December 14, 2020

Utility work on 78th Avenue Southeast planned for late December 2020

King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) continues to prepare for a sewer upgrade project in Mercer Island and parts of Bellevue. As part of the preparation for this project, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is scheduled to relocate a gas line **starting as early as the week of December 21, 2020** along 78th Ave SE between SE 22nd Way and SE 24th St. See the map below with approximate work locations.

Utility relocation work will occur on the west side of the road. The sewer pipe installation that will occur as part of major construction activities will occur on the east side of the road.

Work may include the following construction activities:

- Mapping utilities: Before relocating the gas line, PSE crews will mark existing utilities, including the gas line, with washable paint.
- Confirming utility locations: PSE may also pothole to confirm utility locations. Potholing uses trucks and other equipment to bore small holes that confirm the location of existing utilities in the roadway.
- Relocating utilities: To relocate utilities, crews will use a technique called open trench construction which involves digging a trench allowing for the removal and relocation of existing utilities.



PSE crews at work

All planned construction is tentative and subject to change based on work area conditions.

What you can expect:

- As early as the week of December 21, 2020, crews will begin work to relocate the PSE gas line along 78th Ave SE.
 - Work will take approximately five (5) weeks to complete.
- The typical work schedule is Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- No work will occur on Dec. 25 or Jan 1.
- Flaggers will alternate the direction of traffic around a single lane closure as needed.
 - o If a full road closure is needed, PSE crews will move construction vehicles to allow drivers to enter and exit the work area, as needed.
 - o Emergency access will be provided at all times.
 - Crews will conduct utility relocation work near driveways and will maintain access, though residents may see delays entering and exiting homes when work is directly in front of driveways.

- Some customers along the project route may experience a temporary interruption of natural gas. PSE will notify impacted customers prior to beginning work requiring an interruption in service. For customers who will have their service interrupted, work inside customer homes may be required to re-light appliances after the service interruption. PSE technicians are trained to protect against coronavirus while doing this work. If coronavirus concerns prevent entry, PSE's technician or customer service representative can explain your options. Please call 1-888-225-5773 for more information.
- In some cases, vegetation (trees/bushes) may need to be trimmed in the right-of-way near driveways, so crews can complete the work.
- Neighbors may notice noise and vibrations typical of a construction area.
- When work is complete, the site will be restored to existing site conditions according to City of Mercer Island permits.

For more information and questions about PSE's work:

Contact Lance Davenport, Project Manager, at 1-888-404-8773 or majorprojects@pse.com



We will continue to share information about the project on our website, in project emails, mailings, and as we get closer to construction through the City of Mercer Island's Let's Talk webpage. We are always available to talk to you and your neighbors by phone and online small group meetings. Let us know if you'd like to schedule a conversation!

For more information about the North Mercer Island/Enatai Sewer Upgrade Project: Contact Kristine Cramer at 206-477-5415 or kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov. Sign up for text alerts. Text KING MERCERSEWER to 468-311. Visit the project web page at www.kingcounty.gov/MercerEnataiSewer.