

WEST POINT TREATMENT PLANT

Capital Improvement Projects Update JUNE, 2021

It's all about resilience at King County's West Point Treatment Plant

Capital improvement projects at West Point Treatment Plant focus on protecting ratepayer investments through improving system reliability, protecting worker and public safety and the environment, and increasing efficiency. This newsletter includes some plant improvement project highlights and other news about that you may find helpful and interesting.

We're working to improve power supply quality at West Point Treatment Plant to continue our clean-water mission

On Feb. 25, 2021, King County Executive Dow Constantine signed an emergency declaration, and King County Council approved up to \$65 million to provide West Point Treatment Plant with more reliable power in response to electrical power disruptions.

Power disruptions at the West Point Treatment Plant can cause equipment shutdowns, and when this happens during heavy rain, to prevent the plant from flooding, flow is diverted to Puget Sound through an emergency bypass.

King County's new Water Quality Improvement project is rapidly identifying and implementing solutions to improve the reliability of the plant's electrical power supply. The County will install a battery technology system to provide the stability in electrical power to critical equipment, so that it can continue to run when we have electrical power disruptions, preventing emergency bypasses of wastewater to the Puget Sound.

The project team is currently developing a schedule and pursuing all possible methods to expedite the schedule and bring the system upgrade online as soon as possible.

Learn more at:

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division blog:
kingcountywtd.com/2021/02/26/power-supply-quality

Water Quality Improvement project Web page:
kingcounty.gov/WestPointPowerQuality



How do electricity power disruptions affect West Point Treatment Plant?

On average, the treatment plant experiences a disruption in electrical power every two months. When the plant's power is disrupted during high flows, emergency bypasses of wastewater to the Puget Sound can occur.

Most power disruptions at the plant are in the form of "voltage sags." In your home, you experience a voltage sag as the lights in the house flickering, while a power outage would be equivalent to losing all power in your house. Voltage sags cause our treatment plant's equipment to shut down. When that happens and there isn't enough capacity in the system to store incoming stormwater and wastewater flows, the plant performs as it was designed and directs wastewater to flow through the emergency bypass directly into Puget Sound.

We're working to make the treatment plant more resilient in the event of an earthquake

At the treatment plant we are improving large enclosed tanks that play a key role in the wastewater treatment process. A 60-year old roof above the tanks must be replaced. Removing the roof will be quite a task, because it is made up of nearly 600 beams, weighing 10,000 pounds each! Over the two-year period, we'll be trucking the beams out through Discovery Park to be recycled. All materials will be removed and disposed of safely. When we are done with this work and other improvements, the sedimentation tank facility will have improved lighting, odor control and seismic features.



Roof made up of nearly 600 beams.

Learn more at: kingcounty.gov/WestPointTankUpgrade.

Restoring landscape at Discovery Park

Did you know there are two underground County water reservoirs in Seattle's Discovery Park? When we were undertaking a construction project to upgrade the reservoirs, we knew that our project was going to affect park vegetation. We coordinated with City of Seattle Parks and Recreation on a plan to restore plants with a variety of choices that blends into the natural environment and supports the park's wildlife. With

construction on the project now complete, our crews have restored work areas by replanting native prairie plant and shrub species and more than 50 Garry Oak and Douglas Fir trees! Impacted parts of trails have also been restored. Learn more at: kingcounty.gov/WestPointProjects.

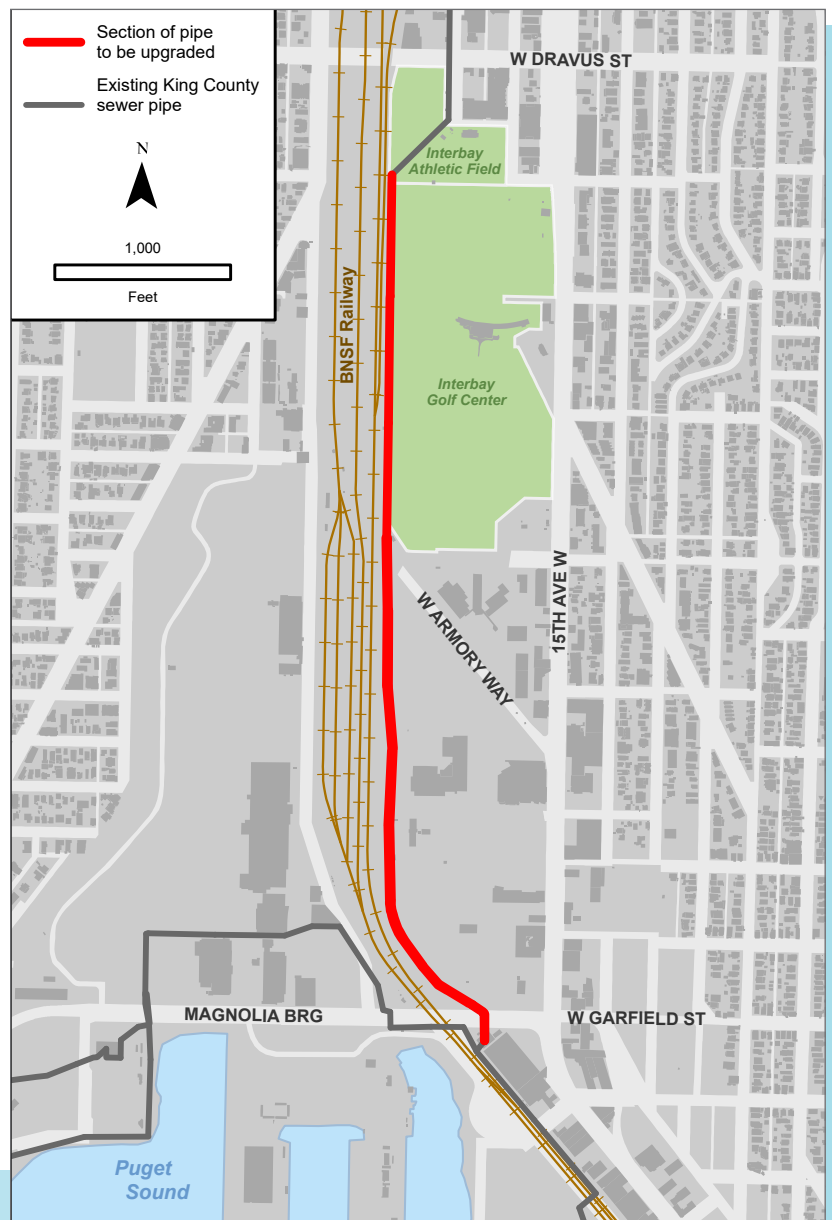


Sewer construction coming to Interbay as early as 2022

King County will begin work to upgrade a mile of aging sewer pipe in Seattle's Interbay neighborhood as early as next year. We expect construction will take about three years. The section of pipe that will be under construction starts south of the Magnolia bridge and extends to the south side of the Interbay Athletic Complex. This important pipe carries sewage and polluted stormwater to West Point Treatment Plant. The existing pipe was built in 1967 and is nearing the end of its service life. King County will add new odor control technology to this location while the sewer pipe upgrade is underway. When complete, the upgraded sewer will provide service for another 50 years or more.

For more information and to sign up for project updates:

- Visit <https://kingcounty.gov/InterbaySewer>
- Text KING INTERBAYSEWER to 468-311
- Call or email **Kelly Foley Kruse** at 206-477-8621 or kelly.foleykruse@kingcounty.gov



Be in touch!

Our goal is always to be a good neighbor as we conduct our work.

For more information contact: Dana West at Dana.West@kingcounty.gov or call 206-477-5536 or TTY: 711.

We will provide ongoing updates on our Web pages. Learn about current projects at West Point Treatment Plant, and sign up for updates via text or email at: kingcounty.gov/WestPointProjects

Alternative formats available
206-477-5536 or TTY relay: 711

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King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks

Wastewater Treatment Division

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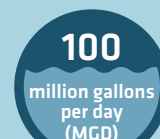
West Point treats sewage and stormwater from Seattle and its northern suburbs – about 100 million gallons a day, and up to 440 million gallons during heavy rains.



West Point Currently Serves

700,000
people and growing!

West Point treats the largest volume of stormwater and wastewater in our regional sewer system yet it sits on the smallest footprint



32
ACRES

West Point
Seattle



80
ACRES

South Plant
Renton



79
ACRES

Brightwater
Woodinville