

## Elliott West Wet Weather Treatment Station Community Values Survey Findings

September 2023

King County is planning to upgrade the Elliott West Wet Weather Treatment Station (EWWTS). The upgrade will ensure compliance with stricter environmental regulations, meet the demands of a growing population, and handle a changing climate. Since its completion in 2005, the station provides partial treatment of combined stormwater and wastewater by removing solids and chemically treating the combined wastewater.

In 2023, we engaged with the surrounding community to provide project information and identify potential impacts. Engagement included door-to-door flyering in the project area, mailed project introduction postcards, and an online open house and community values survey to better understand community priorities.

We had 926 responses to the community values survey, with eighty-five percent of respondents living or working near the project area. From the community values survey, we were able to determine the following:

- Top community values are community and public safety, parks and a healthy environment, and safe and efficient transportation.
- The main goals for wastewater management are ensuring that the water quality of nearby water sources is not degraded.
- Preferred methods to communicate project information to the community include email updates, mailed materials, and the project web page.
- The community is interested to learn more about EWWTS construction updates and how the wastewater system works at this treatment station.

Key engagement findings were consistent across all engagement approaches. In general, findings included:

- Concerns about potentially obstructed views and impacts on property value.
- Broad support for upgrading the wastewater treatment system.
- Strong preference that specific designs of the new structure be shared with community.
- Concerns about project timeline, as well as construction days and hours.
- Sentiment that public amenities be incorporated into the building design, including public access to the waterfront and public art.

For more information and project updates, visit the <u>project website</u>, sign up for the <u>project listserv</u>, or contact Ryan Harlow at <u>rharlow@kingcounty.gov</u> or 206-848-0814.