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53rd Avenue Pump Station Upgrade Project

Being a good neighbor during construction

King County is committed to being a good neighbor during construction and working with neighbors to minimize impacts. Throughout our work, our community relations team will provide you with:

- Advance notice of construction activities
- One-on-one meetings with neighbors to discuss activities and concerns
- Community briefings
- Construction newsletters and e-mail updates
- A 24-hour construction hotline at **206-205-5656**
- Project Web site: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/projects/westseattle/53rdAvePS/>

To subscribe or unsubscribe to construction updates, please e-mail Martha.Tuttle@kingcounty.gov.

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Creating Resources from Wastewater



53rd Avenue Pump Station Update



Construction shown here in 1953 at the site of the original pump station looks similar to construction today as we expand the pump station. View more photos inside.

In February 2008 construction began on upgrades to King County's 53rd Avenue Pump Station in West Seattle. This underground wastewater facility, located on the west side of Alki Avenue Southwest at 53rd Avenue Southwest, is more than 50 years old and in need of repairs, new equipment and more underground space.

Upgrades will improve pump station performance, provide safe on-site access for operation and maintenance crews and improve off-site monitoring for King County's regional wastewater system. The renovated pump station will pump 17 million gallons of wastewater per day to the county's West Point Treatment Plant. Construction is scheduled to be completed in late 2009.

Why are upgrades needed?

King County protects public health and the environment by conveying and treating the region's wastewater through a complex and integrated system of pipelines, pump stations, treatment plants and other related facilities.

Current improvements to the 53rd Avenue Pump Station will bring the facility into compliance

with current code and design requirements while also increasing reliability. The pump station will help manage combined stormwater and wastewater flows from nearby neighborhoods and reduce overflows to Puget Sound.

To manage wastewater flows it is important that facilities function together as part of one region-wide system. Upgrades to the 53rd Avenue Pump Station will help King County integrate operations with the nearby Alki Stormwater Treatment Plant and larger King County wastewater treatment plants to the south and north.

The current 53rd Avenue Pump Station was built in 1953 and it has been more than 20 years since the last upgrade. Current improvements have been designed to expand the facility underground in order to maintain neighborhood views.

For more information:

- Contact **Martha Tuttle** at **206-684-1207** or martha.tuttle@kingcounty.gov to answer your questions and concerns. Please ask us to add your name to the project mailing list and or e-mail list.
- View the project Web page at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/projects/westseattle/53rdAvePS/>.



Construction milestones

Utility and storm drain relocation

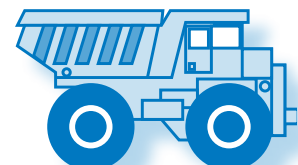
In the spring of 2008 crews relocated utilities and stormwater lines to clear the way for sheet pile driving and site excavation.

Force main installation

In mid-July crews installed a new 24-inch force main pipe and connected it to the existing sewer line. In order to make the connection, the wastewater flow had to be diverted for approximately 30 hours. During this work, Tanker trucks carried wastewater from the 53rd Avenue Pump Station to the Alki Stormwater Treatment Plant and the West Seattle Pump Station.



Tanker trucks hauling wastewater to the Alki Stormwater Treatment Plant and the West Seattle Pump Station.



Sheet pile driving

In mid-August King County's contractor installed approximately 120 sheet piles to hold back the surrounding soil and to stabilize the excavated area. Each shoring sheet is approximately 20 inches wide by 35 feet long and was vibrated into the ground by vibratory hammer on a crane that was brought on site.



The crane and a vibratory hammer vibrating sheet piles into the ground.

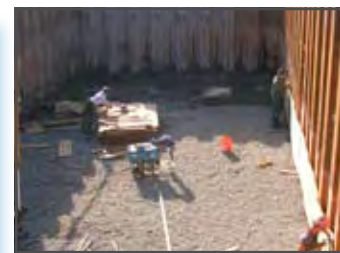
Excavation

In September and October, crews finished excavating the area where the pump station will be built, removing approximately 200 dump truck loads of material.

Thank you for your continued patience through the 53rd Avenue Pump Station construction. The spring and summer months brought the most intrusive construction activities with the round-the-clock trucking of wastewater and installation of sheet piling. From here forward, most construction activities will be underground within the excavated area.



Excavating the area for the pump station.



After excavation, waterproofing the sheet pile walls.

Upcoming construction

This fall and winter, crews will be constructing the floors and walls of the pump station as well as continuing utility work within the site. Crews will pour a foundation made of more than 2,500 yards of concrete in order to hold down existing groundwater; the floor itself needs to be 9 feet thick. This work is scheduled to continue into late 2009.

Fall/Winter 2008:

Excavation and construction of underground floor and walls for pump station.

Spring/Summer 2009:

Install new pump station lid, remove outdated equipment, and install new equipment and pipelines. Connect the existing pump station to the new addition after the pump station is enclosed.

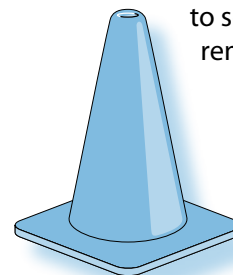
Fall 2009:

Test the new pump station and restore the property surrounding the work area.

What to expect during upcoming construction

Work at the pump station will be completed in an open excavated area about 18 feet deep. The site will be secured with chain link fencing.

Crews are primarily working below ground for the remainder of the project so neighbors and passers by should not expect to see as much of the remaining work.



Speed limit signs posted on Alki Avenue Southwest.

Traffic revisions and lower speed limit

Lanes of Alki Avenue Southwest have been shifted west through the construction area to provide room for crews to work safely; one lane is currently open in each direction. An advisory speed limit of 10 mph is in place through the construction zone, recognizing the roadway has shifted closer to pedestrians and residents. This lane configuration should remain for the duration of the project. During work hours, flaggers are on site and will help guide vehicle and pedestrian traffic through the construction zone. Police are also monitoring this area during construction.

In order to expand the pump station, the existing lane for bikes and walkers has been moved and is now located between the construction zone and the roadway. To provide a safe walkway, there is a fence between pedestrians and the construction zone and jersey barriers between pedestrians and the roadway. Bikers are asked to dismount their bikes and to walk them through the construction area.

Parking

To help accommodate traffic flow, on-street parking along Alki Avenue SW is not allowed in the immediate area of construction.

Emergency access is maintained at all times.

Because parking is already limited in the area, contractor work crews are required to park personal vehicles at the nearby King County Alki Stormwater Treatment Plant and shuttle to and from the job site.

Bus Stops

Seattle Department of Transportation and Metro Transit have determined it is necessary for public safety reasons to temporarily close four bus stops along Alki Avenue Southwest near 53rd Avenue Southwest. The four bus stops that remain closed along Alki Avenue Southwest are:

- Inbound to Seattle at 55th Avenue Southwest and 53rd Avenue Southwest; and
- Outbound from Seattle at Bonair Drive Southwest and 53rd Avenue Southwest.

Hours of construction

Daily work hours will be from 7 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. On some occasions it may be necessary to work on weekends or extend hours to complete certain phases of work.

During work hours, flaggers will direct bicyclists and pedestrians. At times, people may experience short delays. All pedestrian areas and walkways around the construction site will be accessible for people with disabilities.

During non-working hours signage will direct people around the work site.