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 2020-2021.

What is the NDS Partnering Program?

The 2016-2025 Natural Drainage Systems Partnering Program is a Seattle Public Utilities multi-year capital improvement program focused on Longfellow, Piper’s, and Thornton Creek watersheds.

The program’s goal is to construct street-side natural drainage systems that filter and manage stormwater and improve neighborhoods with street trees, traffic calming, and, in some cases, a limited number of sidewalks.

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
NOTES:

- All blue-shaded areas flow into Longfellow Creek.
- The dashed line of Longfellow Creek indicates where the creek is in a pipe.
The Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System (NDS) Project has completed preliminary planning and field investigations. At the 30% Design Phase we present potential street and drainage improvements to the community, answer questions, and gather community concerns as we work toward finalizing the project scope based on regulatory requirements and project funding.

30% INPUTS
- Neighborhood priorities
- Current drainage conditions
- Location of utilities
- Local topography + mature trees
- 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

We Are Here

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

A Healthier & Safer Longfellow Creek!

Final Inputs
- Accessibility impacts
- Construction costs + impacts
- Ongoing maintenance costs + responsibility
- Permitting requirements
- Construction questions
WHAT WE HEARD for SW Kenyon St at 24th Ave SW

you’d like to incorporate in NDS and path design

Fix the path so it’s not so muddy: 55
Add more lighting: 51
Clean up litter and garbage: 37
Improve visibility along the path: 25
Replace the bridge: 24
Plant new trees along the path: 24
Make the path and bridge better for bikes, strollers, wheelchairs: 18
Add places to sit: 14
Slow traffic down along 24th Ave SW and SW Kenyon St: 10
Other change (descriptions at right): 10
Add educational signs that explain importance of watershed: 10
Remove the parking at the street end: 6
No change is necessary: 0

- More police patrol
- Add a trash can
- Add street lights on SW Kenyon St
- Add covered seating to bench
- Double the amount of plants
- Concerned about fast turnout at 24th and Kenyon cul-de-sac
LONGFELLOW CREEK PATH

LONGFELLOW VIEW LOOKING EAST

LONGFELLOW VIEW LOOKING WEST

PERSPECTIVE B
SW Kenyon Street
Looking East from
24th Ave SW
Early Spring

PERSPECTIVE C
SW Kenyon Street
Looking West
Early Spring

POTENTIAL PATH LIGHTING (DEPENDENT ON BUDGET)
POTENTIAL NEW BRIDGE
POTENTIAL NEW RAISED WALKWAY
POTENTIAL PATH LIGHTING (DEPENDENT ON BUDGET)
POTENTIAL NEW BRIDGE
POTENTIAL NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM
LONGFELLOW CREEK PATH

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

KEY

- NEW ACCESSIBLE CURB RAMPS
- NEW SIDEWALK
- IMPROVED PATH
- RAISED WALKWAY
- NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM (NDS)
- PLANTING STRIP/LAWN RESTORATION

SECTION A-A'