discovery Park, *Jan. 3, 2019*
 - Green Seattle Partnership, *Jan. 4, 2019*
 - Seattle Audubon, *Jan. 10, 2019*
 - Discovery Park Advisory Council, *Jan. 14, 2019*
 - Magnolia Community Council, *Jan. 14, 2019*
- Two project **e-newsletters** distributed to 500+ residents, *Jan. 24 and Feb. 19, 2019*
- **Postcards** to 1/4-mile radius of park, *Jan. 30, 2019*
- **Press release**, *Feb. 5, 2019*
- **Article** in Queen Anne/Magnolia News *March 10, 2019*
- Large **project sign** installed near Loop Trail, *Feb. 12, 2019*
- Large **SEPA sign** installed near Loop Trail, *Dec. 20, 2018*
- **SEPA notice** posted online, *Dec. 20, 2018*
- Project information on **social media**, *Feb. 5, 2019*



Key Questions Asked

At public information meeting, Feb. 23, 2019, hosted by King County/Friends of Discovery Park

- ✓ **How deep in the ground will the overflow pipe be?**
15 feet below ground.
- ✓ **How was the pipe's alignment selected?**
Based on technical studies, alignment was selected away from the beach, downward sloped areas and away from large trees when possible.
- ✓ **How will construction impact the Loop Trail and newly established Capehart Trail?**
Installation of pipe will intersect both Loop and Capehart Trails. Flaggers on site to ensure pedestrian safety. Loop Trail will remain open to foot traffic and construction vehicles to be escorted by flaggers on foot. Both trails will remain open when pipe installation occurs. Trails and vegetation will be fully restored.

Questions?

