West Duwamish Wet Weather Storage

King County Wastewater Treatment

Construction fencing art project with elementary schools summary

Last updated on August 5, 2026

Overview

This document serves to summarize temporary fencing art outreach efforts for the West Duwamish Wet Weather Storage project during construction.

Background

King County will build a 1.25-million-gallon underground storage tank near the intersection of Southwest Michigan Street and Second Avenue Southwest. This tank will reduce Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) into the Duwamish River by holding combined sewage during heavy rainstorms.

During design, community members expressed interest in showcasing local art in the facility design. To reflect this feedback, the new facility will include integrated permanent fencing panel artwork designed by Seattle artist Ann Marie Schneider. The fencing panel art draws inspiration from our complex relationships to land and the connections between bounty, community, ecology, and resilience.

King County proposed, developed and executed an effort to develop **temporary art** to hang on the perimeter fence during construction. This art was developed in collaboration with students at two local elementary schools, Sanislo and Highland Park.

Approach and Strategy

Over the last eight years, community members shaped building design and landscaping. To further reflect this feedback, King County developed an outreach strategy to partner with local schools in South Park.

King County conducted email outreach to schools in the West Duwamish Wet Weather Storage project area and introduced the opportunity to offer an introductory meeting to collaborate on temporary fencing art.

Project team at Sanislo Elementary

Coordination with Elementary Schools

Sanislo Elementary and Highland Park Elementary expressed interest in collaborating. The project team met with school staff and introduced the temporary fencing art idea. Once the plans were approved, the team collaborated with art teachers at both schools. King County's education team was also brought on to collaborate and create presentations tailored to all grade-levels participating.

The students at each school learned about stormwater and wastewater before painting their own wooden salmon. These students also learned about stormwater and wastewater, along with the ways they can help keep the Duwamish River clean. Each student got the opportunity to paint their own wooden salmon, which will decorate the fence of project construction area.

Painted wooden salmon