



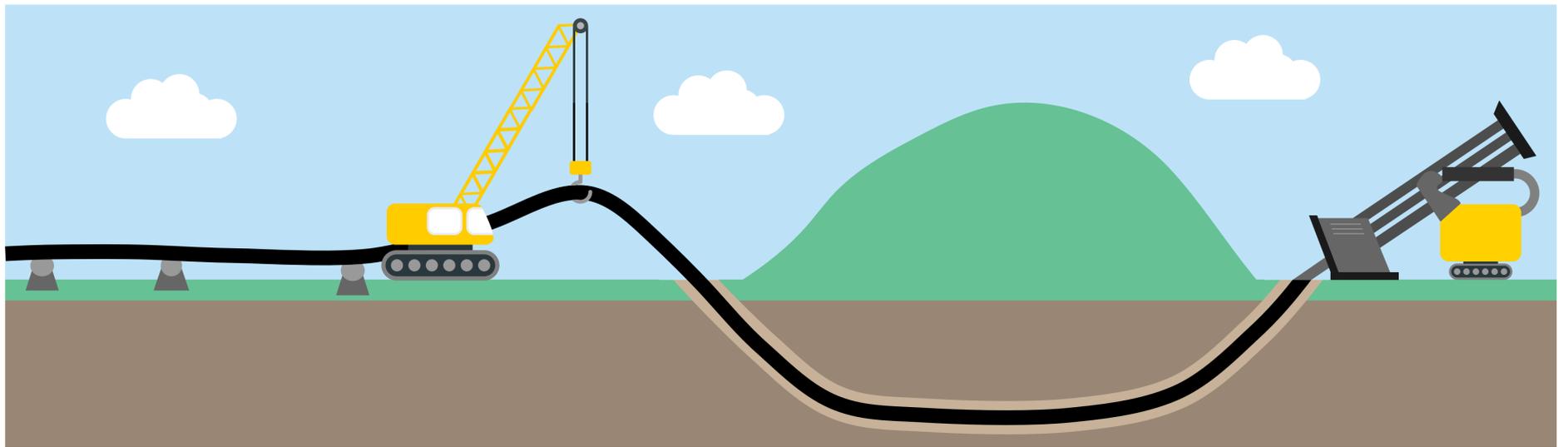
NORTH MERCER ISLAND/ENATAI Sewer Upgrade Project

Installing a New Pipe Under the Enatai Hillside



In order to increase capacity in our sewer pipes, this project includes the installation of a new sewer pipe under the Enatai hillside from Enatai Beach Park to the Sweyolocken Pump Station.

To avoid surface impacts in critical areas and maintain safety depth standards, King County will use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to install the new pipe deep under the Enatai hillside.



Crews install the new pipeline using special equipment that drills a small hole along the future pipe route. There is a wire on the surface that tracks the location of the drilling equipment underground (above, left). Crews enlarge the hole using equipment called reamers (above, right) until it is large enough for the new pipe. A special type of mud is used to keep the hole open until the pipe is pulled into place.

The drilling and installation of the underground pipeline is expected to take approximately 6 months from start to finish. The work could start as early as mid-2021. Once a contractor is hired, we will share more information about the schedule.



Once the bore hole is prepared, the pipe will be pulled through the hole from Lake Washington towards the Sweyolocken Pump Station. In preparation the plastic pipe will be welded into longer sections at Enatai Beach Park. Final assembly of the pipe into its full length will be done on Lake Washington. The final assembly and pipe installation will take approximately two weeks. The pipe pull itself will take up to 48 hours and must be pulled continuously until it is complete, necessitating a few nights of overnight work.