Taylor Creek Culvert Replacement Project

Seattle Design Commission,
September 21, 2017

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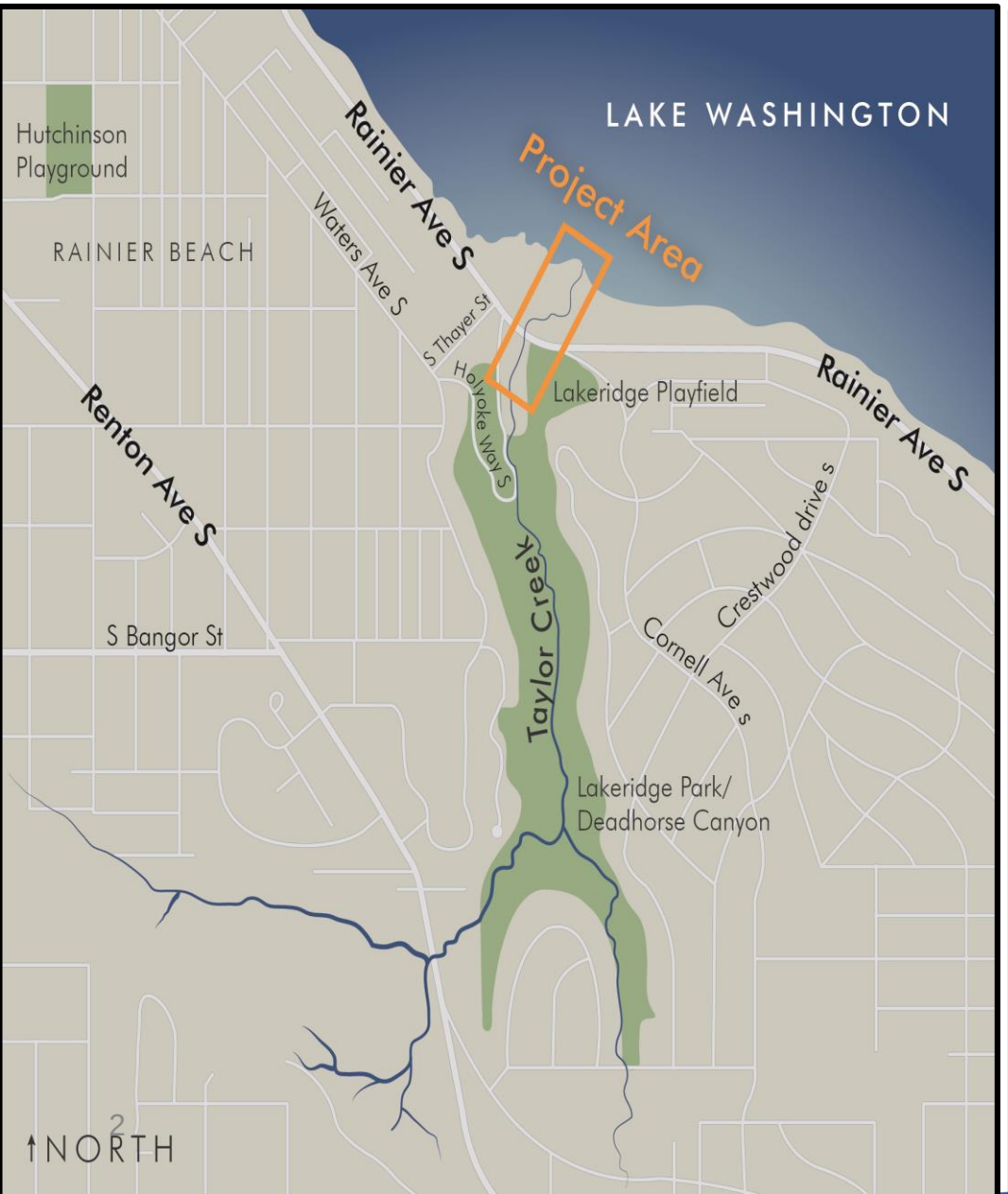
Project overview



Project area demographics

Southeast Seattle is more ethnically diverse than most areas of Seattle.

- 32% Asian decent
- 28% White
- 25% Black
- 8% Hispanic
- 6% Multi-racial

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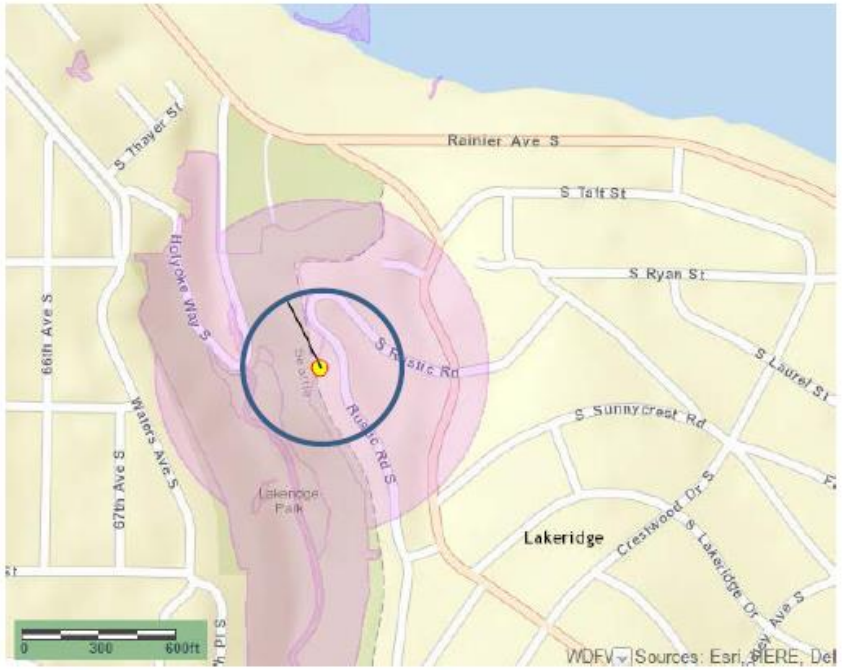
Local wildlife

- A variety of fish species can be found in Lake Washington including Chinook salmon, Bull Trout, Steelhead, Sockeye salmon, Coho salmon and Cutthroat Trout.
- A bald eagle breeding area is listed in Deadhorse Canyon near the project site, approximately 500 feet from the upstream weir proposed for modification in Lakeridge Park.



Map showing mapped bald eagle breeding area (yellow point), as well as WDFW management buffers of 200 m (purple) and 100 m (blue). Source: WDFW electronic reference

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Why Taylor Creek?

Project goals

- Improve the creek channel and surrounding habitat
- Improve fish passage
- Address storm-related sediment deposition at the mouth of the creek to the extent feasible
- Provide public access to the new natural area north of Rainier Avenue South
- Construct corridor safety improvements in coordination with the Seattle Department of Transportation

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What we've done so far

- **Identified project needs** – defined they key problems the project should address
- **Acquired project area** – purchased property at the lower reaches of Taylor Creek
- **Compiled potential solutions** – identified 26 planning concepts
- **Performed initial review** – evaluated planning concepts with regard to technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and community and environmental impact. Six concepts were prioritized.

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What we've done so far (cont'd.)

- **Refined concepts** – identified top three concepts, held community meetings for input
- **Established agreement with Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)** – once construction is completed, the new natural area will provide public access and will be owned and maintained by SPR

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Early outreach

- In 2011, SPU met with adjacent neighbors to discuss public access at the new natural area
  - **What we heard**: Safety concerns (crime, drug use, camping)
- From 2012-2013, SPU held several community meetings, drop-in sessions and hosted two surveys to ask residents about public access
  - **What we heard:** Approximately 70% of residents expressed a preference for open access; approximately 10.5% expressed a preference for no access
- In July 2013, the Seattle Police Department conducted a public access safety analysis of the natural area
- In August 2013, SPU recommended public access of the natural area
- In May 2015, SPU held an open house to receive feedback on creek alignment

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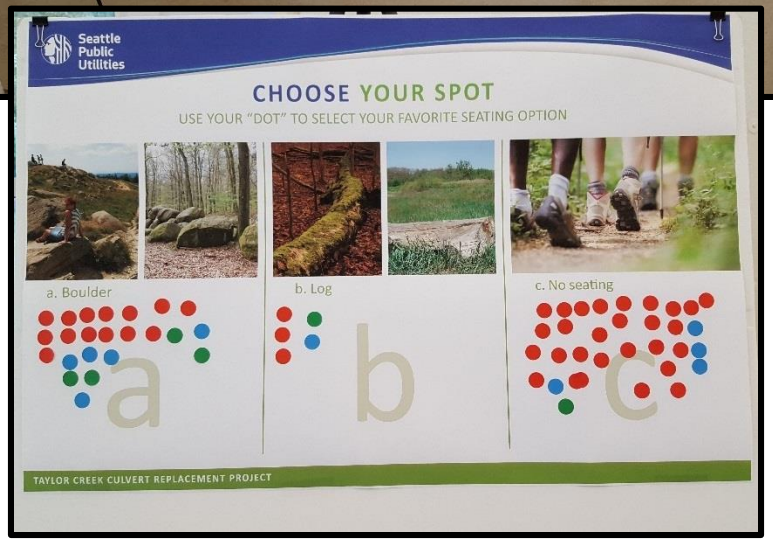
Proposed project

Where we are now – natural area design



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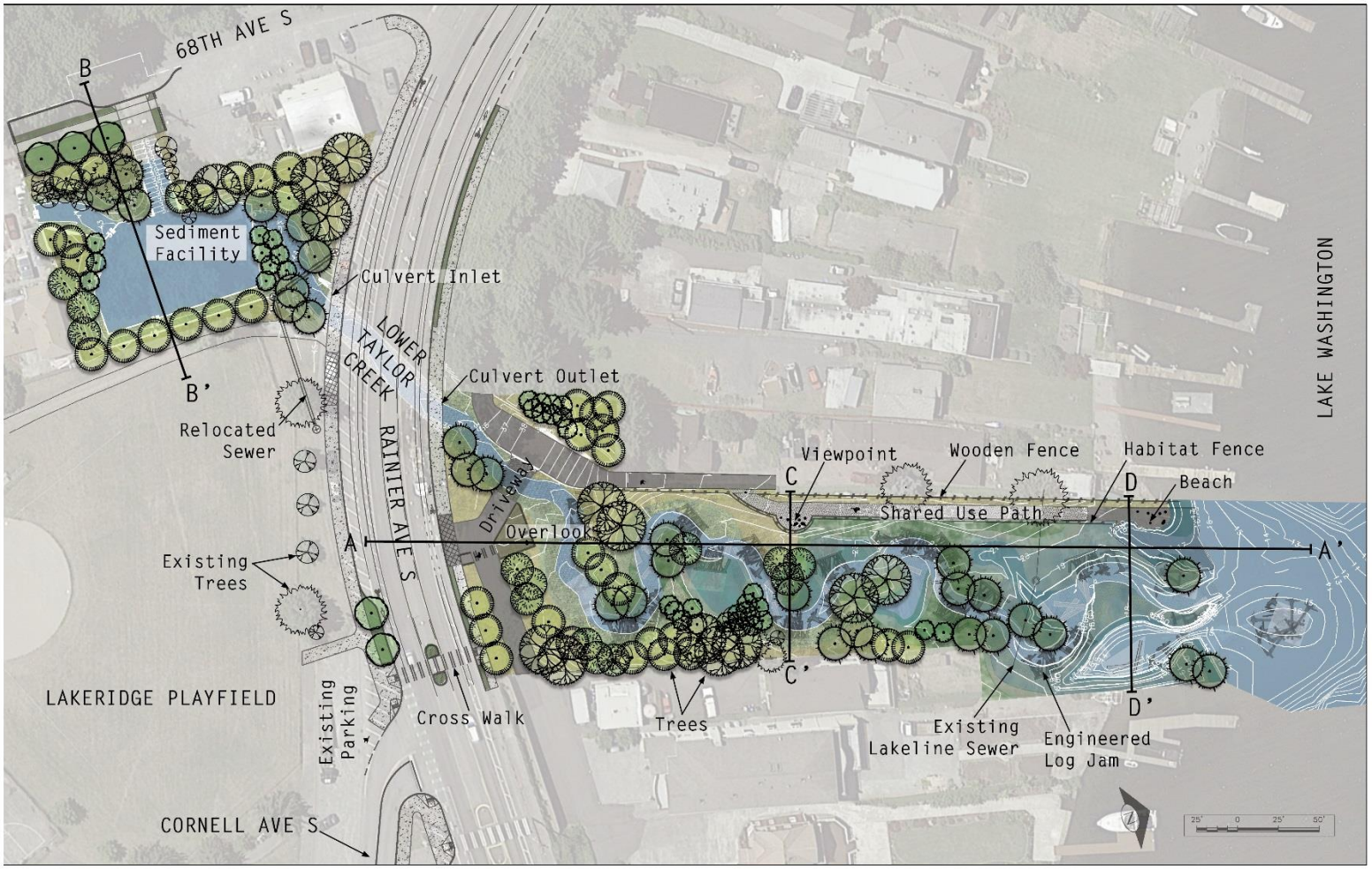
Design goals

- Follow Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles
  - Discourage negative behaviors (No parking, restrooms or formal seating areas) to discourage loitering
  - Plant trees and shrubs to allow clear sightlines throughout the natural area
- Use natural materials
- Enhance wildlife habitat
- Allow for educational opportunities

30% natural area design concept



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Creek restoration

Current creek conditions

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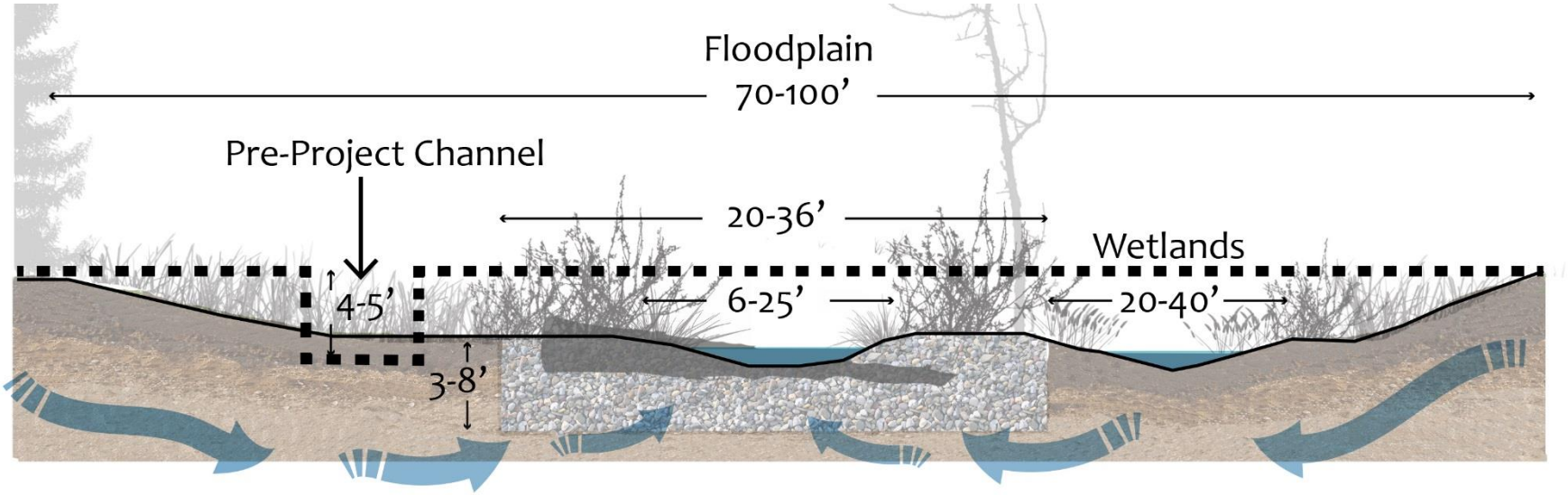
Natural area floodplain

Creating new floodplain and fish passable creek, example from Thornton Creek Improvement



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Sedimentation management facility

Current site conditions at 10020 68th Ave S and 10005 Rainier Ave S

Sedimentation management facility

Pond and maintenance access path examples from Midvale Stormwater Facility

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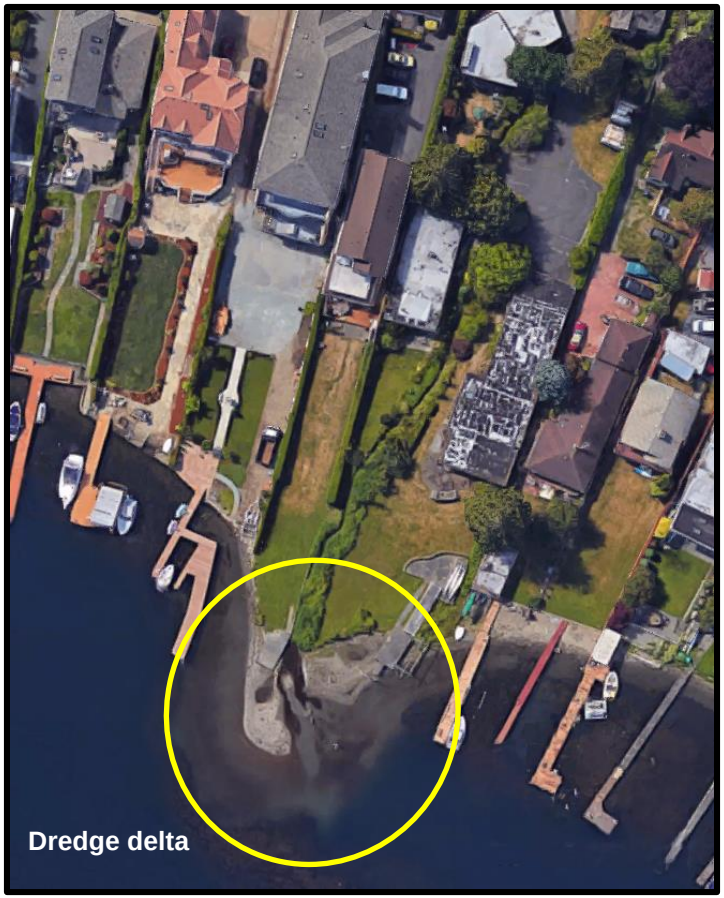
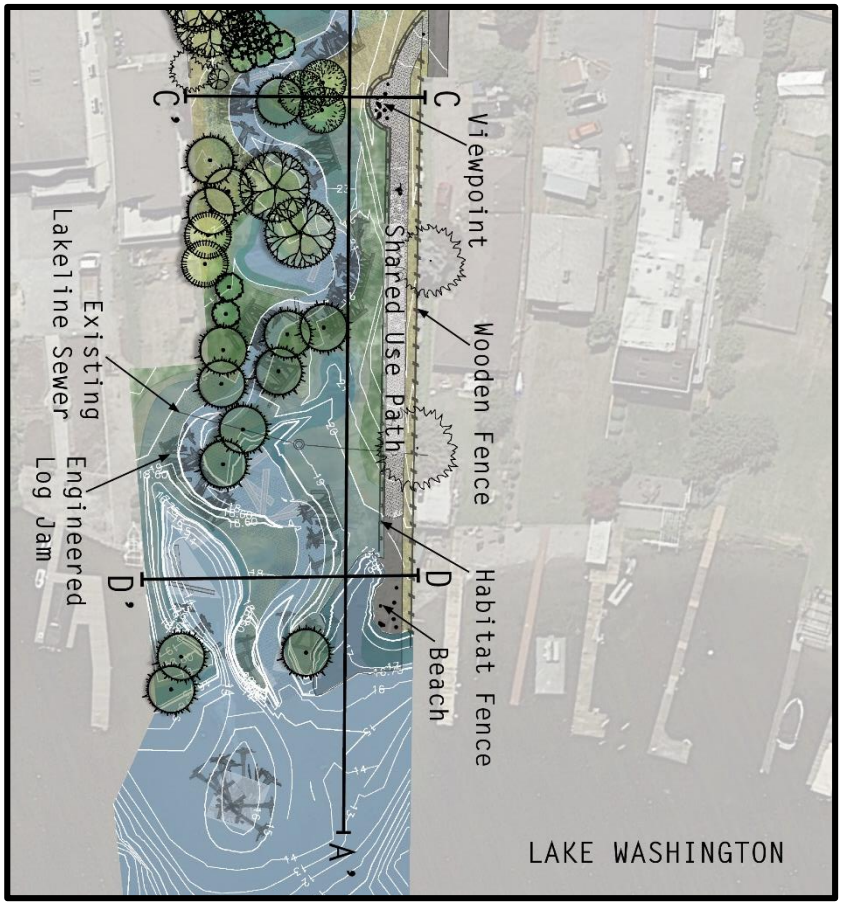
Taylor Creek delta





Current Culvert Conditions

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Culvert

Culvert under roadway, example from Thornton Creek Improvement

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Street improvements

Street improvements

Example of crosswalk improvement from Rainier Ave S

Example of crosswalk improvement from Mercer St

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Pedestrian Circulation

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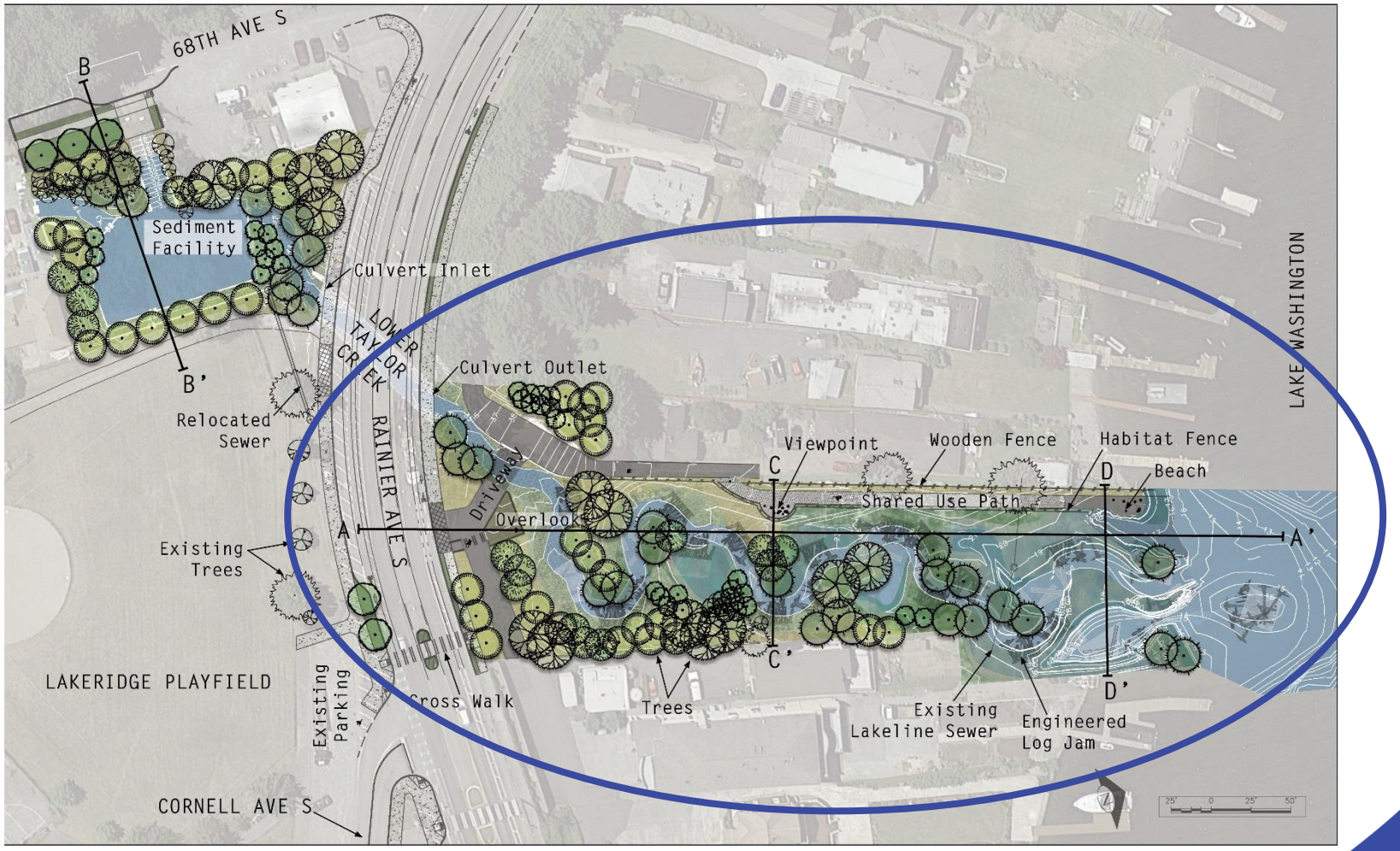
Lower Taylor Creek Natural Area



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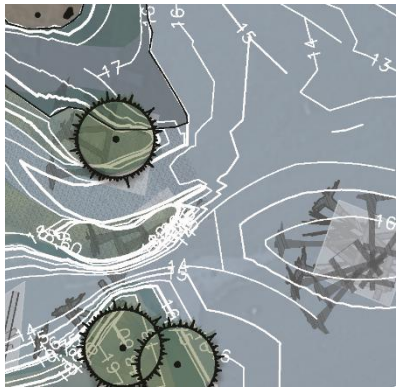
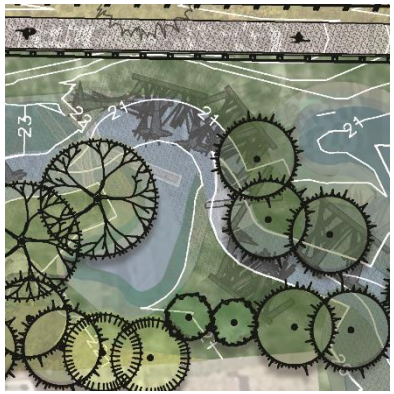
Natural area biological diversity

Aquatic Habitat



Forest

Wetlands



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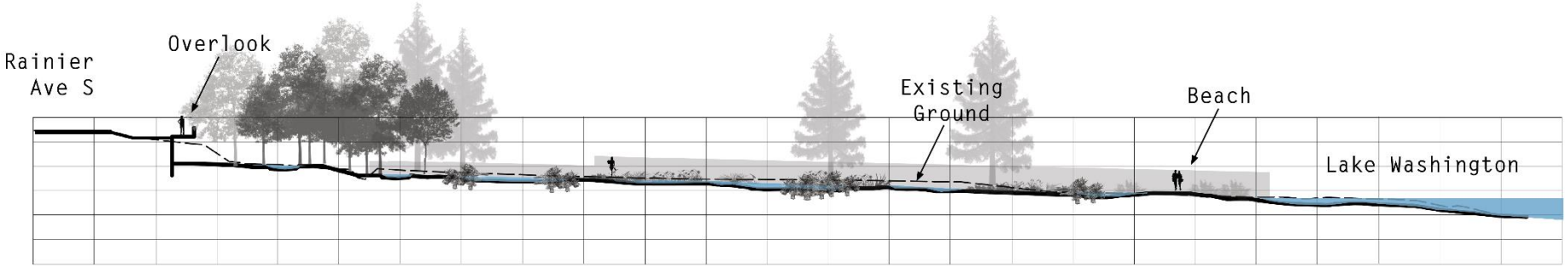
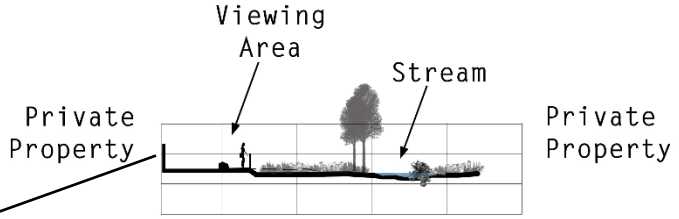


A

A'

NATURAL AREA PROFILE



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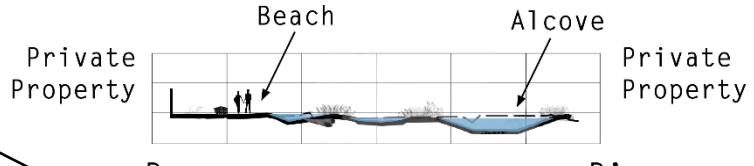
NATURAL AREA



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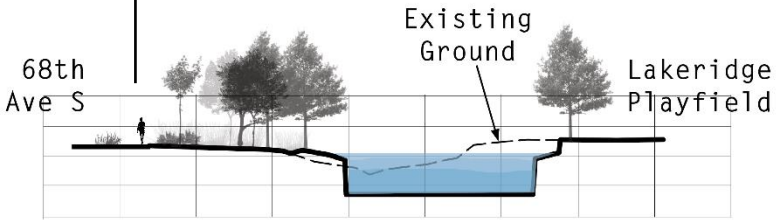
LAKE SHORE



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SEDIMENT FACILITY

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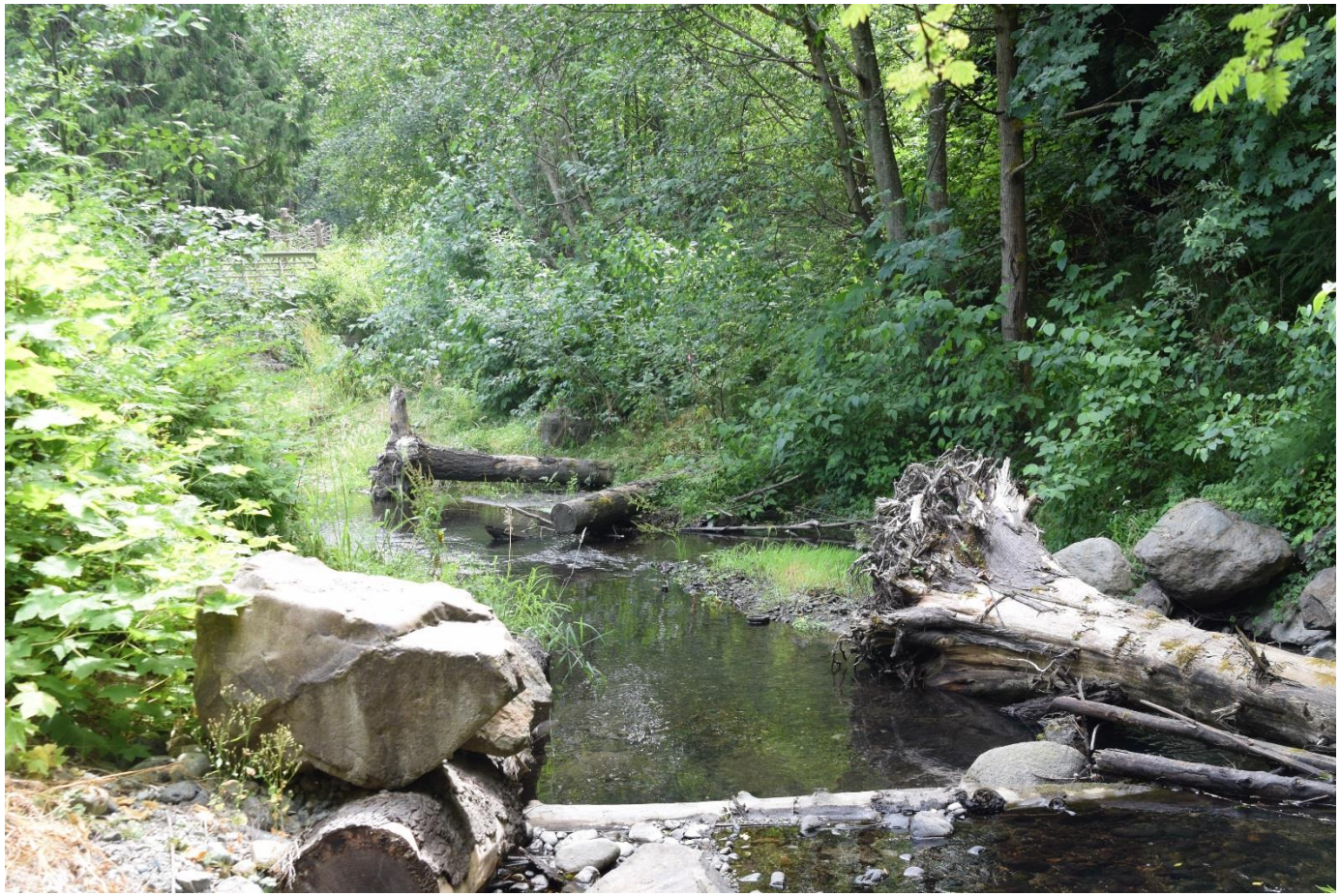
Thank you!



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