



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

Northeast 93rd Street Culvert Repair
SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

Description of Proposal

The culvert conveying Thornton Creek under Northeast 93rd Street has been identified as among the City's most at-risk culverts for failure. The structure is a concrete 3-sided box culvert with footings and wingwalls and measures approximately 7 feet tall by 10 feet wide by 35 feet long. The culvert has no bottom surface and only modest footings. The roadway surface of Northeast 93rd Street on top of the culvert is about 8 feet above the bed of Thornton Creek. The culvert is believed to have been constructed in the early 1930s.

The culvert has documented structural deficiencies caused primarily by erosive forces of Thornton Creek that have undermined culvert footings and eroded away the bottom of the channel through the culvert. As a result, the culvert is demonstrating obvious structural fatigue. Structural evaluations suggest the culvert is subject to high risk of catastrophic failure especially during larger storm events. Consequences of such failure are high and could include possible loss of human life, property damage, and environmental damage. Because implementation of a culvert replacement project would require a multi-year process, SPU is planning to proceed with a repair that would immediately stabilize the culvert and extend its lifespan for 10 to 20 years.

The project would install five steel H-piles (minimum 35 feet long), set vertically and adjacent to the east wall of the culvert, and would fasten the culvert wall to the piles. Each pile would be installed by drilling a large-diameter shaft through the Northeast 93rd Street roadway, casing the lower third of each shaft, inserting the pile, filling the lower third of the shaft with concrete density fill or concrete, temporarily backfilling the upper two-thirds of the shaft with gravel, and temporarily patching the roadway with asphalt or covered the area with steel plate. The work would move from one pile to the next, repeating the process until all piles have been so installed.

Then, the temporary gravel fill at each pile would be excavated and steel through-rods would be installed through the pile and culvert wall and fastened tight. The remaining open shaft would be filled with structural concrete. All piles would be treated individually in this fashion. When one pile was completed, the roadway area above would be temporarily patched with asphalt or covered with steel plate. The work would then move to the next pile to repeat the process until all piles have been so treated. Once all piles have been fastened to the culvert wall and their shafts filled with concrete, the roadway would be restored.

The repaired culvert would continue to be inspected as appropriate, most likely once or twice per year over its remaining lifespan.

Proponent

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Seattle, WA 98124-4018

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An equal employment opportunity, affirmative action employer. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided on request.

Location of Proposal

The culvert is located within the improved street right-of-way of Northeast 93rd Street, approximately 150 feet east of Sand Point Way Northeast and near Matthews Beach Park. There is no street address for this project. It is approximately 1,000 feet upstream of the Thornton Creek confluence with Lake Washington. The project is in the Matthews Beach neighborhood in the City of Seattle, King County (zip code 98115). The project location is in the southeast quarter of Section 34, Township 26N, Range 4E and within the Cedar/Sammamish Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA 8).

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

Public and Agency Comments

Comments must be submitted by April 18, 2013 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

Signature: 
Betty Meyer

Issue Date: April 4, 2013

Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by a \$85.00 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on April 25, 2013.

- Written appeals must be sent to:
City of Seattle Hearing Examiner
700 5th 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 or by calling 206-684-0521.

For interpretation services please call **206-386-4195**

如需要口譯服務，請撥電話號碼 **206-386-4195**