



King County

Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project

Move Redmond Open Streets Festival Summary

Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: Downtown Redmond (16101 NE, Redmond Way, Redmond, WA 98052)

Attendance

The project team engaged with 154 attendees and received three listserv sign-ups over the course of the event.

Purpose of the event

King County Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD) community engagement team hosted a booth at Move Redmond Open Streets festival to inform the community about the Lake Hills and NW Lake Sammamish Sewer Upgrade Project. This event allowed the community to:

- Learn about the project's purpose and about wastewater service in the project area.
- Understand how project construction will affect travelers on nearby roadways and trails.
- Ask questions about the project, and other WTD projects in the area.
- Learn about upcoming trail detours.
- Sign up for project updates.

Event format

The project booth was used to show off both project materials, including fact sheets, maps, proposed detour routes, QR codes to virtual project resources, and giveaway items. The giveaway items consisted of poop emoji stress balls and King County branded crayon packets and coloring pages. The project team also brought a large poop emoji bean bag to display. The booth shared materials for other projects and facilities relevant to the Lake Hills sewer project area, including the Sammamish Plateau Diversion project and the Brightwater Treatment Plant.



WTD community engagement team talks with festivalgoers.



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Summary of feedback

Most visitors said they were unfamiliar with the project, but nearly every visitor lived near or frequented the project area. Most people, upon learning about the project, expressed curiosity about the water treatment process and the project's plans for construction. Attendees were glad to hear that King County WTD has a robust plan to communicate project information and updates as the project gets closer to the start of construction.

Several festivalgoers expressed frequent use of the Sammamish River Trail and were satisfied upon learning that King County plans to keep the trail open as much as possible throughout construction by detouring trail users around active construction zones. The creation of bike lanes as part of the detour plan was one of the community's favorite features. Several visitors shared appreciation for the inclusion of traffic barriers along the detour route and expressed a desire to make a bike lane along West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE a permanent feature.

All conversations conducted by outreach staff at this event were held in English.

Questions and comments:

- When is construction expected to start?
 - Construction is anticipated to begin as early as 2026.
- Why does the sewer need to be upgraded?
 - As the area grows in population, the wastewater system will have to account for much higher levels of wastewater. This means the pipes would be much more likely to overflow into local bodies of water, including Lake Sammamish. To mitigate environmental risk and ensure safe and reliable sewer service, this upgrade will account for population growth over the next 50 years and greatly reduce the likelihood of a system failure.
- How long will construction last?
 - Construction of the 4.5-mile project alignment is expected to take approximately three years to complete. The alignment will be built in segments and will likely have multiple crews working simultaneously. We will share a more detailed construction schedule after we complete the permitting process in early 2025.
- Will the bike lanes added during the construction detour become permanent infrastructure along West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE after the project is complete?
 - The bike lanes installed along West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE will only be used to detour the Sammamish River Trail during construction. Once the project is complete, the detour infrastructure will be removed.
- What will be the impact of construction on the Redmond Connector Trail?
 - The construction shouldn't have an impact on the Redmond Connector Trail. Construction will be occurring underneath the Redmond Bridge where the



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Sammamish River Trail runs underneath the Connector Trail. Detours will temporarily reroute parts of the Sammamish River Trail, but trail users should be able to connect back into the Connector Trail with ease.

- What other projects are happening in the area?
 - Separate projects happening nearby include: [Sammamish Plateau Diversion \(link to project website\)](#), East Lake Sammamish Trail ([link to project webpage](#)) and Lake Hills Sewer Relining project ([link to project webpage](#)).
- Where can I learn more about how the water treatment process works?
 - You can learn more about WTD and our water treatment centers [on our website](#).
- Where is the water from this project area pumped for treatment?
 - The water from the Lake Hills Interceptor is treated at the Brightwater Treatment Plant in Woodinville. Community members can learn more, or register for a tour of the Brightwater facility, [online](#).