



Fremont Siphon Replacement Project

Community Meeting Summary

November 20, 2013, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Fremont Abbey Arts Center

4272 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103

Overview

King County's Fremont Siphon Replacement Project team hosted a community meeting on November 20, 2013. The project team presented the final design, including construction areas, activities and traffic impacts in Fremont and Queen Anne, discussed what to expect during construction, and reviewed the project's next steps and how to stay in touch. The project artist, Perri Howard, presented the public art design concept for the project. Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) representatives also presented information about anticipated work to replace an existing water main in the Ship Canal Utility Tunnel following the Fremont Siphon Replacement Project construction.

Eighteen (18) members of the public attended the meeting.

This report provides a brief summary of the presentation and question and answer session.

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Presentation
 - Project overview
 - Fremont facility site design
 - Public art design concept
 - Construction overview
 - Next steps and staying in touch
- Question and answer session
- SPU presentation on existing water main replacement
- Question and answer session

Presentations

After providing an overview of the project, the project team presented the final site layout and design for the Fremont side of the project, which was developed following a community workshop in January 2013 and a follow up community open house in March 2013. The project team used community input to refine the site layout (including removing a second driveway to the site), design a historic-looking aboveground building, and use northwest coastal-inspired landscaping.

Perri Howard, the project's artist, presented her public art concept, titled "Streamline." The art will be installed as part of the odor control building's five windows. The largest window is a 108-inch diameter circle facing Northwest 36th Street, which is the same size as the sewer pipe under Northwest Canal Street that feeds the Fremont Siphon.

The project team then described the construction process, anticipated work activities in Fremont and Queen Anne, preliminary temporary traffic and pedestrian detours, and the proposed construction schedule. The project team will be finalizing the project design in late 2013, advertising the contract in early 2014, and hiring a construction contractor in spring 2014. Construction is expected to begin in mid-2014.

SPU – Water Main Replacement Presentation

Seattle Public Utilities introduced an upcoming water main replacement project that will follow the completion of the Fremont Siphon Replacement Project. SPU has a 24-inch water main in the Ship Canal Utility Tunnel, which must be replaced. The work cannot be completed until the existing Fremont Siphon pipes are decommissioned. The project is currently in the early planning stages. Design will occur from 2014 to 2016, with construction expected to start directly following the completion of the Fremont Siphon Replacement Project. SPU is coordinating with King County on the project, looking for opportunities to sequence work to avoid having to re-do County restoration work and perhaps share costs of some of the restoration work. SPU is conducting early outreach to make sure neighbors are aware of the project.

The King County and SPU presentations, as well as displays, handouts, comment forms and other relevant materials can be found on the project website at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Construction/Seattle/FremontSiphon/MeetingCalendar>

Summary of Questions

Questions and discussion from the meeting attendees are summarized below.

How deep is the Lake Washington Ship Canal?

The Lake Washington Ship Canal is approximately 30 feet deep. The shafts on either side of the canal to construct the siphon will be approximately 80 feet deep so the microtunneling will occur approximately 50 feet below the bottom of the Ship Canal.

What does it mean to “decommission” the existing siphon?

After the new siphon is in service, the existing siphon pipes in the Ship Canal Utility Tunnel will be capped at each end and disinfected. It is not necessary to remove the existing pipes so they will remain in the tunnel, but no longer be used. SPU may decide to remove the siphon pipes for their water main replacement project.

Will there be notice of odorous activities during construction?

Yes, there will likely be odor when the existing sewer is exposed in order to make the connection to the new line (on both sides of the Canal). King County will provide neighbors with advance notice of construction activities that are expected to cause odors. Notice will be provided through flyers, email updates, and on the project website.

Northwest Canal Street is very narrow. How will it be converted to a two-way street during the intersection closure at 2nd Avenue Northwest and Northwest Canal Street?

Parking will be temporarily removed on the south side of Northwest Canal Street to allow for two-way traffic. The project team evaluated Northwest Canal Street to ensure there is adequate

space for two-way traffic during the intersection closures. If necessary, King County will have a flagger present the first week of the traffic revision to direct traffic at this intersection.

Will Northwest Canal Street be fully paved for two-way traffic? Will this impact the landscaped area at the end of the street?

Northwest Canal Street will be smoothed with gravel during the periods of two-way traffic. The temporary hammerhead turnaround at the end of the street will be paved and will extend southward towards the canal to avoid impacts to private properties. Once construction is complete, Northwest Canal Street will be restored to current conditions, including restoration of the small island with vegetation near the intersection with 2nd Avenue Northwest.

Will construction vehicles use Northwest Canal Street to access the construction site?

No, construction traffic will not use Northwest Canal Street or the alley between Northwest 36th Street and Northwest Canal Street. Construction traffic will enter the site via Northwest 36th Street. Construction vehicles will use 2nd Avenue Northwest for some work activities, such as the replacement of the City's CSO line.

Where will construction vehicles park?

Construction crews will not be allowed to park in public parking areas in Fremont or Queen Anne. The Contractor will be required to maintain private offsite employee parking areas so as to not impact the current availability of parking for businesses and residences in the Fremont and Queen Anne neighborhoods.

Will the existing concrete lift slab be removed after construction?

The aboveground lift slab above the existing siphon forebay in Fremont Canal Park and south of the Burke-Gilman Trail will remain, as this is required for access to the City's water line. The existing bulkhead access vault lift slab between the Burke-Gilman Trail and 2nd Avenue Northwest will be removed during construction.

There is a metal box on a pole near the intersection of 2nd Avenue Northwest and Northwest Canal Street. Will this be removed after construction?

The metal box will be removed during construction as it is currently not operational.

Is the entire project on King County property?

On the south side (Queen Anne), the majority of construction activities will be on King County property. A portion of the new sewer line that will connect the siphon to the existing sewer line is on City of Seattle right-of way. On the north side (Fremont), King County is acquiring the private property near 2nd Avenue Northwest to construct the aboveground odor control facility and house most construction activities. Some work during construction will occur in Fremont Canal Park, which is owned by the City of Seattle. Construction activities associated with the CSO outfall replacement along the shore of the Ship Canal will occur on property owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Closing

The project team thanked everyone for attending and for their continued involvement in the project. Staff encouraged attendees to reach out if they have any questions or would like to schedule a briefing on the project.

For more information:

- Web: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Construction/Seattle/FremontSiphon>
- Contact Adair Muth, Community Relations:
 - Email: Adair.Muth@kingcounty.gov
 - Phone: 206-477-5505

Fremont Siphon Replacement Project Team Attendance

King County Wastewater Treatment Division
Will Sroufe, Adair Muth, Michael Popiwny

Seattle Public Utilities
Paj Hwang, Bill Benzer

4Culture
Cath Brunner, Perri Howard

MWH Americas, Inc.
Jeff Schmidt

Jacobs Associates
Jeremy Johnson

EnviroIssues
Penny Mabie, Hannah Litzenberger