

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA)
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SDOT)
WILLOW CREEK FISH PASSAGE RESTORATION PROJECT**

Description of proposal: In 2021, SDOT completed construction of the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge over I-5 in the Northgate neighborhood of the north end of Seattle. That bridge runs over and through a waterbody known as the North Watercourse. The North Watercourse is a tributary to the South Branch of Thornton Creek (SB Thornton Creek). The bridge impacted the North Watercourse by decreasing habitat and retaining the waterbody's barrier to fish passage. SDOT agreed to mitigate for these impacts by constructing the Willow Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project (the Project). The Project will daylight Willow Creek, by re-routing it out of two culverts, one of which is a partial blockage to fish passage, and improve habitat within and adjacent to the rerouted portion of the creek, upstream of and at its confluence with SB Thornton Creek. To achieve this re-routing, the Project will move the west end of NE 100th Street, west of Ravenna Avenue NE, to the east and reconfigure it as a cul-de-sac. The Project will maintain connections to existing driveways and will also plant and replace groundcover, shrubs and trees; update stormwater drainage connections in the vicinity of NE 100th Street; and install a pedestrian bridge linking the cul-de-sac to the LaVilla Meadows Natural Area, which is city-owned property managed by Seattle Parks and Recreation located immediately north of the west end of NE 100th Street.

Proposal Proponent: SDOT
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 Fifth Ave, Suite 3800
PO Box 34966
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

Location of proposal including street address, if any: The Project is located on and near Willow Creek and SB Thornton Creek at the west end of NE 100th Street, west of Ravenna Avenue NE and east of Lake City Way NE.

Lead Agency for this Proposal: SDOT

SDOT has determined that this proposal would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under Revised Code of Washington (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. The checklist is available at the Seattle Public Library Northgate Branch at 10548 Fifth Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125 and at www.seattle.gov/transportation/WillowCreekRestoration.

- There is no comment period for this DNS.
- This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-355 and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.
- This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and SMC 25.05.340; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the issue date below. **Comments must be submitted to agency contact CJ Holt by 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2023, by email to CJ.Holt@seattle.gov, or by telephone to 206-233-1556.**

Issue Date: May 1, 2023

SEPA Responsible Official: Jennifer Flathman, SEPA Responsible Official

Jennifer L. Flathman

Signature 

Date April 25, 2023

Any interested person may appeal this DNS by submitting a Notice of Appeal and the appropriate filing fee to the Office of the Hearing Examiner located at 700 5th Avenue, Suite 4000, Seattle; mailing address: P.O. Box 94729,

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Seattle, WA 98124; telephone: (206) 684-0521. **Appeals must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2023.**
Appellants should be prepared to make specific factual objections. See SMC 25.05.680 for SEPA appeal procedures.