IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITIES
with Natural Drainage Systems (NDS) and Pedestrian Improvements

What are Natural Drainage Systems?

When it rains in the Delridge and Westwood neighborhoods, pollution from our streets runs into Longfellow Creek untreated. This is not healthy for the creek or for people. The good news is: there is something we can do.

Natural Drainage Systems consist of shallow depressions built in the roadway shoulder (the space between the street edge and the property line) and are filled with deep-rooted plants and spongy soils that temporarily hold and clean polluted stormwater from streets. These features capture and clean pollutants before they can reach Longfellow Creek.

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is planning to build natural drainage systems in your neighborhood in 2021. We are partnering with Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), Office of Arts & Culture 1% for the arts, and King County Flood Control District.

Community benefits

Natural Drainage Systems offer multiple benefits to local neighborhoods and ecosystems, including:

- Increased landscaping
- Lower risk of flooding
- Creation of habitat along our streets
- Healthier creek ecosystems
- Traffic calming
- More street trees
- Pedestrian improvements
WHERE WE ARE NOW
...and where we’re going

We are working to finalize the design for the Longfellow Creek NDS project. Construction on this multisite project is scheduled to begin in mid-2021 and go through 2022.

See below for estimated construction timeline for each project site.

Sylvan/Orchard: Approx. 5-6 months

Kenyon/24th Street End: 11-12 months

24th Ave SW Corridor: 11-12 months

In general, when work is occurring near your home you can expect construction noise, dirt/dust, and vibrations as well as increased construction traffic and materials/equipment staged in the right-of-way. We will share more information about anticipated start date for work on this site, construction schedule, and anticipated construction impacts once we have a contractor onboard.
WHAT TO EXPECT
How a typical NDS planting installation changes over time

BEFORE

NEWLY PLANTED

~1 year

GROWING

~5 years

MATURE
Typical existing street conditions

Typical proposed street conditions

*Street conditions vary along 24th Ave SW Corridor

New Sidewalk + Natural Drainage System
between SW Cloverdale St and SW Barton Pl

PLANTING STRIP WITH NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM

EAST Right-of-Way

W EST Right-of-Way

PARKING 2-WAY TRAVEL PARKING

SIDEWALK

New Sidewalk + Planting Strip
between SW Cloverdale St and SW Barton Pl

NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM

EAST Right-of-Way

W EST Right-of-Way

PARKING 2-WAY TRAVEL PARKING

SIDEWALK

Natural Drainage System Opposite New Sidewalk
between SW Cloverdale St and SW Barton Pl

EAST Right-of-Way

W EST Right-of-Way

2-WAY TRAVEL PARKING SIDEWALK

New Sidewalk between SW Thistle St and SW Cloverdale St*

*NOTE: SW Thistle St / SW Cloverdale St sidewalk is subject to funding availability. See plan for detailed layouts.

*NOTE: SW Thistle St / SW Cloverdale St sidewalk is subject to funding availability. See plan for detailed layouts.
What’s in store for the 24th Ave SW Corridor?

24th Ave SW between SW Cloverdale St and SW Trenton St

Sidewalk view looking South

24th Ave SW between SW Barton St and SW Henderson St

Street view looking North, early summer
24th Ave SW: Thistle to Cloverdale

Potential Natural Drainage Systems and Sidewalk Improvements

NEW ACCESSIBLE CURB RAMP, TYP

NO ON-STREET PARKING ON EAST SIDE OF STREET IN ROADWAY

NEW SIDEWALK AND CURB AND GUTTER ON WEST SIDE OF STREET WITH ON-STREET PARALLEL PARKING

NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM

KEY

- SIDEWALK
- ILLUSTRATION MARKER
- 10' WIDE CITY STANDARD DRIVEWAY ACROSS SIDEWALK
- NEW STORM DRAINAGE PIPES
- NEW STREET TREE
- PLANTING STRIP
- MULCH
- ROAD WIDENING AND NEW CURB ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE STREET PER PLANS. THE FULL EXTENTS OF EXISTING PAVEMENT REPAIR AND RESTORATION ARE NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.
24th Ave SW: Cloverdale to Trenton

Potential Natural Drainage Systems and Sidewalk Improvements
24th Ave SW: Trenton to Henderson
Potential Natural Drainage Systems and Sidewalk Improvements

KEY
- SIDEWALK
- ILLUSTRATION MARKER
- 10' WIDE CITY STANDARD DRIVEWAY ACROSS SIDEWALK
- NEW STORM DRAINAGE PIPES
- NEW STREET TREE
- MULCH
- ROAD WIDENING AND NEW CURB ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDE OF THE STREET PER PLANS. THE FULL EXTENT OF EXISTING PAVEMENT REPAIR AND RESTORATION ARE NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.
24th Ave SW: Henderson to Barton

Potential Natural Drainage Systems and Sidewalk Improvements

**KEY**
- SIDEWALK
- ILLUSTRATION MARKER
- 10' WIDE CITY STANDARD DRIVEWAY ACROSS SIDEWALK
- NEW STORM DRAINAGE PIPES
- MULCH
- NEW STREET TREE
- NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM (NDS)
- PLANTING STRIP
- ROAD WIDENING AND NEW CURB ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDE OF THE STREET PER PLANS. THE FULL EXTENT OF EXISTING PAVEMENT REPAIR AND RESTORATION ARE NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.