



## Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project

### Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Fall 2019 Open House Events Summary

#### Dates, Times, and Locations

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 | 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Audubon Elementary School Auditorium

3045 180<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E., Redmond, WA 98052

Thursday, October 24, 2019 | 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village

6505 176<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E., Redmond, WA 98052

#### Advance notification

Approximately 13,200 residents and businesses near the project area received a postcard invitation to the open houses. A reminder about the open house was also included in a newsletter mailed to the same area.

Project staff posted a blog article announcing the open houses on the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) website, advertised on the WTD Facebook page that has over 650 followers, and sent email invitations to approximately 1,000 project subscribers two weeks in advance of the event. In addition, project staff also asked community partners to help in sharing information about the open houses.

#### Attendance

In total, 43 community members attended the open houses:

- Thirty-four community members attended the open house on Tuesday, October 22 at Audubon Elementary School
- Nine community members attended the open house on Thursday, October 24 at Redmond Community Center

#### Purpose

The purpose of the open houses was to:

- Share how the project team is incorporating community priorities into the project design
- Share more information about what to expect before and during construction
- Share the project's restoration plans
- Ask for feedback on how King County's communication efforts about the project



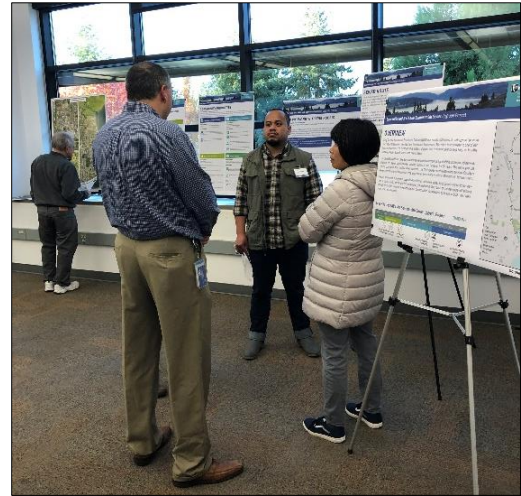
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### Format

The open houses were designed to allow visitors to come and go at times convenient to them, review project materials, and ask questions of project staff. There was not a formal presentation. Comment forms were available for visitors to encourage participation and feedback. Light refreshments were provided.

Staff arranged project videos, information boards, and roll plots to cover topics of interest to the community, including:

- Project need and timeline
- Detailed maps of the sewer pipe route
- How community priorities have informed the project design
- What to expect during construction, including construction methods
- Restoration plans for the Sammamish River Trail, roads and sidewalks
- How we restore landscaping and seek to improve habitat during restoration



Project team members talk with attendees about project details.

### Summary of feedback

Below is a summary of questions, comments and discussion from the open houses:

#### Project timeline and sewer route

##### *Are there any project updates?*

We recently completed preliminary restoration plans for the project. Over the next year, we'll refine plans for managing traffic and submit permits needed to complete the work. We plan to complete design in 2020, hire a contractor in early 2021, and begin construction in 2021. We expect construction will take three years to complete.

Construction was previously scheduled to begin 2020. Construction has been pushed back to allow more time for developing restoration plans and designing a fish-passable culvert at Country Creek. A culvert is a tunnel that allows water to flow past or beneath a barrier, in this case, from Country Creek under West Lake Sammamish Parkway.

##### *Why is the sewer route so close to Audubon Elementary?*

Today's engineers design around a legacy from the past. Fifty years ago, the Lake Hills/NW Lake Sammamish sewer pipe was installed in an area that looked a lot different from today. The new sewer pipe will be installed in about the same location as the existing pipe because it:

- Allows sewage to flow through the pipes using gravity
- Limits impact to sensitive environmental areas, like Marymoor Park



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- Avoids many other utilities, homes, and businesses that have built up around the sewer pipe

Work in front of the entrance to Audubon Elementary School will only be allowed when school is not in session. We're working closely with the Lake Washington School District and Bellevue School District so bus and walking routes can be safely rerouted ahead of construction.

### Construction

#### *What is the construction schedule?*

Construction will begin in 2021 and we expect it will take three years to complete. The full 4.5-mile alignment will not be under construction at once. The contractor will complete the work in sections. There may be multiple crews working on different sections of the sewer pipe at any given time during construction.

#### *How will I know when construction will impact my neighborhood?*

We won't know the exact construction schedule until a contractor is selected in early 2021, but we will be sure to share that information with you as it becomes available. We will provide an opportunity for you to speak with the construction team and ask questions before construction starts.

#### *Will noise be mitigated during construction?*

We expect most of our work to occur during daytime hours. We will follow the City of Redmond's daytime construction noise ordinance. If nighttime work is required, we would need to obtain special permission from the City of Redmond. That permission would detail noise mitigation requirements.

#### *Will King County plan to work in coordination with other regional projects?*

We understand that there are many construction projects underway and planned for this area. We are working closely with neighbors, interest groups, local jurisdictions, and partner agencies to anticipate any potential overlaps in planned construction projects. While overlapping construction is unavoidable, we will work with these groups and the City of Redmond to see if there are ways we can work together to reduce compounding construction impacts to you.

### Environment and restoration

#### *Will trees be removed?*

Many trees have grown up around the sewer pipe since it was installed 50 years ago. Our crews need an area approximately 30 to 45 feet wide along the entire pipe route to safely install the new pipe. Plants and trees will be removed in these working limits. Over the length of the 4.5-milelong sewer route we expect to remove several hundred trees.

When work is complete, we will replant at least one tree for every mature tree that is removed. For trees that are removed and are 30-inches-wide or larger, three new trees will be planted. These guidelines are set by the City of Redmond.

#### *How will old growth trees be replaced? Can landmark trees be preserved?*

In general, for every tree removed that is larger than six inches in diameter King County will replant a similar tree. If trees are larger than 30 inches in diameter, King County is required to plant three new



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trees. We understand that three new trees are not the same as an old growth tree. We do our best to preserve as many trees as we can, particularly landmark or old growth trees, but unfortunately, we will have to remove some large diameter trees to safely build the new sewer pipe.

### *Will the new alignment be resistant to earthquake damage?*

The majority of the pipe is being built out of a semi-flexible material that will help the pipe to move with the soil in the event of an earthquake. While it could still experience leaks during an earthquake, we anticipate that the semi-flexible design will keep the pipe operating in the event of an earthquake.

At the Sammamish River Crossing, the pipe has been designed to a higher seismic standard to avoid damage during a seismic event. This section is being designed to a higher seismic standard because it would be much more difficult to access for repairs in the event of an earthquake.

### *How quickly after construction will project areas be restored?*

We expect the entire project to be complete in 2024. Once we have a contract and detailed construction scheduled, we'll know more about construction sequencing and the timeline for restoration.

## Trails and Parks

### *How will the Sammamish River Trail be impacted during construction?*

Much of the existing sewer pipe is located underground, directly under the surface of the Sammamish River Trail between N.E. 85th Street and N.E. 51st Street. We will have to close the Sammamish River Trail in sections to safely upgrade the pipe. Closures are likely to be between bridges where there are public access points. We've developed detour routes based on direction from King County Parks, the City of Redmond, and your feedback. [Preliminary detour routes](#) are available for you to review on our website. We won't know the timing of section closures until a contractor is selected for the project.

### *How will the Sammamish River Trail be restored after construction?*

Once construction is complete, the trail surface will be restored to pre-construction conditions or better.

As part of our project restoration, we plan to:

- Relocate as many maintenance holes off the trail as possible
- Plant new trees and shrubs to replace those removed
- Repave affected areas of the trail to at least the current footprint
- Partner with King County Parks to widen the trail between N.E. 85th Street and Leary Way. In this section, the paved area will be widened to 14 feet, except under bridge and trestle crossings where the trail is constrained.

### *How will construction impact access to Idylwood and Marymoor parks?*

The sewer pipe runs along the west side of Marymoor Park under the Sammamish River Trail. The sewer pipe also crosses under the west entrance to the park off of West Lake Sammamish Parkway. We will use a trenchless construction method at the park entrance to maintain access. We do not anticipate impacts to other park facilities, such as soccer fields.



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There will be lane closures on West Lake Sammamish Parkway and 177th Ave NE near the entrance to Idylwood Park and the overflow parking area. We are aware that Idylwood and Marymoor parks are very busy during the summer months. We are currently looking at whether restricting the work in these areas outside of the summer months is feasible. Street parking near the parks will likely be limited during construction.

### Traffic and detours

#### *What will King County do to mitigate traffic during construction?*

While we will complete work in sections to limit disruptions, we do anticipate vehicle lane, bike lane and sidewalk closures during construction. We may not be able to maintain a thru-traffic lane in the narrowest sections of the road. We're working closely with the City of Redmond to identify working hours and safe detour routes for each section of roadway. We will provide advance notice of construction activities likely to cause delays so you can effectively plan ahead.

#### *Will there be bicycle and pedestrian impacts on West Lake Sammamish Parkway?*

King County looked at impacts to sidewalks and bike paths as part of the project's [traffic study](#). While we will complete work in sections to limit disruptions, we do anticipate temporary bike lane and sidewalk closures on West Lake Sammamish Parkway during construction, particularly during work in the narrower sections of the road. Bicyclists may need to ride in the vehicle lane with traffic or use detour routes during bike lane closures. Accessible pedestrian detour routes will be provided at all times and, whenever possible, we will seek to keep a sidewalk on one side of the street open. Sidewalk and bike lane closures may remain in place outside of construction hours. The City of Redmond will review and approve all detours on West Lake Sammamish Parkway. We will provide advance notice of construction activities likely to cause delays so you can effectively plan ahead.

#### *Has King County reached out to Issaquah and Woodinville drivers?*

King County has conducted outreach in a variety of ways to reach travelers commuting to and from Redmond. Outreach activities include sharing project information at outdoor events, like Bike Everywhere Day and Movies@Marymoor, with large employers like the Microsoft Redmond Campus, and with partnering agencies, to include Sound Transit and King Country Metro. We will continue to share updates and project information in a variety of ways to reach a broad audience. However, if you have suggestions for how we can better communicate, please take the survey on our online open house or contact Kelly Foley Kruse at 206-477-8621 or [kelly.foleykruse@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kelly.foleykruse@kingcounty.gov).

#### *How will we learn about detours and project updates?*

King County's communication team is committed to making sure you are informed well in advance of construction activities. We will continue to work closely with those living along the project alignment by providing updates through mailings, fliers at your door, community events, project webpage updates, and project emails. We do plan to provide more frequent updates during construction and can adjust frequency of updates as needed. Our goal is to make sure you are never surprised by our work.

Be sure to [sign up to receive email or text updates](#) about the project prior to construction starting in 2021. We will also have a construction hotline available should you have any questions or concerns.



**King County**

## **Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project**

Our project team is available for meetings, briefings, and events. To request a meeting or to talk with the project team, contact Kelly Foley Kruse at 206-477-8621 or [kelly.foleykruse@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kelly.foleykruse@kingcounty.gov).

**ALTERNATIVE FORMATS AVAILABLE**  
**206-477-5371/ 711 (TTY Relay)**