



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

May 12, 2016

TO: Recipients of the Project SEPA DNS/Checklist

FROM: Betty Meyer, SEPA Responsible Official

SUBJECT: Addendum to the Northwest 120th Street and 9th Avenue Northwest Outfall and Drainage Improvements Project SEPA Environmental Checklist and DNS

PURPOSE OF THIS ADDENDUM

In February of 2016, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) prepared a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist that analyzed environmental impacts of the proposed Northwest 120th Street and 9th Avenue Northwest Outfall and Drainage Improvements Project. As lead agency for SEPA, SPU issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for the project on February 11, 2016.

As described in the February 2016 Environmental Checklist, the proposed project would resolve localized flooding issues in the project area by installing approximately 580 linear feet of new 18 inch diameter pipe and associated maintenance hole structures and catch basins in the rights-of-way for Northwest 120th Street and 9th Avenue Northwest (Attachment A). The project would also replace an existing temporary stormwater outfall pipe that discharges to Mohlendorph Creek, a tributary of Pipers Creek. At the time the DNS was issued, the project also anticipated reshaping and vegetating approximately 180 linear feet of the existing ditch on the north side of Northwest 120th Street between 7th Avenue Northwest and the alley to the east of 7th Avenue Northwest (Attachment B). The ditch is currently lined with asphalt, which would be removed during the reshaping activity and replaced with grass.

The purpose of this addendum is to describe proposed revisions to the ditch system improvements along Northwest 120th Street. The proposed (revised) location of the ditch improvements is as follows:

1. Approximately 110 linear feet of the existing ditch on the north side of Northwest 120th Street between 7th Avenue Northwest and the alley to the east of 7th Avenue Northwest would be improved, instead of the 180 linear feet described in the Environmental Checklist (Attachment B); and
2. An additional 431 linear feet of ditch would be improved [including 240 linear feet on the north side of Northwest 120th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues Northwest; 58 linear feet of ditch on the south side of Northwest 120th Street in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of Northwest 120th Street and 8th Avenue Northwest; and 133 linear feet on the north side of Northwest 120th Street in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Northwest 120th Street and 9th Avenue Northwest] (Attachment B).

Ditch improvements would include removal of the existing asphalt lining, reshaping the ditch profile (as needed), amending soils in the ditch, installing quarry spall check dams to reduce the risk of ditch scouring, installing coir fabric for temporary erosion control, and hydroseeding the ditches with grass.

In addition, this addendum discloses minor design modifications that have occurred during the course of normal project design development. These include the following:

1. Four new maintenance hole structures would be installed, instead of three as described in the Environmental Checklist;
2. Two inlets/junction boxes would be installed to replace two existing junction boxes, instead of the five catch basins described in the Environmental Checklist; and
3. Approximately 110 linear feet (LF) of 20 inch diameter pipe, 460 LF of 18 inch diameter pipe, 20 LF of 16 inch diameter pipe, and 30 LF of 12 inch diameter pipe would be installed, instead of the approximately 580 LF of 18 inch diameter pipe described in the Environmental Checklist.

SPU has prepared this SEPA Addendum to document these changes in the project and to assess how these changes affect analyses in the February 2016 Environmental Checklist.

As lead agency, SPU has reviewed the analysis and findings and has concluded the project changes do not substantially alter the analyses of impacts contained in the February 2016 Environmental Checklist and will not result in any significant environmental impacts. This Addendum has been prepared in accordance with the authority provided in Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.600 and in accordance with the procedures described in SMC 25.05.625.

CHANGES TO ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Environmental Checklist Section B3: Water

The proposed 361 linear feet of net additional ditch improvement along Northwest 120th Street would replace an estimated 1,000 square feet of the existing asphalt lining with grass and rock check dams. The change would result in a slight temporary increase in the area of disturbed ground, which would be susceptible to erosion until the hydroseed grass mix became established. The change also would result in a slight permanent reduction in existing impervious surface area in the project area and would increase beneficial detention and treatment of stormwater conveyed by those improved ditches. The specific characteristics of these benefits to water quality and flows have not been modeled or otherwise quantified, but are anticipated to improve water quality and slightly reduce peak flows in the stormwater delivered to Mohlendorph Creek.

Please submit any comments no later than close of business May 27, 2016, to:

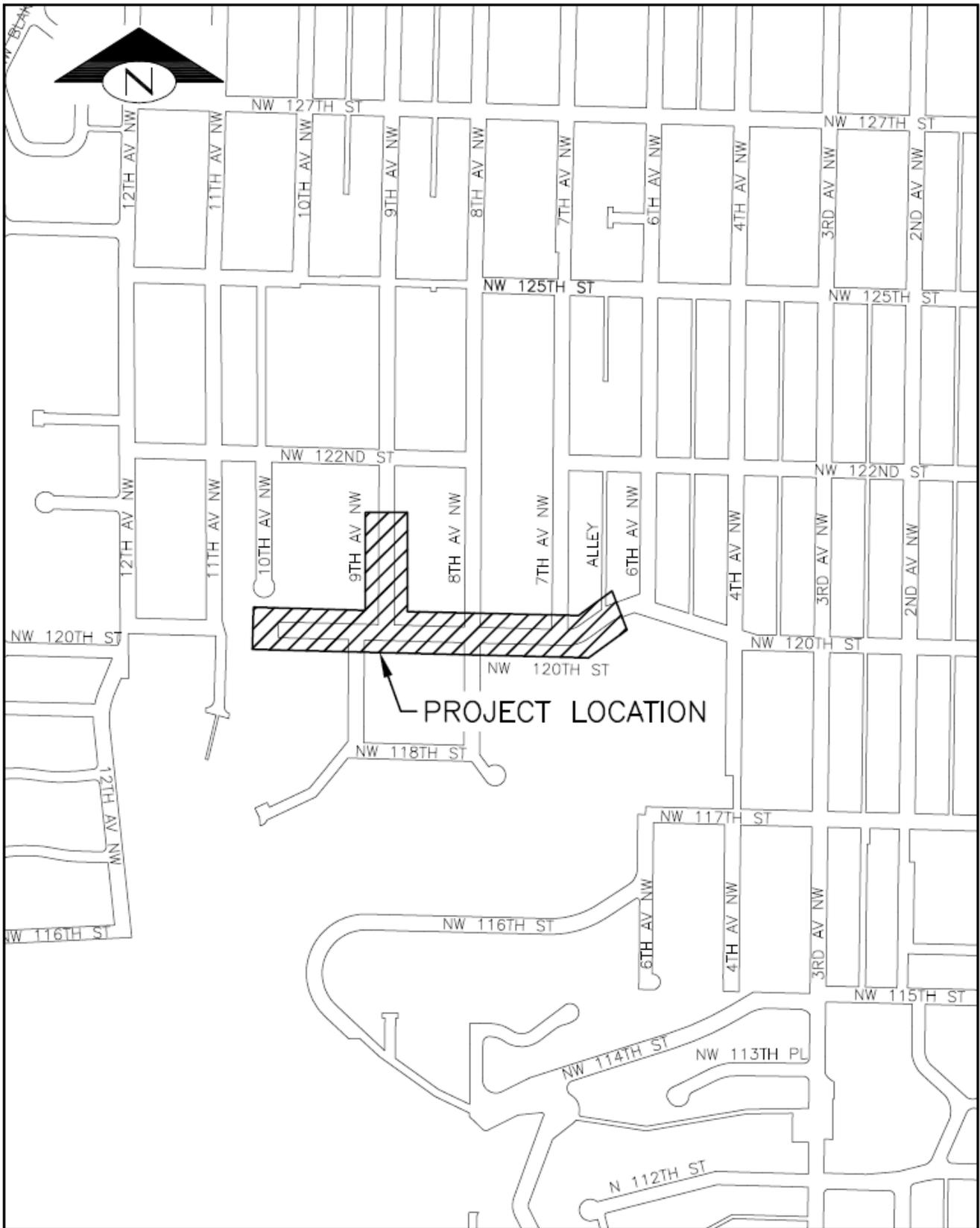
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Signature: 

Issue Date: May 12, 2016

For interpretation services please call **206-233-1086**
Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al **206-233-1086**

ATTACHMENT A: Site Map



ATTACHMENT B: Location of Originally Proposed and Currently Proposed Ditch Improvements

