



Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade

Frequently Asked Questions

March 2015

What is the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade project?

King County owns and runs the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations in Bellevue. The pump stations and sewer force main pipe send sewage from Sammamish, Issaquah, and Bellevue to be cleaned at the County's wastewater treatment plant in Renton. This project will upgrade the pump stations and the connected sewer force main pipe with additional capacity to serve the area's growing population. The project will also upgrade the underground connection structure to Eastgate Trunk near I-90.

Why is the project necessary?

The pump stations and connected force main pipe have served the area for 50 years. They need to be upgraded to keep up with the growing population. This project will ensure King County can provide continued reliable sewer service to the growing area for years to come.

What does the project include?

Four new pumps, new electrical and controls systems, new standby generators, and new heating and air conditioning systems will be installed at each pump station. Current designs include new rain gardens at each pump station and a new green roof at the Sunset Pump Station. The connecting force main pipe will be replaced with a larger one. The roof on each pump station will be replaced. The current building footprints are not expected to change.

What is the current project schedule?

The project team has finished the preliminary design phase. At this point, the project team knows the general layout and type of pump station equipment that will be used. The general route of the force main pipe and construction methods have also been determined. The team will complete the final design by the end of 2016. Construction is expected to begin in 2017 and end in 2020.

What does the project team consider during design?

Reliability, efficiency, lifecycle cost, permitting, operations and maintenance needs, environmental impacts, community input, and sustainability are some of the factors the project team considers.

Will the community be able to share their thoughts on the design?

Yes! On March 3, 2015, King County will host an Open House at Vasa Park Ballroom. The County is asking for input on the new fencing and lighting Sunset Pump Station. Individuals may also provide feedback through an online open house. Visit the project website for more information: www.kingcounty.gov/sunsetheathfield.

What feedback has the community already shared?

More than 250 neighbors and community members were surveyed so the project team could learn about the community's interests and concerns. Based on their answers, King County knows neighbors want to maintain the look and feel of the project area and reduce traffic impacts during construction.

Will the noise from the pump stations increase?

Noise is expected to remain at current levels, and will continue to comply with the City of Bellevue Noise Ordinance requirements. The team has already tested baseline level noise and is awaiting noise study results.

ALTERNATIVE FORMATS AVAILABLE

206-477-5371 / 711 (TTY Relay)



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

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Will there be impacts to Vasa Park?

Most construction activity near Vasa Park is expected to occur between November and March. Access to and from Vasa Park will be maintained at all times. King County will work closely with Vasa Park throughout construction to minimize impacts to the park.

What will the new force main pipe construction look like?

The new force main pipe will be installed along S.E. 35th Place, 164th Place S.E., and S.E. 38th Street. Force main pipe construction is anticipated to begin in 2017 and two different construction methods will be used. You can expect to experience road closures, noise, traffic control, and detours. You will see signs, crew members, trucks, and equipment on site. King County will work with the community to reduce construction impacts when possible.

What will pump station construction look like?

Most of the work will occur inside each pump station. Improvements outside of the building include new landscaping and a larger generator. You will see crew members, trucks, and equipment on site. King County will work with the community to reduce construction impacts when possible.

How will the project team address impacts to the environment?

The project team will continue to collect and review information on animals, plants, creeks, and wetlands in the area. King County will work with the community, City of Bellevue, and appropriate government agencies to make sure all environmental restoration activities meet the neighborhood's needs and legal requirements. Low-impact construction methods will be used where the new force main pipe crosses Vasa Creek. Trees and other plants may need to be removed during construction. The County will re-plant new trees and plants in their place at the end of the project when possible.

Will artwork be added?

No permanent artwork is expected at either pump station. Project and King County wastewater information may be installed at a kiosk along the I-90 trail system between West Lake Sammamish Parkway S.E. and S.E. Eastgate Way. This signage would help educate community members about the project. The community would be able to share input on the design.

Will the project be educational?

Our team is planning to partner with local schools to educate students about wastewater. The County is happy to set up a site tour for classes that want to learn about their sewer service. Contact De'Sean Quinn for more information.

What will we see over the next two years?

The project team will continue designing elements of the project through 2016. Most of their work won't be visible day to day. Although, you may see crews in the area collecting data or completing field investigations. King County will continue to work with the community and notify them before construction begins.

For more information:

Contact De'Sean Quinn:

desean.quinn@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-5417

Visit the project website:

www.kingcounty.gov/sunsetheathfield