December 2018

# Our glossary of construction terms

Below you will find a list of terms you may have seen on our construction updates. As the project continues, we'll add to the list. Have a question about construction on our project? Let us know and we will add it to the list!

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| **Concrete pours** | Crews conduct concrete pours to form buildings and supporting structures for pipes. Steel rebar is used to create forms for building walls and supporting structures. |
| **Excavation** | Digging into the ground, below grade (surface level), and removing soil. Early on the project, crews excavated contaminated soils and other materials to prepare the site. During construction, contractors will be excavating to clear areas for where lower levels of the station buildings will be located, parts of the outfall, and our new conveyance pipes. A lot of wastewater infrastructure lives underground! |
| **Surveying (sometimes called Potholing)** | Surveys are completed to locate utilities and install monitors for settlement, vibrations, and noise. |
| **Shoring** | A way to hold back soil and water while crews dig (excavate) into the ground. There are many different types of shoring methods. On the Georgetown project contractors are using two kinds of shoring:<br><br>***Steel sheet piles***<br>• Long interlocking pieces of steel, often in a "z" or "u" shape. They are installed using a large piece of equipment called a vibratory hammer. The hammer clamps on to the end of the sheet and vibrates it into place, driving it into the soil. Check out our video to see and hear what installing sheet piles is like. Here at Georgetown, contractors are using these to install pipes underground.<br><br>***Secant piles***<br>• These are concrete cylinders that lock together to create a structurally stable ring. This ring will be nearly 100 feet wide and is part of the Influent Pump Station's structural wall.<br>• Concrete cylinders are built by drilling about 90 feet into the ground and pouring concrete to create the four-foot wide concrete cylinders. |

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| Trestle | Also known as a temporary work platform, a trestle looks like a wooden bridge and can be used to hold equipment over water during in water work. We are building a trestle over the Duwamish River to help us install the new outfall structure. |
| Tremie pour | A tremie pour is a concrete placement method to install the concrete slab that will offset buoyancy when the water table is high. Georgetown has a high-water table and rainy days are frequent, so this method will create more stability for the underground tank. The concrete slab sits below the regulator structure's underground tank and anchors it by exerting a downward force to offset buoyancy. This method uses vertical pipes through which concrete is placed by gravity taking it below water level. |