



# NORTH MERCER ISLAND/ENATAI

# Sewer Upgrade Project

King County is upgrading four miles of sewer pipeline across north Mercer Island and south Bellevue. It is a big project that has been years in the making and will involve years of construction. Construction will take place in heavily used public spaces, and in some residential areas. While the work to get there may involve temporary inconveniences, the end product will provide great public benefit.

We are committed to keeping you informed about what's happening and why. This is one of a series of fact sheets that explain the North Mercer/Enatai Sewer Upgrade Project (NME) and what the public should expect—during construction and after the work is done.

## Enatai Beach Park: What's Happening... and Why

Enatai Beach Park is a critical point of the NME Project. Three parts of the upgraded sewer will come together here: a new pipeline (the East Channel Siphon) that will cross the East Channel from Mercer Island; the relined Enatai Interceptor after the pipeline split; and the new Enatai Siphon. These three parts will help transport wastewater flows to the Sweyolocken Pump Station about a half-mile east.

The pipeline split at Enatai Beach Park addresses technical factors that help large sewer systems operate as intended. The split at Enatai Beach Park will address potential problems such as:

- The amount of sewage in the pipe is variable and is based on current system use, large weather events, and growing future populations.
- The speed at which sewage flows through the pipe, which can change based on the slope of the ground where sewers are installed.
- Construction impacts on existing development.
- Cost of building new sewers and relining old ones.

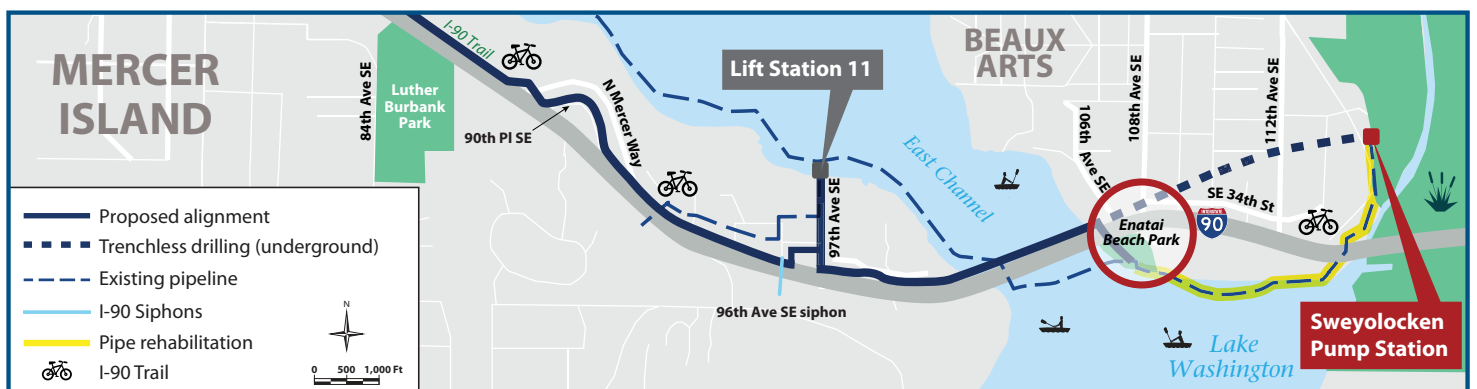
For NME, the project team studied sewer options for years. The proposed pipeline split at the park

was the most desirable system based on current conditions and best practices.

Once the project is complete, low-flow operations will flow through the existing Enatai Interceptor. The Interceptor is located along the bed of Lake Washington just offshore from the park and the Enatai neighborhood. That pipe is big enough to carry the low-level sewer flows expected over the next 40 years. However, some sections of it are getting old and will need to be relined to last that long.

As the population grows and sewage flows increase, combined sewer and stormwater during heavy rain events will be too much for the Enatai Interceptor pipe alone. To accommodate more sewage, the project is building a brand new, high-capacity sewer line - the Enatai Siphon. The Siphon will be drilled under the Enatai neighborhood hill from Enatai Beach Park to the Sweyolocken Pump Station. Using a two-pipe system allows the County to build a smaller siphon, providing a significant cost savings.

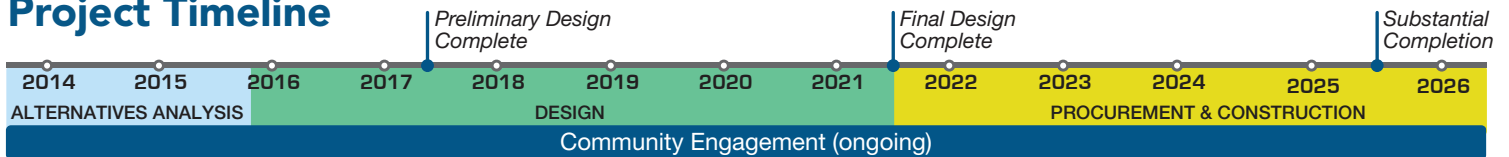
In addition to the new sewer line, connections will link the new pipelines to the existing Enatai Interceptor. A new road will be built to provide access to the new facilities.



# What to Expect During Construction

- Noise and dust typical of construction
  - Additional vehicle traffic on surrounding streets
  - Construction equipment such as excavators, large trucks, backhoe, soil compactors, etc.
  - Work hours primarily during daytime but some construction tasks may require night or weekend work
  - Advance notice of any noisy construction outside of approved hours
  - Intermittent closures of portions of the park
- Work that affects Enatai Beach Park is expected to begin in the spring of 2022 and continue intermittently for up to four years.

## Project Timeline



## Enatai Beach Park: During Construction



- 1 GENERAL STAGING UNDER BRIDGE**  
Establish general staging area under I-90 for storing equipment and materials, fenced off from public access.
- 2 EAST CHANNEL SIPHON**  
Assemble pipe for East Channel Siphon into segments to be floated into the East Channel, lowered into trench on the channel bottom, and buried. Restore affected shoreline.
- 3 ENATAI SIPHON PIPE**  
Assemble pipe for Enatai Siphon in the park, to be floated out on Lake Washington to line up for pulling into a drilled hole under the Enatai neighborhood.
- 4 STRUCTURES AND CONNECTING SEWER**  
Construct new underground pipeline diversion structure and odor control structure, as well as a new sewer extending south to the Enatai Interceptor.
- 5 SWIM BEACH SEWER REHAB WITH TEMPORARY BYPASS PUMPING**  
Install temporary pump station to redirect flow around the work area while Enatai Interceptor across the swim beach is being rehabilitated.
- 6 ENATAI INTERCEPTOR REHAB WITH TEMPORARY BYPASS PUMPING**  
Construct temporary underground pump station to redirect flow to the new Enatai Siphon while downstream Enatai Interceptor is being rehabilitated.
- 7 ACCESS ROADWAY AND FINAL RESTORATION**  
Restore entire site and construct new access road

The map illustration shows the park areas affected and the work planned during each phase of the project as currently proposed; some of this may change as project design is finalized.

# What to Expect After Construction

When construction in the park is complete, we will restore all disturbed areas. The restoration work will be coordinated with the City of Bellevue, returning the affected sites to a condition that is as good as or better than before the work began. The access road that will be built as part of the project is designed to be compatible with a future phase of park development that may include additional public parking and a hand-carry boat launch under the I-90 bridge.

The only permanent above-ground structures include a cabinet and some exhaust pipes that support the underground odor control structure. These will be located underneath the I-90 bridge. On the ground, you'll see hatches installed to provide access to underground portions of the new system. The new roadway that will provide maintenance staff with access to the system equipment will be designed in coordination with the City of Bellevue.

Crews will also enhance a section of the shoreline north of the swim area. We will install large logs and return the shoreline to a pebbly surface. This will provide habitat for spawning salmon and other wildlife.

## Enatai Beach Park: After Construction



# What's Next

King County is currently bringing contractors onboard. Once all documents and paperwork are finalized, construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2022. Overall, construction will take four years, though most work locations will see shorter durations.

Our team will share information, so neighbors know what to expect during construction and beyond. Here is what you can expect from us this year:

- Attendance at community events\*
- Project newsletters, fact sheets, and field work notifications
- Monthly project web updates
- Online/in-person open houses\*
- Briefings online/in-person for interested community groups\*

We are committed to continuing to be a good neighbor during construction. We will share information about construction and impacts on Enatai Beach Park on our website, in project emails, and through posted information at the park.

*\*In accordance with Seattle/King County Public Health guidelines*



## NORTH MERCER ISLAND/ENATAI Sewer Upgrade Project

Este boletín informativo brinda información acerca del proyecto de actualización del alcantarillado en el norte de Mercer/Enatai. Para obtener más información, llame al 425-305-3578, deje un mensaje con su número de teléfono e indique su idioma. Se proporcionará un intérprete sin costo.

本时事通讯为您提供有关 North Mercer/Enatai 下水道升级项目的信息。请致电 425-305-3578, 留言和您的电话号码并选择您的语言。我们将免费提供口译服务。

本通訊為您提供有關北 Mercer/Enatai 下水道升級項目的資訊。如需更多資訊，請致電 425-305-3578, 使用您的電話號碼留言 並選定您所講的語言。我們將免費提供口譯員服務。

**Talk to us!** For more information, or to schedule a virtual meeting, please contact:

The community services team at **425-305-3578** or **NMEsewer@kingcounty.gov**

Visit the project Web page at **[www.kingcounty.gov/MercerEnataiSewer](http://www.kingcounty.gov/MercerEnataiSewer)**

Sign up for email and text alerts on the project Web page.



Alternative formats available  
206-477-5371 or TTY replay: 711

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