



Sunset Pump Station neighborhood briefing
November 5, 2014, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Vasa Park Ballroom, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE

Overview

On November 5, 2014, the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) hosted a neighborhood briefing for the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade (Sunset Heathfield) Project, located next to Vasa Park in Bellevue. The meeting focused on the roof design of the Sunset Pump Station and general project information. Seven members of the public attended the meeting and shared concerns, suggestions and questions.

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of the public meeting was to:

- Share the Sunset Heathfield Project description, need, timeline, and current design status
- Share proposed changes to the Sunset Pump Station roof
- Hear community perspectives, concerns, and questions

Handouts

Meeting Packet

Project Team Attendees

Kristine Cramer	King County WTD	Community Relations
Sarah Wright	EnvirolIssues	Community Relations

Introduction

Kristine Cramer welcomed the group; each participant introduced themselves and shared their interests about the project. Neighbors are concerned about sightlines, noise, accessibility and traffic disruptions during construction.

General Project Information

Kristine provided background about King County WTD's mission to protect water quality and prevent water pollution.

- King County's WTD provides wastewater treatment to 17 cities and 17 local sewer utilities and serves approximately 1.5 million people.
- The Sunset Heathfield Project will upgrade two of the system's pump stations and construct a new 24-inch sewer pipe connecting the stations and the Eastgate Interceptor.

Kristine shared WTD's commitments for the Sunset Heathfield Project and explained what the neighborhood can expect from King County.

- Kristine will be the primary point of contact and keep the community informed throughout the design process, sharing key milestones, soliciting feedback where appropriate and working through specific design elements.
- For example, in February 2014, a survey was distributed to collect feedback and identify the community's key values.
- A larger neighborhood meeting will occur in late winter 2015 to share preliminary designs for both pump stations and the force main alignment.
- Phone calls and emails are typically returned within one business day.
- Members of the public can sign up to receive email updates and stay informed of important project milestones.

Kristine described the Sunset Heathfield Project and emphasized the need, timeline, and current design.

- In 2007 the county determined that pump station capacity has been reached and population growth upstream of the pump stations has exceeded projections. The current pump stations have a system capacity of 18 million gallons per day (mgd). To increase reliability, both pumps need to be upgraded to convey a peak flow of 30 mgd.
- The current 12 inch force main will be replaced with a 24 inch force main, helping to increase performance and efficiency. King County pipes often use gravity where sewage flows naturally; force mains are installed to help push the sewage between stations.
- The Sunset Heathfield Project will reach the 30% design mark in the first quarter of 2015. This means the basic design for the pump stations and the force main will be complete, including the type and location of pump station equipment and the general underground route for the force main.
- Construction for the Sunset Heathfield Project is anticipated to begin in 2017. King County is working closely with the City of Bellevue throughout the design process and is aware of the recent construction on West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE.
- Kristine informed neighbors that the force main construction method has not yet been decided, and there are several factors that influence that decision (e.g. soil, slope, community impacts, and cost). Once a decision has been made, Kristine will circle back with the neighborhood.
- The team will work closely with Vasa Park and near neighbors through the lifespan of the project.

Kristine provided an overview of construction impacts and design elements associated with the Sunset Pump Station roof.

- The majority of construction upgrades for the Sunset Pump Station will take place inside the building. Although the footprint of the building is not expected to increase, the new generator adjacent to the building will be larger in size.
- Noise is expected to remain equal to or lower than the noise from current machinery. The team is currently testing baseline level noise.

- The team anticipates adding three additional pieces of equipment on the Sunset Pump Station roof including two electrical metering cabinets and one condenser unit for the HVAC system. These may be visible from some neighboring homes as shown in drawings within the meeting packet.

King County's WTD is piloting a new rating system called Envision that focuses on sustainable infrastructure throughout the life of a facility. The Sunset Heathfield Project is using the rating system and one possibility is adding a green roof on the Sunset Pump Station.

- Green roofs help with heating and cooling and allow stormwater runoff to soak in before it reaches Lake Sammamish.
- Kristine provided three examples of "light" green roofs within the Seattle area including Seattle City Hall garage, Ballard Public Library, and EPA Region 10 Headquarters. Each of these support lightweight, low growing plants.
- The group generally favored a green roof and agreed it may help camouflage the equipment. They acknowledged that it would require additional maintenance and were concerned about costs.
- The cedar trees near the Sunset Pump Station are not required to stay and could potentially be replaced with other trees.

Kristine encouraged attendees to speak with their neighbors and provide any additional thoughts, concerns or questions. She will compile and share all feedback with the project team and distribute the meeting summary to all attendees.

Summary of Questions

Questions, feedback, and discussion from the meeting attendees are summarized below.

What will traffic impacts be during construction?

Most traffic impacts will occur during construction of the new sewer force main between the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations, as compared with work on the pump station sites. Local access will always be provided to residents and businesses. King County is still analyzing options at the intersection of SE 38th Street and W Lake Sammamish Parkway SE including the time of year force main installation work could be completed. The county will continue to coordinate closely with City of Bellevue regarding traffic impacts. The team should have a better idea of traffic impacts in early 2015 as the designs are further developed.

How will truck traffic impact the neighborhood during the Sunset Pump Station upgrade?

There will be construction vehicles during active construction. Most construction will take place on the pump station site with trucks entering and exiting during the day.

Will the King County parking spots in front of the Sunset Pump Station remain?

King County will need to maintain access to the pump station at all times, but Kristine will share concerns about an emergency pull over location and requests for an official parking spot(s) with the design team.

Is the pump station design already set?

No, King County is still in the design process and there will be opportunities for community input where appropriate. Kristine will follow up with the neighbors as the design develops.

Why does work on the force main need to be completed in the summer months?

Sewage flow is historically lower in the dry season and since construction will eliminate the 12-inch existing force main during installation of the new 24-inch force main, it is preferable that this work occur during reduced flow periods.

How will this project impact sewer utility bills? Who is paying for this work?

The Sunset Heathfield Project is one of many Capital Improvement projects. While this specific project won't impact your bill directly, part of your monthly payment is directed toward King County funds which are then distributed to different sewer improvements throughout the King County service area.

Does King County inspect the large cement pipe/sewer line near the Sunset Pump Station that goes across the bottom of Lake Sammamish?

The sewer line that runs under Lake Sammamish is inspected on a 15-year cycle, with the most recent inspection in 2012. Watertight manholes on the lake bed allow access to the pipeline. Crews use a boat to lower caissons that open the manholes and allow robotic cameras into the pipe for inspection.

Where is the current force main located?

The current force main runs along the south side of SE 38th Street and 164th Place S.E.

What measures will be taken to improve odor control?

Currently both pump stations have odor control carbon scrubbers. As part of the Sunset Heathfield Project King County will replace the ductwork associated with both systems, which will help the system to run more efficiently.

General Input and Requests*Traffic control*

- If flaggers are needed, Vasa Park requests an additional flagger at their entrance.
- The group suggests plating West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE in the evenings and on weekends, if work there impacts the roadway. Note that the current plan is to utilize trenchless technology for crossing West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE to minimize impacts to traffic.
- Put in temporary signals to help residents access West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE from SE 38th Street.
- Consider reaching out to Microsoft employees as many of them commute on West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE.
- Reach out to Teresa Berg with the City of Bellevue.

Trees/Views

- One neighbor requested that the team remove the trees and fencing near the pump station and increase parking in the area. There is a nearby fire hydrant to consider.
- Consider replacing the trees with a concrete wall that has a natural design.

Miscellaneous

- The group spoke favorably about WTD's responsiveness regarding pump station issues in the past.
- There was a request to share with the City of Bellevue that home owners are paying for storm drainage, but doing much of the diversion and mitigation themselves.
- Residents occasionally smell odors from the pump station either at the beach or in their homes above.

Closing

Kristine Cramer concluded the meeting and the question/answer period. She thanked everyone for coming and reiterated that King County will continue to work with the community moving forward.

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