



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade Project

Summary of Sunset Pump Station Neighborhood Briefing – DRAFT

April 6, 2016, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Vasa Park Ballroom, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE

Overview

On April 6, 2016, the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) hosted a neighborhood briefing for the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade Project at the Vasa Park Ballroom. The meeting focused on design updates to the Sunset Pump Station and general project information. Five members of the public attended the meeting and shared priorities, concerns, suggestions and questions.

Meeting Objectives

- Introduce the new project Community Relations Lead De'Sean Quinn
- Provide a general project update, including updates to the Sunset Pump Station design
- Gather input on preference for the color of the generator enclosure at the Sunset Pump Station
- Hear community perspectives, concerns and questions

Handouts

The following materials were provided to each attendee:

- Meeting agenda
- Latest project newsletter
- Updated Sunset Pump Station conceptual site layout
- Sunset Pump Station roof sightlines handout
- Sunset Pump Station generator color preference survey

Project Team Attendees

De'Sean Quinn, King County WTD

Kelly Foley, EnviroIssues

Welcome and introductions

De'Sean Quinn welcomed the group; participants introduced themselves and shared their interests about the project. Attendees were interested in learning more about sightlines, landscaping and construction impacts.

General project update

De'Sean provided an overview of the project goals and purpose. He explained that the Sunset and Heathfield pump stations, along with the force main which connects the pump stations to the existing sewer system, are nearing capacity. King County is upgrading the pump stations and force main to increase system capacity in advance of expected future flows. Design is nearing completion and King County anticipates construction to begin in spring 2017.

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Next, attendees learned about updates to the Sunset Pump Station design. De'Sean noted that the roof of the new pump station would not impact existing sightlines. He further explained that fencing around the pump station would either be replaced or changed out with new fencing, the shoreline would be restored using log jams and vegetation, and new trees and shrubs would be planted around the facility.

Summary of Questions and Comments

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

What is the diameter of the new force main pipe compared to the existing pipe?

In addition to larger pumps at each pump station, the existing 12-inch diameter force main pipe will be replaced with a 24-inch diameter pipe.

Will the new generator at the Sunset Pump Station be louder?

The project team anticipates noise levels from the new generator will not exceed current noise levels of the existing generator or permitted levels determined by the City of Bellevue.

How old is the existing Sunset Pump Station?

The Sunset Pump Station was built in February 1965. Pumps were replaced in September 1987 and improvements to the landscaping and HVAC system were made in June 1989. The force main connecting the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations was installed in May 1983 [Answer not provided at meeting, but included here after additional research was completed].

How tall will the new Sunset Pump Station be? Will it impact existing views?

While equipment on the roof of the new pump station will be 1.5 feet taller than the existing pump station, the project team anticipates that the new pump station will not block views from the Vasa Vista homes.

Attendees asked that the project team consider planting trees that are shorter than existing vegetation to maintain views and reduce the need to continually maintain the tree heights near the Sunset Pump Station.

King County is prioritizing the community's preference to maintain existing views and to reduce maintenance needs while working toward the final landscape design. The height of the new vegetation will also comply with City of Bellevue requirements.

What kind of vegetation will be planted near the Sunset Pump Station?

The County will add mostly new vegetation around the new facility and leave some existing vegetation around a maintenance path in the northeast corner of the property. New trees and shrubs will be mostly native species. The project team expects that additional information about tree species and height will be available in the coming months as design progresses.

When will project construction start and how long will it take?

The project team anticipates that construction will begin in spring 2017 and take approximately 2.5 to 3 years to complete. The County will keep the community notified of any changes to the schedule if there are any changes to the schedule as the project gets closer to construction.

Why will construction take over two years to complete?

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There is a lot of work required to replace both pump stations and the force main that connects the pump stations. The County is evaluating sequencing of roadwork to minimize community impacts while completing the project safely and quickly.

Will there be pre-construction meetings?

Yes, the County will provide pre-construction notifications and host a pre-construction meeting. The County is committed to ensuring that there are no surprises and that the community knows what to expect during construction.

Will there be increased noise, vibration and dust during construction?

The County recognizes that all construction projects can be disruptive to those living and working nearby. The project team expects that there will be noise, dust and vibration during construction, but will work to minimize these impacts to the greatest extent possible.

Will there be increased odor during construction?

The project team does not anticipate any increased odors as a result of construction activities.

What kinds of roadway impacts can be expected during construction?

While specific roadway impacts will not be known until after a contractor is selected to complete the work, the County does anticipate potential lane closures, increased congestion and delays. The County will provide additional information as the project approaches construction and will work with the contractor to minimize these impacts and comply with the City of Bellevue permit requirements.

How will West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE be impacted by construction activities?

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) will be used to install the new force main under West Lake Sammamish Parkway S.E. While specific traffic impacts will not be known until after a contractor is selected, this installation method was chosen to reduce traffic impacts to West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE as well as environmental impacts to trees and wetlands in the area.

Generator color preferences

Attendees were invited to provide their preference on the color of the generator enclosure using a survey with three color options. Three out of five attendees participated in the survey about the generator color. The majority of responses indicated a preference for option B, (Federal Standard Color Number 35622).

Closing

De'Sean thanked all attendees for coming and encouraged them to reach out at any time to provide additional thoughts, concerns or questions. He reiterated that King County will continue to work with the community during design and throughout the remainder of the project.

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