

**Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System
SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

Description of Proposal

The Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System (NDS) Project (hereafter, “Project” or “proposal”) is located along multiple blocks in three sites in the lower half of the Longfellow Creek watershed in southwest Seattle. The watershed starts around SW Barton Street to the south and drains northward. Longfellow Creek confluences with Puget Sound north of SW Spokane Street. The Project would provide water quality treatment for stormwater runoff from streets that drain to Longfellow Creek by retrofitting these roadways with a NDS (also referred to as bioretention cells) while partnering with SDOT to deliver new sidewalks and pathways in street ROW. Partnering allows SPU and SDOT to share costs while providing multiple, shared benefits.

The Project would retrofit the ROW with roadside bioretention cells either in the planting strip adjacent to travel or parking lanes or in non-linear areas of the ROW. Bioretention cells would provide water quality treatment for untreated stormwater runoff that currently discharges to Longfellow Creek. After stormwater runoff has filtered through the plants and soil media in bioretention cells that water would infiltrate into native soil. In areas where conditions are unsuitable for infiltration into native soil, bioretention cells would be lined to prevent infiltration and treated water would collect in underdrains and discharge to the piped stormwater conveyance system. Where sites overlap with SDOT mobility goals, sidewalk or pathways would be provided. Also, after construction, facilities at all three sites would have regular operation, monitoring, and maintenance activity such as vegetation management and sediment removal from storm drain structures.

A brief summary of the three Project sites follows; details are provided in the SEPA checklist:

1. 24th Avenue SW Corridor: Work would occur in a four-block corridor along 24th Avenue SW from SW Barton Place to SW Thistle Street. Work would include road widening; addition of bioretention cells; installation of a new sidewalk and planting strips; and adjustments to storm drains, utilities, pavement, curb ramps, driveway curb cuts, and street elements.
2. Kenyon Site: Work would occur on SW Kenyon Street starting from approximately 200 feet west of the intersection with 24th Avenue SW, across Longfellow Creek, to the SW Kenyon Street street-end on the east side of Longfellow Creek. Work would include a new pedestrian pathway, installation of a new pedestrian bridge across Longfellow Creek, addition of bioretention cells, and adjustments to storm drains, utilities, curbs, and curb ramps. Work would also include wetland mitigation for wetland and watercourse impacts.
3. Sylvan Site: Work would occur in the Sylvan Way SW and SW Orchard Street intersection and adjacent right-of-way areas. Work would include installation of one or two bioretention cells and associated drainage pipes and structures.

Proponent

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

Location of Proposal

The Project is in the South Delridge and Westwood neighborhoods of the City of Seattle, King County, Washington and is located entirely in the following street ROWs:

- 24th Avenue SW from SW Barton Place to SW Thistle Street
- SW Kenyon Street from 200 feet west of the intersection 24th Avenue SW to the existing street-end on the east side of Longfellow Creek
- The Sylvan Way SW and SW Orchard Street intersection and adjacent right-of-way areas

The Project is in Section 36, Township 24N, Range 3E.

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 issuance date below.

A copy of the environmental checklist is available at:

- Seattle Public Utilities, General Manager/CEO's Office Main Reception Area, Seattle Municipal Tower, Suite 4900, 700 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, Washington
- Seattle Central Library, Public Review Documents, Level 5 Reference
- Online at <https://www.seattle.gov/utilities/environment-and-conservation/projects/longfellow-creek-natural-drainage-system>

Public and Agency Comments

Comments on this DNS must be submitted by January 6, 2020 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: December 23, 2019

Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by an \$85.00 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on January 13, 2020. 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 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) 386-4027**

Wixii turjubaan afka ah ku saabsan, Fadlan la soo xariir taleefoonka **(206) 386-4027**

Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al **(206) 386-4027**

Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa **(206) 386-4027**

Về dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi **(206) 386-4027**