Seattle Public Utilities

Improving Our Communities with Natural Drainage Systems

Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System (NDS) | 2019

What are they and 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 (NDS) 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 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









Anticipated Impacts to Residents

We will be coordinating with the nearby community throughout design and construction to make sure everyone knows the changes that will be made to the streets selected for NDS. We will coordinate on the below impacts with each impacted resident. At this time, we anticipate:

- NDS and sidewalk improvements may require some driveways to be restored to the City's 10 foot width standard in the public right-of-way
- On-street parking along 24th Ave SW between SW Barton St and SW Thistle St will transition to parallel parking
- Some gas lines, side sewers, and water utilities will need to be adjusted during construction
- Some mailboxes, fences, vegetation, and other structures may need to be relocated due to sidewalk, road, and NDS improvements





Questions? Contact Seattle Public Utilities:

Jonathan Brown | Project Manager Jonathan.Brown@seattle.gov | 206-386-4027 Learn more and sign up for project updates at: **seattle.gov/util/longfellowNDS** For interpretation services, please call 206-386-4027 如需要口譯服務, 請撥電話號碼 206-386-4027 통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-386-4027 으로 전화하세요 Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al 206-386-4027 Về dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi 206-386-4027