



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

Thornton Creek Basin Sewer Study and Upgrade

Dear Resident,

Phase one of the Thornton Creek Basin Sewer Study and Upgrade Project is complete.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation throughout this effort, which began in 2021.

The purpose of this study was to look at the amount of stormwater and groundwater entering the sanitary sewer system, known as infiltration/inflow (I/I), and identify ways it can be reduced so that the Thornton Creek sewer pipe will continue to carry wastewater flows without needing to be rebuilt at a larger size.

During this study, King County gathered data about the conditions of the sewer system in the Thornton Creek Trunk service area. We studied local and regional sewer pipes, maintenance hole covers and drainage connections to identify locations and types of improvements that have the potential for the largest reduction in I/I.

The community significantly supported our efforts in the following ways:

- 700 people responded to the survey that was sent to property owners and residents in mid-2021.
- 49 property owners allowed King County to investigate side sewers for possible cracks that were contributing to I/I.
- 2,100 property owners cooperated as we carried out smoke testing that provided valuable information about the amount of I/I entering the local system from private property.

We learned valuable information, including:

- Finding I/I issues throughout the area but we did not identify any single significant source.
- Finding that a very large number of small problems would need to be fixed throughout the study area to reduce I/I peak flows enough to eliminate the need to increase the size of the Thornton Creek sewer pipe.
- Finding many areas where small amounts of groundwater leak into the system. This is especially true where the privately-owned pipes from individual properties connect to the sewer main in the street.
- Finding many areas where stormwater sources from private property are tied directly into the sewer system, which contributes to I/I.

Before King County decides a path forward, we have more work to do.

- We will look at the potential I/I reduction strategies that resulted from this study and compare them to options for increasing the size of the sewer pipe.
- We will continue to discuss I/I reduction opportunities in the study area with the City of Seattle and the City of Shoreline.

Thank you again for your cooperation during this work!

Learn more at kingcounty.gov/thornton-creek-sewer

简体中文 / SIMPLIFIED CHINESE

Thornton Creek Basin

下水道研究和升级工程

亲爱的居民，

第一阶段的 Thornton Creek Basin 下水道研究和升级工程已完成。

感谢您自 2021 年以来对此工程的参与和配合。

了解更多的研究和调查结果，请访问工程网页

kingcounty.gov/thornton-creek-sewer 查看文字材料。

ESPAÑOL / SPANISH

Thornton Creek Basin

Proyecto de estudio y mejora de alcantarillado

Estimado(a) residente:

Se completó la primera fase del proyecto de estudio y mejora de alcantarillado de la Thornton Creek Basin.

Gracias por su participación y cooperación a lo largo de este esfuerzo, que comenzó en 2021. Para obtener más información sobre el estudio y los hallazgos, visite el sitio web del proyecto en kingcounty.gov/thornton-creek-sewer para materiales en diferentes idiomas.

繁體中文 / TRADITIONAL CHINESE

Thornton Creek Basin

下水道研究與升級專案

親愛的居民，

第一階段的 Thornton Creek Basin 下水道研究與升級專案已完成。

感謝您自 2021 年以來對該專案的參與和配合。

欲瞭解更多有關專案研究和調查結果的資訊，請造訪專案網頁

kingcounty.gov/thornton-creek-sewer，獲取語言資料。