

Leschi Sewer Improvement Project

What are we doing in Leschi and Mount Baker?

The Leschi Sewer Improvement project is part of Seattle Public Utilities' effort to address a city-wide challenge of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) into our waterways. The project will reduce the number of sewer overflows into Lake Washington. The first sewer improvement project was completed in December 2014 with the replacement of an aging outfall pipe near Leschi Marina. Additional sewer improvements are planned for 2015.

Sewer Improvements | SPU will improve the sewer that runs under Lakeside Avenue South and Lake Washington Boulevard South in Leschi and Mount Baker. We plan to begin this project in mid-2015. Work will be done in phases and take approximately eight months to complete.

What problems are we solving?

Many Seattle neighborhoods have a sewer system that mixes raw sewage from our homes and businesses with polluted runoff from our roofs and streets in a single pipe – a “combined sewer.” During dry weather, sewage flows to the wastewater treatment plant. When it rains, polluted runoff overwhelms the pipe that carries raw sewage. The raw sewage and polluted runoff overflow into the nearest waterway. SPU must reduce the number of times this happens by improving the sewer system in parts of Seattle. We are required to limit each outfall to one overflow per year to meet state and federal requirements. It's also the right thing to do to protect our waterways and sustain our quality of life.

Where will we work?

The sections of the sewer system that we will replace run under Lakeside Avenue South and Lake Washington Boulevard South in Seattle's Leschi neighborhood. The maps above show where we will reline some sections and replace others.

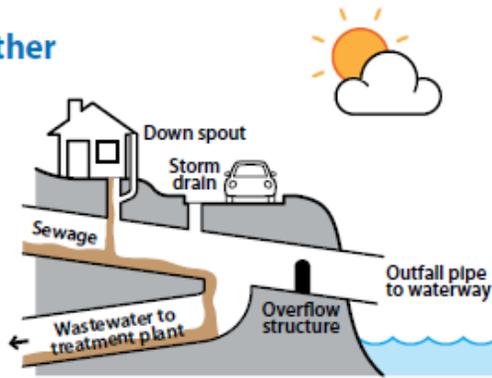


Seattle Public Utilities will use two construction methods: sewer replacement and sewer relining. The sewer replacement work will require a southbound lane closure during daytime work hours. The relining method will not require a full lane closure, but will require temporary traffic disruptions during daytime work hours.

Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs): How do they work?

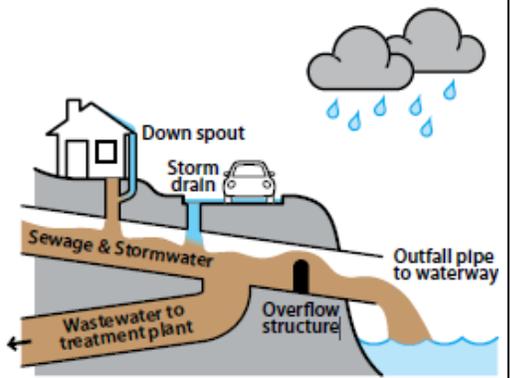
Dry Weather

During dry weather, sewage flows to the wastewater treatment plant.



Wet Weather

When it rains, polluted runoff overwhelms the pipe that carries raw sewage. The raw sewage and polluted runoff overflow into the nearest waterway.



How will our work affect the neighborhood?

Leschi residents, Mt. Baker residents, and people who use Lakeside Avenue South and Lake Washington Boulevard South can expect street lane closures, changes to pedestrian and bicycle routes, temporary loss of street parking, construction noise, and dust. We at Seattle Public Utilities understand that construction is inconvenient. We will work hard to keep you informed about the work we're doing and how it will affect you.

We will use two construction methods: sewer replacement and sewer relining. The replacement option will require closure of the southbound lane during work hours, anticipated as 8:00 am—5:00 pm, Monday—Friday. However, the area will be controlled by a flagger to allow two-way traffic. The reline option is less impactful but will still require intermittent traffic disruptions during work hours.

What is the timeline for the work?

Construction will begin in mid-2015 and take approximately eight months to complete. The work will be done in phases, and updates will be provided regularly via the project listserv below.

Stay in touch

Sign up to receive email updates from us:
<http://www.seattle.gov/lists/leschi.htm>

Visit the project website:
www.seattle.gov/util/LeschiBasin

More questions?

Sewer Improvement

Contact Luis Ramirez, Project Manager
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Sewer relining | We will replace the inside lining of four sections – totaling a half mile – of the existing sewer without digging a trench to access the entire pipe. We will use existing maintenance holes, located at the ends of each section, to insert a new lining from one end to the other without affecting streets and trees.



Sewer replacement | We will dig a trench to replace four other sections – totaling one third of a mile – of the sewer system that is too old for us to reline. Crews will dig up and replace sections of Lakeside Avenue South and Lake Washington Boulevard South.