



Fremont Siphon Replacement Project

Community Meeting Summary

March 2, 2015, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fremont Library

731 North 35th Street, Seattle WA

Overview

King County's Fremont Siphon Replacement Project team hosted a community meeting on March 2, 2015. The project team presented information about upcoming construction. The presentation offered a brief project and construction overview, and more information about what to expect during construction, sequencing and detours in Fremont and Queen Anne, final site restoration and environmental improvements, and how to stay in touch during construction. The project team emphasized the need for two-way communication during construction and noted that King County is committed to being a good neighbor during construction.

Approximately twenty (20) 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
 - Construction overview
 - What to expect during construction
 - Fremont site
 - Queen Anne site
 - Site restoration
- Question and Answer session
- Open house with the Project Team

Presentations

King County's Fremont Siphon Replacement Project Manager Will Sroufe provided a brief overview of the purpose of the project. He noted that King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) provides regional wastewater service to 1.6 million people in King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties. He noted that the Fremont Siphon, one of the oldest, most reliable pipes in the region, carries half of the wastewater cleaned at King County's West Point Treatment Plant in Magnolia. He explained that the existing siphon is nearly 100 years old and needs to be replaced in order to continue to provide reliable service to the region.

Fremont Siphon Replacement Project Representative Marty Noble provided an overview of construction and the construction sequence. He noted that the project will be constructed in five steps: 1) preparing the site for construction, 2) building the tunnel shafts, 3) building the siphon,



4) connecting to the existing sewer, and 5) building the odor control building and restoring the site.

Project Community Relations Lead Doug Marsano provided information about what to expect during construction, site activities on the Fremont site and Queen Anne site, efforts to restore the site, and how to stay in touch during construction. He noted that King County recognizes that construction can be disruptive to those living and working near the project site, but the County is committed to minimizing disruptions and surprises during construction. He emphasized the need for two-way communication during construction, and asked community members to let the community relations team know of any preferred methods of communication.

Summary of Questions & Comments

Questions and discussion from the meeting attendees are summarized below:

General project questions

Are you abandoning the existing siphon completely?

King County's existing siphon will be decommissioned, but the tunnel will remain in place. The City of Seattle will be using the tunnel for a water main. The City of Seattle plans to replace that water main.

Could the City of Seattle and King County complete these two projects simultaneously?

No, the City of Seattle will be completing this work after the Fremont Siphon is constructed. The two projects could not be completed at the same time because community impacts need to be managed effectively. The City of Seattle is still in design for the water main replacement project.

Environmental impacts

Are any trees being taken down to accommodate the detours?

Not specifically for the detours, but there will be some trees removed for construction on both sides of the project. King County is coordinating closely with the City of Seattle on tree replacement. Trees will be replaced with similar, native trees.

Fremont Canal Park is very small. Is it possible to use the triangular area at the intersection of 2nd Avenue NW and NW Canal Street during detours to maintain some of the existing green space?

Any changes to the Traffic Control Plan (TCP) need to be approved by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), but the Project Team will see if this can be incorporated into the TCP.

Can the small garden on the east end of NW Canal Street, near the intersection of 1st Avenue NW, be protected from construction?

King County does not expect the detour to affect this garden, but will look into this issue and follow up.



Safety

It was appreciated that King County came out to clean-up the Praxair site.

King County and Stellar J Corporation strive to be responsive to community concerns, especially those related to public safety.

One issue in the neighborhood is homeless encampments. How is site security handled?

Safety is the number one priority for King County and Stellar J Corporation. Each site is checked daily for encampments by a King County staff member. Measures will be taken to secure the site (for example, fencing will be driven into the ground so it cannot be easily moved) and site security during off hours may be added if necessary. Adjustments to enhance security can be made during construction.

What kind of lighting will be used to enhance security at the site when the project is complete?

King County received a large amount of feedback from the community about lighting on site during design. There will be enough light on site to maintain security, but not too much so as to distract nearby residents, businesses, and traffic.

Can a webcam be installed on the site to enhance site security and community engagement during the project?

There are many ways that technology can be used on site. King County will look into this and work with the community to best keep the site safe.

Detours

How long are each of the detours expected to last on the Fremont side of the site?

- The detour associated with relocating the City's combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfall is expected to last approximately 4 months.
- The detour associated with relocating the existing waterline is expected to last approximately 1 month
- The detour associated with connecting to the existing system is expected to last approximately 4 months.

These are subject to change once the County receives and reviews the contractor's final schedule.

Will the detour path on the Burke-Gilman Trail be paved?

Yes, the path will be paved. King County heard from the community early on in design that this was important.

Can NW Canal Street be open for local access only during detours, instead of two-way traffic, if there is no through traffic?

It needs to remain open for emergency vehicle access, but increased signage in the area is a tool that could be used to discourage any non-local traffic.



Is Our Beginning Day Care aware of the detour associated with relocating the existing waterline?

They are aware of the detour and anticipated impacts associated with the detour.

Will construction vehicles use the alleyway in front of Our Beginning during the waterline relocation detour?

Yes, during the same time that this is allowable for the public, but not during any additional time periods.

The pavement in the alleyway is deteriorating and the asphalt is not made for heavy truck traffic. While the contractor may occasionally use the alleyway, they plan to primarily use NW Canal Street to access the project site.

Will the alleyway detour during waterline relocation be for public use or local access only?

The detour will be for local use only.

Will construction vehicles use NW Canal Street during the detours?

Yes, but there will be flaggers on-site to safely direct traffic in and out of the work zone.

How will two-way traffic be maintained on NW Canal Street and in the narrow alley during detours?

Good signage will be important for maintaining efficient two-way traffic on NW Canal Street.

How should the community provide feedback on the TCP?

Because it is hard to anticipate how well a TCP will work until it is in place, King County often likes to see how a TCP works before making adjustments. It is important for the community to understand, though, that the contractor's objective is to develop a TCP that works best for the community (not for their own benefit). It always helps to hear from the community as TCPs are implemented if things are not working as planned. We encourage you to share this feedback with the community relations team as the project gets underway so we can make necessary adjustments.

How can the community approach SDOT about the TCP?

Community members can contact SDOT directly, share feedback with the community relations team who will pass it along to SDOT, or do both.

Is there any plan for a traffic signal at 1st Avenue and NW 36th Street?

Traffic signals are placed and maintained by the City of Seattle. Questions about the traffic signal at this intersection should be directed to SDOT.



Parking

Does the contractor have a plan for parking? There is a need for the contractor to cooperate with nearby businesses and residents and not use local parking.

There are provisions in the contract that require the contractor to find off-site parking.

How far will the “no parking” area extend on NW Canal Street during the detours?

The “no parking” areas will go no further east than the intersection of NW Canal Street and 1st Avenue NW.

Can residents on NW Canal Street have private parking spots marked off during detours?

The Project Team will evaluate whether or not there is space available to accommodate this request and work with residents on a case-by-case basis.

Community relations

King County did a great job coordinating on parking issues and reacting quickly to community concerns on the Ballard Siphon project.

King County will use similar community relations efforts as were used for the Fremont Siphon Replacement Project. Two-way communication will be important during the project and the community relations team will work to modify notification efforts to the preferences of the local community.

The Fremont Neighborhood Council would be happy to provide project updates on their website and/or social media pages.

King County community relations will provide updates to the Fremont Neighborhood Council and welcomes the opportunity to work with local community groups to provide relevant project updates and notifications.

Can alternative notification be used instead of flyering when residents are out of town?

Yes, King County community relations is committed to finding the best methods of communication for each member of this community. Please let King County know if you would prefer not to receive flyers about project updates. Sometimes flyering for key activities is important to ensure neighbors receive a notice.

It would be helpful to receive notification before traffic detours are used.

King County community relations will provide advance notice of all changes to traffic control and parking in the area.

Please make sure that all detours are well-posted because detours associated with other projects have redirected bikers onto NW 36th Street and other busy roads.

King County community relations will be sure to provide adequate signage and notification to trail users in advance of detours.



Can King County alert potential property buyers of the upcoming construction regarding a house for sale on NW Canal Street?

King County community relations will do their best to alert property buyers and provide additional project signage in the area.

Closing

The project team thanked everyone for attending and for their continued involvement in the project. Staff encouraged attendees to stay for the open house if they had any additional questions or to view the online open house to revisit presentation materials.

For more information:

- **24/7 Project Hotline:** 206-205-5428
- **Project Website:** www.kingcounty.gov/fremontsiphon
- **Online Open House:** <http://fremontsiphon.publicmeeting.info>
- **Project Contact:** Doug Marsano
- **Email:** doug.marsano@kingcounty.gov

Fremont Siphon Replacement Project Team Attendance

King County Wastewater Treatment Division
Will Sroufe, Marty Noble, Doug Marsano

Stellar J Corporation
Jeff Walker, Patrick Farrell, Mark Van Brunt

EnviroIssues
Sarah Brandt, Hannah Litzenberger, Kelly Foley