



**City of Seattle**  
Seattle Public Utilities

**Delridge Natural Drainage System (NDS) Project**  
**SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

Description of Proposal

The Delridge NDS Project would construct infiltrating raingardens (bioretention cells) along up to 17 blocks (one block equals approximately 330 feet). These raingardens would be located primarily within existing planting strip areas located within City of Seattle street rights-of-way. The existing planting strips would be converted from landscaped, lawn, or impervious areas to vegetated bioretention cells and upland planting areas.

The raingardens would be designed to receive stormwater that currently flows in roadway gutters to combined sewer inlets. The raingardens would include bioretention soil to provide water quality treatment. Raingarden cross sections would be based on the widths of existing plantings strips and, in some locations, additional width would be provided at curb bulbs. The raingardens would have sloped sides or vertical walls and flat or gently sloping bottoms.

The project would include two general types of raingarden designs: 1) Planting Strip Raingardens and 2) Curb Bulb-out Planting Strip Raingardens. The curb bulb-out design typically would be used for traffic calming and improved pedestrian and bicyclist sightlines at select locations, typically near intersections. All raingardens would be located to avoid existing driveways, historic/significant trees (if any), hydrants, and utilities where possible. Only the Planting Strip Raingardens would include passenger loading areas.

Inlet curb cuts would be installed to route stormwater flow from the roadway gutter to the raingardens. Outlet curb cuts would be installed on the downstream end of the raingardens to allow conveyance of excess flows (during high flow events) via roadway gutter to the nearest down-gradient existing combined sewer inlet.

Based on results of continuing geotechnical analyses, some or all of the raingardens may be constructed using underdrains and geotechnical liners that would convey collected water to pit drains (up to 12 feet deep for shallow infiltration); vertically drilled drains (25 to 35 feet deep for medium deep infiltration); or gravity-driven underground injection control wells (UICs) (35 to 80 feet deep for deep infiltration). Pit drains are shallow, vertical drains constructed by digging a hole through naturally layered or interbedded sediments and then backfilling the excavation with free-draining materials such as pea gravel. UIC wells would not be used unless pit drains and drilled drains are found to be infeasible, as determined by ongoing geotechnical analysis and groundwater monitoring.

In addition, the project would construct pedestrian and safety improvements such as curb ramps where required. Certain utilities such as side sewers and natural gas mains may need to be relocated or replaced during construction.

Proponent

Seattle Public Utilities  
Seattle Municipal Tower Suite 4900  
P.O. Box 34018  
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

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### Location of Proposal

The project is located within the Delridge neighborhood of the City of Seattle, King County, Washington, and is located entirely within improved street rights-of-way (generally 60 feet wide) in existing 10 to 12 foot wide planting strips and adjacent parking lanes. The project is located within Section 31, Township 24N and Range 4E, and Section 36, Township 24N and Range 3E. The following blocks may be affected:

- 17th Avenue Southwest: 7900 through 8800 blocks
- Southwest Henderson Street: 1600 and 1700 blocks
- Southwest Trenton Street: 1600 block
- Southwest Cloverdale: 1600 block
- Southwest Thistle Street: 1600 block
- Southwest Elmgrove Street: 1600 block
- Southwest Kenyon Street: 1500 and 1600 blocks

The project may also construct pedestrian and safety improvements (such as curb ramps) at the intersection of 16th Avenue Southwest and Southwest Kenyon Street. Neither the specific intersection improvements nor the number, location, and design of the raingardens have been finalized.

### Lead Agency

Seattle Public Utilities, the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This Determination of Non-significance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen (14) days from the date below.

A copy of the environmental checklist is available at:

- Seattle Public Utilities, Director's Office Main Reception Area, Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900, 700 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, Washington
- Seattle Central Library, Public Review Documents, Level 5 Reference
- [www.seattle.gov/cso/delridge](http://www.seattle.gov/cso/delridge)

### Public and Agency Comments

Comments must be submitted by November 6, 2014 and must be sent to:

Betty Meyer, SEPA Responsible Official  
Seattle Public Utilities  
Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900  
P.O. Box 34018  
Seattle, WA 98124-4018  
[betty.meyer@seattle.gov](mailto:betty.meyer@seattle.gov)

Signature:

  
Betty Meyer

Issue Date: October 23, 2014

## Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by an \$85.00 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on November 13, 2014. Delivery of appeals filed by any form of USPS mail service may be delayed by several days. Allow extra time if mailing an appeal.

- Written appeals must be sent to:  
City of Seattle Hearing Examiner  
700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Suite 4000  
P.O. Box 94729  
Seattle, WA 98124-4729
- Appeals can be filed electronically. Details on electronic filing procedures are available under “e-File” at the Office of the Hearing Examiner’s web site: <http://www.seattle.gov/examiner/>
- Filing fees must be paid by the appeal deadline and can be paid *via* check (made payable to the City of Seattle) or credit/debit card (Visa and MasterCard only). Credit/debit card payments can be made in-person or over-the-phone.

You should be prepared to make specific factual objections. Please refer to the Hearing Examiner Rules of Practice and Procedure for rules that govern appeals. These rules are available on the Hearing Examiner’s website at [www.seattle.gov/examiner/rules-toc.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/examiner/rules-toc.htm) or by calling 206-684-0521.

For interpretation services please call **206-233-1086**

Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al **206-233-1086**

**Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa 206-233-1086**

**Về dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi 206-233-1086**