King County

Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project

How we build

We are evaluating a number of construction methods to build the sewer upgrade at this early phase of design. The majority of the pipe will be installed using open-trench construction. Where feasible, we are considering construction methods that do not require us to dig a trench to minimize surface disruptions. Below is some additional information about open-trench construction and some of the trenchless methods we are considering.

Open-trench



- Most common method for installing pipes
- Preferred for shallower work zones
- Provides flexibility during construction to work around existing utilities
- Requires digging trenches using backhoes and dump trucks
- Traffic impacts include lane and trail closures and detours

Trenchless methods

Pipe ramming



Pipe boring



Pipe bursting



- Does not require digging trenches along roadways
- Requires two shafts on either end of the pipe
- Can be used to limit disruptions on the surface
- Only feasible in certain types of soils and conditions
- Uses hammers, augers, or microtunneling machines

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Construction sequencing

- Construction is expected to begin in 2020 and take three years to complete, but the entire sewer line will not be under construction at one time.
- Crews may work in segments or simultaneously at different locations along the alignment, minimizing disruptions to the community wherever possible.
- We are still working to determine exact sequencing for when each segment will be built.

We will share more information about construction methods and sequencing as design progresses.

April 2017