

Frequently Asked Questions

Seward Park Combined Sewer Overflow Reduction

Project Construction

Why is Seattle Public Utilities doing this project?

Sewers in the project area carry raw sewage away from the neighborhood for treatment at King County's treatment plants before discharge to Puget Sound. When it rains, these same sewers also carry untreated stormwater from neighborhood roofs, foundation drains, and some streets. During heavy rains, if the amount of raw sewage and stormwater exceeds the sewer system capacity, the excess overflows through outfalls into Lake Washington. The term for these overflows is "Combined Sewer Overflows," or CSOs, and they are a public health and environmental concern. **The goal of the North Henderson Project is to reduce the number of these sewage overflows from the project area so that this area complies with regulatory standards.** The project area is located in southeast Seattle and includes Seward Park in Basin 44 and Martha Washington Park in Basin 45.

What are some construction impacts I can expect?

SPU's project team is working to minimize impacts where possible and create a safe work zone within Seward Park. The construction activities and impacts to park use will vary by season and the type of construction underway. Information will be provided regularly during the construction period via website and listserv updates. General impacts include:

- Closure of the tennis courts and tennis court parking lot during construction (Early 2015 – mid-2017).
- Regular work hours are expected to be between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Certain activities will require the construction team to work longer hours, or on Saturdays.
- Increased truck and construction vehicle traffic at entrance of Seward Park and nearby streets.
- Closure of some nearby areas of Lake Washington during in-water construction work.
- Noise, dust, and vibration during construction activities.

What is the construction schedule?

Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2015 and will be complete in mid-2017. The construction area, including tennis courts and tennis courts parking lot, will be closed to public use during this period and will be re-built following construction.

What can I expect during construction?

At various times and with varying intensity, you can expect machinery, some increased noise, mud, vibration, and dust in and near the project area, most of which will be confined to the construction site but some of which might impact neighborhoods and/or portions of Seward Park. For your safety, please stay away from construction trucks and equipment. The best way to stay informed on the latest construction schedule is to check the project website or sign up for our email listserv at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/cso/northhenderson>.

How will traffic be impacted?

There will be increased truck and construction vehicle traffic at the entrance of Seward Park and nearby streets during work hours. Parking within Seward Park will also be impacted as the tennis court parking lot will not be available. The tennis court parking lot offers 28 parking spaces. It will be reopened once construction is complete.

How can I be notified of changes to the construction schedule?

Please sign up for our email listserv to receive the most up-to-date information about construction and anticipated impacts: <http://www.seattle.gov/cso/northhenderson>.

What is the sequence of construction activities?

The schedule and sequence of construction activities is currently planned as follows:

- Mobilization, electrical service, & site demolition: Early 2015
- Site piping & buried vaults Mid 2015
- Shoring & excavation for CSO tank 2015 –2016
- Outfall pipe replacement 2015
- Concrete for CSO storage tank 2016
- Shoreline enhancement 2016
- Mechanical, electrical, testing, & site finishes 2016 –2017

Will Seward Park remain open during construction?

Seward Park will remain open during construction, however the tennis courts and tennis court parking lot will be closed during this period. The tennis courts and parking lot will be re-built following construction.

What's the best way to get to Seward Park during construction?

The main entrance to Seward Park will remain open during construction, but you will not be able to access the tennis court parking lot.

What about pedestrian safety as they walk to and around Seward Park?

There will be minimal impacts to pedestrians during construction. Most notably, the tennis courts and area south of the tennis courts will be unavailable during construction. A guard attendant will be at the construction entrance to help direct pedestrian and automotive traffic, as well as answer any questions during work hours. There will also be occasional traffic delays – both pedestrian and automotive – when trucks enter and exit the construction site, but traffic will be safely directed by flaggers.

Will bus routes or bicycle routes be impacted in this area?

There are no anticipated impacts to bus routes or bicycle routes in this area while construction is underway.

More questions?

Sign up to receive email updates from us at the project website:
<http://www.seattle.gov/cso/northhenderson>.

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