

What is the Thornton Creek Confluence?

Thornton Creek is made up of 18 miles of urban waterways flowing from Shoreline through northeast Seattle into Lake Washington. It is the largest watershed in Seattle and home to more than 200,000 people and a diversity of plants and animals. Specifically, Thornton Creek provides habitat for many species of fish, including endangered salmon and trout.

The Thornton Creek Confluence is a flat area just upstream from Meadowbrook Pond where the north and south branches of Thornton Creek combine.

In recent years, frequent flooding has affected a number of nearby homes, Nathan Hale High School and the Meadowbrook Community Center, and has occasionally closed 35th Ave. N.E. Restoring the **floodplain** surrounding Thornton Creek will increase the area where flood waters can safely be held during storms.

Seattle Public Utilities is improving the Thornton Creek Confluence to reduce upstream flooding and downstream flows. As a result, the confluence area will benefit from:

- A new 2-acre floodplain and meandering channel for the existing creek
- A new larger culvert under 35th Ave. N.E.
- Improved wildlife habitat with native riparian plantings including over 600 new trees and 3,800 new shrubs
- Removal of invasive plants on the stream bank and floodplain

Overall, this project will help restore water quality, improve fish and wildlife habitat, reduce local flooding, and prepare for other flood reduction projects in the future.



Project area

35th Ave N.E. looking east over Thornton Creek floodplain



After initial construction

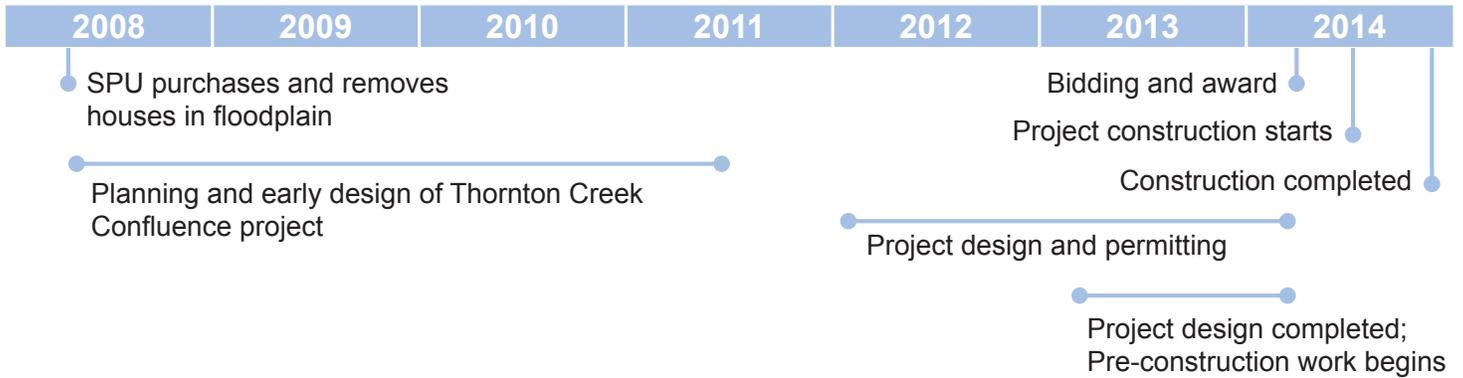


3 years after completion



10 years after completion

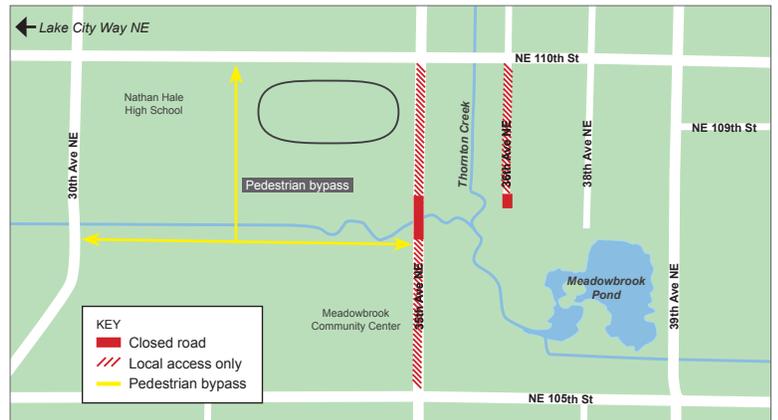
Project timeline



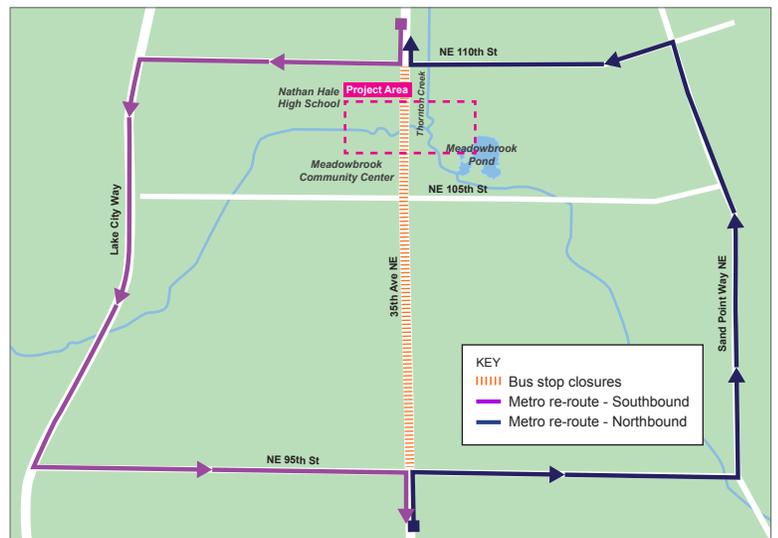
What to expect during construction

Construction is planned to begin in May 2014 and should take approximately four to six months to complete. During that time, anticipated temporary impacts will include:

- Closure of 35th Ave. N.E. with pedestrian and Metro bus re-routes. Advance detour information will be provided.
- Noise and machinery in the project area. *Please stay clear of moving trucks and heavy equipment and keep out of fenced areas.*
- Restricted access to Meadowbrook Pond from 36th Ave. N.E. The Pond will remain open and accessible from the east, west and south.
- Removal of approximately 108 existing trees, including 11 street trees on 35th Ave N.E. More than 600 new trees will be planted as part of the project.



Local construction impacts



Metro re-routes

Stay in touch

We are happy to answer questions and provide any information you need to be prepared for construction.

Questions or comments

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To learn more and stay informed

Visit the project website at: www.seattle.gov/util/meadowbrookthorntoncreek