ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITIES with Natural Drainage Systems (NDS) and Pedestrian Improvements

Natural Drainage Systems: What are they & why do we need them?

When it rains in the Delridge and Westwood neighborhoods, pollution from our streets runs into Longfellow Creek untreated. This is not healthy for the creek or for people. The good news is: there is something we can do.

Natural Drainage Systems consist of shallow depressions in the public right-of-way, or “planter strip,” filled with deep-rooted plants and spongy soils that temporarily hold and clean polluted stormwater from streets and sidewalks. These features capture and clean pollutants before they can reach the creek.

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is planning to build natural drainage systems in your neighborhood in 2021. We are partnering with Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), Office of Arts & Culture 1% for the arts, and King County Flood Control District.

Community benefits

Natural Drainage Systems offer multiple benefits to local neighborhoods and ecosystems, including:

- Greener, more attractive neighborhoods
- Lower risk of flooding
- Creation of habitat along our streets
- Healthier creek ecosystems
- Calmer traffic patterns
- More street trees
- Pedestrian improvements

Learn more at: seattle.gov/util/longfellowNDS
The Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System (NDS) Project has completed 30% design outreach and incorporated community feedback in the early design. At the 60% Design Phase, we present updated street and drainage improvements and answer questions from the community. We finalize the project scope based on regulatory requirements and project funding.

30% INPUTS
- Neighborhood priorities
- Current drainage conditions
- Location of utilities
- Local topography + mature trees
- Rainfall runoff patterns along the street
- Soil testing + analysis
- Location of homes + paths
- Location of driveways
- On-street parking patterns
- City right-of-way impacts
- Zoning code
- Projected construction costs
- Maintenance of NDS
- Permitting
- Community concerns

60% INPUTS
- Neighborhood priorities
- Local ecosystem needs
- Detailed utility locations + impacts
- Planting palettes & new street trees
- NDS sizing adjustments
- Refinements to design dimensions + details
- City right-of-way impacts
- Balance of costs with budget
- Maintenance of NDS
- Permitting
- Community concerns

FINAL INPUTS
- Accessibility impacts
- Construction costs + impacts
- Ongoing maintenance costs + responsibility
- Permitting requirements
- Construction questions

We Are Here
A Healthier & Safer Longfellow Creek!

Siting, Field Investigations
Survey + Concept Development
2017 to 2018

30% Design
Firm Potential Design
MID 2019

60% Design
Final Design
CONSTRUCTION
PRE-CONSTRUCTION
OUTREACH
LATE 2020

Outreach for 60% Design
EARLY 2020

Outreach for 30% Design
MID 2019

Final Design + Obtain Permits

Outreach
30% Design
MID 2019

60% Design
MID 2020

Final Design
LATE 2020

Nearby City Projects Entering Construction

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Est. Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35th/Avalon Paving</td>
<td>IN CONSTRUCTION NOW</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW Seattle Paving</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDOT Delridge Way SW RapidRide H Line</td>
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<td>West Seattle Neighborhood Greenway Phase 2</td>
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<td>King County Metro RapidRide H Line</td>
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*Project schedules subject to change

WHERE WE ARE NOW
...and where we’re going

City of Seattle
The Levy to MOVE SEATTLE
King County Flood Control District
APRIL 2020
60% DESIGN PHASE
WHAT WE HEARD for SW Kenyon St at 24th Ave SW

...and what we’re including in our design

- Fix the path so it’s not so muddy
- Add more lighting
- Improve visibility along the path
- Replace the bridge
- Make the path and bridge better for bikes, strollers, and wheelchairs
- Slow traffic down along 24th Ave SW and SW Kenyon St
- Remove the parking at the street end
WHAT TO EXPECT
How a typical NDS planting installation changes over time

BEFORE

NEWLY PLANTED

~1 year

GROWING

~5 years

MATURE
LONGFELLOW CREEK PATH

Potential NDS and Pathway Improvements
SW Kenyon St and 24th Ave SW

KEY

- NEW SIDEWALK, IMPROVED PATH
- BOARDWALK
- PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING
- NEW SHRUB PLANTING AREA
- NEW TREE
- PLANTING STRIP/LAWN RESTORATION
- UNDERDRAIN
- EXISTING DRAIN
- RELOCATED WATER MAIN
- NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM
- OVERFLOW FROM NDS AND NEW STORM DRAIN OUTFALL AT CREEK
- NEW BRIDGE
- NEW ACCESSIBLE CUR RAMP, TYP.
BOARDWALK DESIGN
for East side of 24th Ave SW & SW Kenyon St

SPU and SDOT are considering safety and environmental impacts when designing the boardwalk on the east side of the 24th & Kenyon site.
History of the SPU NDS 1% for the Arts Program

2017
1% for the Arts was selected for the SPU NDS project

2018
Portland artist Brian Borrello selected to design the installation at 24th Ave SW and SW Kenyon St.

2019
April 20
LibraryLab Earth Day Delridge

2019
July 16
30% Design Drop-in Session Community Feedback

2019
September 25
Art Pop-up Event

2019-2020
Engaged Chief Sealth art classes and gathered input

Community Space
Many community members would like the site to be a place they can spend time together.

Cleanliness + Maintenance
The community would like to see the site clear of bramble and mud as well as have litter and graffiti removed.

Safety
Safety is a priority for community members passing through the site.

Connecting
Community members would like the site to connect with the creek.
The artist’s goals are to make this place interesting for the community to visit and for the art to offer something unexpected, thought-provoking, and perhaps a little magical.

This site is where life forces are nourished by the creek, where neighbors can connect with each other while they pass through, and where community can experience the natural world and its often unseen processes.