

***Fremont Siphon Replacement Project***  
**Fremont Neighborhood Council**  
**Briefing Summary**

February 23, 2016 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Doric Lodge, 619 N 36th St, Seattle, WA 98103

On February 23, 2016, the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) updated the Fremont Neighborhood Council about 2015 construction progress and upcoming work for the Fremont Siphon Replacement Project. About 25 people attended the group's monthly meeting.

Doug Marsano of King County provided a Power Point presentation, which reviewed the need to replace the existing siphon.

- Two pipelines currently cross the Lake Washington Ship Canal near Canal Street but are now more than 100 years old and have reached the end of their service life.
- The new siphon will provide additional capacity required to accommodate current and future flows for the service area that is more than 100 square miles and stretches to the north as far as Mukilteo and Mill Creek.
- About one half of the flows that are sent to the treatment plant in Magnolia are conveyed in the heavily used Fremont Siphon.

Construction has been underway for about one year and has included:

- Clearing work sites to prepare for construction
- Building a 90-foot deep launching pit on the north side of the canal and an 80-foot deep receiving pit on south side
- Installing a retaining wall and the new connection for the siphon on the Queen Anne side of the canal.

This spring and summer:

- Two seven-foot diameter pipes will be microtunneled 20 feet below the bottom of the ship canal
- The pipes will be installed in two separate 500-foot runs from the Fremont launch site
- The pipes will be fiberglass, each surrounded by steel casings.

Work will then turn to:

- Building the odor control facility at the launch site on the former Praxair property
- Completing the new connecting pipe on the Fremont side
- Public art installation by 4 Culture.

### **Questions and Input**

*What will happen to the property that is being used to build the project?*

All property and the public right-of-way will be returned to its original use except for the Praxair site, which King County purchased for the below ground pipes and above ground odor control facility.

*What is the pipe made of?*

The five-foot diameter pipes are made of fiberglass. The fiberglass pipe will be grouted and encased in a seven-foot diameter steel casing for further protection.

*When will the project be completed?*

Project completion is scheduled for 2017.

*Is the SPU combined sewer overflow project related to this project?*

The SPU project is a separate project. It is now in early design and will be in proximity to the Fremont Siphon. More will be known in the coming year, but King County is partnering with the City of Seattle to ensure the two systems of pipes work together.

During heavy rains, flows will first fill the King County Fremont and Ballard Siphons. As needed, peak flows will be directed to the SPU combined sewer overflow pipes until storms subside and can be returned to the siphons for delivery to the West Point treatment plant.

*When the crossing of the Ship Canal is complete, what other activities should we expect?*

Most of the work on this project will be underground but remaining above ground activities will include separating, cleaning, reusing and hauling soils excavated during pipe installation. Some of this work could be noisy, but is expected to be similar to noise at the nearby cement plant.

Canal Street will need to be closed for a period as the final connection is made to the existing system.

King County's intent is to work weekdays from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and if necessary Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If extended hours are needed, King County will communicate with area councils and community groups including the Fremont Solstice Parade and Fair, which is held in June and draws many people to the area.

*Stephanie Pure, Fremont Neighborhood Council president, commented that the neighborhood group feels well informed about the project, and they are pleased with how King County has communicated with their community.*

*The group also mentioned their appreciation for the project team's efforts to keep the Burke-Gilman Trail open during the construction.*