Welcome

Vine Basin CSO Control Project

Seattle Public Utilities

Thank you for attending the community open house for the Vine Basin CSO Control Project! Please visit our stations to learn about the project and speak with staff.

Feb. 6, 2019
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Can't stay for long?

Visit us online to share your thoughts on opportunities for community benefit by Feb. 13

VineBasinCSO.participate.online

Project Overview & Schedule

Combined sewer infrastructure in the Belltown neighborhood (the Vine Basin) is not up to current environmental standards and needs improvements to help protect the environment. The **Vine Basin Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Project** will make improvements to the combined wastewater and stormwater system in the Vine Basin to reduce the frequency of CSO events.

Between now and summer 2019, our technical team will evaluate options for improving the combined sewer system.

Once we determine a path forward, we will work towards final design and plan for construction as soon as 2022, pending regulatory input. Once underway, we anticipate construction will last 1-1.5 years.

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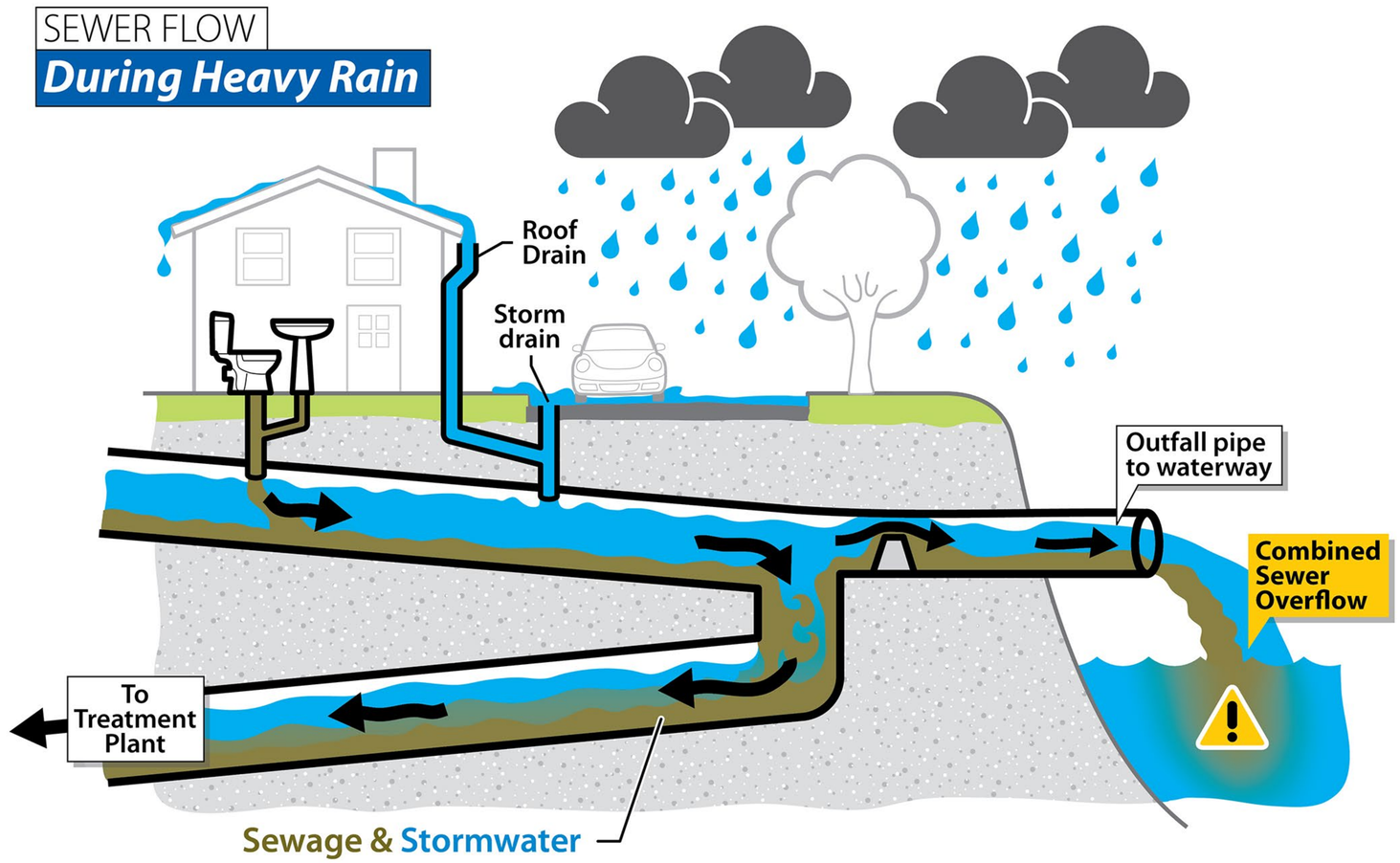
What is a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)?

Sewer pipes in Seattle carry sewage (wastewater) away from homes and buildings for treatment at King County's treatment plants before discharging into Puget Sound.

In some neighborhoods, like Belltown, the same sewer pipes also carry untreated rain water (stormwater) from roof and street drains. During heavy rains, if the amount of sewage and stormwater exceeds the sewer system capacity, the excess flows into nearby waterways through an outfall pipe.

These overflows can harm fish, wildlife, and swimmers. This is called a **combined sewer overflow (CSO)**.



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Exploring Options in Belltown

We're evaluating two primary approaches to decrease CSOs in the Vine Basin:

King County partnership involves sending more City sewer system flow to King County through a larger or additional connection to the King County Elliott Bay Interceptor Pipe.

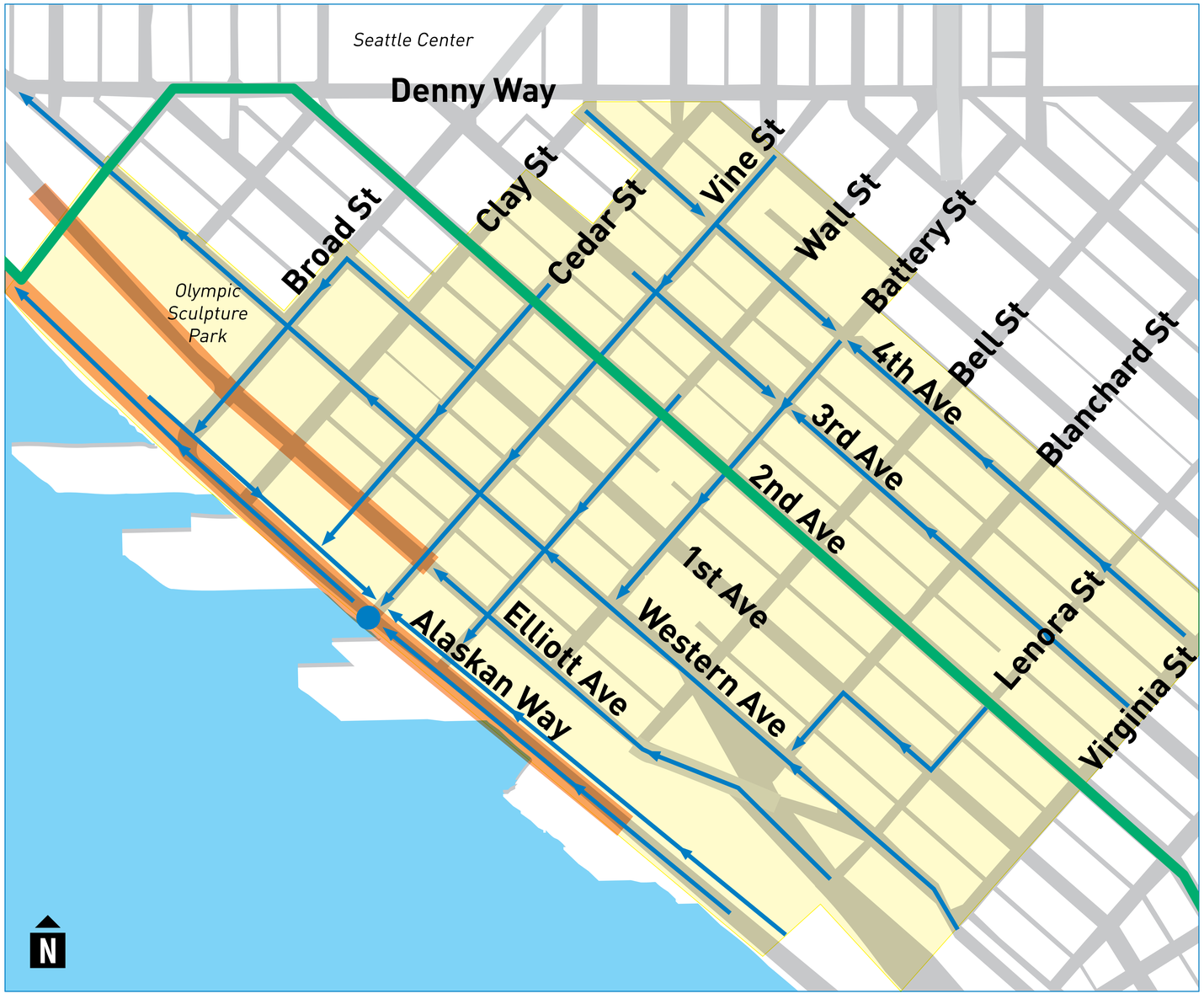
This option would:

- Require installing new pipe under City streets
- Immediately send combined sewer flows directly to King County treatment facilities

Storage involves construction of a new underground tank – in this case large diameter pipe – to store excess flow during big storms. This option would:

- Require installing underground tank and new pipes connecting the tank to the system
- Delay sending combined sewer flows to King County treatment facilities until there is capacity in King County's system

Project area map



Vine Basin

King County Elliott Bay Interceptor Connection

Existing SPU system

CSO Outfall

Possible construction impact area

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How We Will Choose a Preferred Option

Our technical team will evaluate each option using our triple bottom line analysis, which considers:

- **Social impacts**, such as potential for public benefit and race and social justice equity impacts
- **Environmental goals**, such as resources and land use
- **Financial feasibility**, including overall cost and available funding

We'll choose the option that performs best and move it forward to design.

What about Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)?

Green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) uses a combination of plants, trees, and soil, plus gray drainage infrastructure underneath the soil to mimic nature and manage stormwater where it falls.

The potential for GSI to help reduce CSOs in the Vine Basin is limited because of soil conditions, steep slopes, and the amount of existing development. Considering these limitations, we'll look at opportunities to incorporate GSI into the option we ultimately choose, but GSI won't be the primary solution we employ. We'll also look for opportunities to add new plants and trees in the neighborhood near the project site, even if it doesn't have a direct impact on CSO reduction for the Vine Basin.

Urban raingardens can help absorb small footprints of stormwater.

Cisterns provide some rainwater storage - the water can then be released later or used for other applications.

Existing GSI in the Vine Basin while this type of GSI does reduce surface runoff, it's not enough to reduce CSO events.

Tell Us: Opportunities for Community Benefits

As part of this project, we have the opportunity to incorporate small elements for community benefit in the neighborhood. The following represent a few possibilities. Place a sticker under the community benefit you would most like to see in the Belltown area and use a sticky-note to tell us more about what you'd like to see and where!

Which community benefit we ultimately install will depend on which option we select, budget, and what we hear from you.

Wayfinding
(let us know to where!)

Pedestrian safety
(lighting, wider sidewalks, etc.)

Greening

Installations
(seating, bike racks, public art, etc.)

Other possibilities
(write in)

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Tell Us Where!

What areas could use community benefit?

Place a sticky note on the map below with your comment.

Example:

This intersection could use more lighting!

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How to Stay Involved

Thank you for attending our community open house!

Share your feedback

Visit us online to share your thoughts on opportunities for community benefit by Feb. 13 if you didn't have time tonight.

VineBasinCSO.participate.online

Stay involved

Visit the Vine Basin CSO Control Project webpage to stay up to date and sign up to receive project updates.

www.seattle.gov/VineBasin

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