

July 3, 2018

King County is considering installing green stormwater infrastructure on 1st Ave. N.E. from N.E. 59th St. to N.E. 60th St.

King County is considering 1st Ave. N.E. from N.E. 59th St. to N.E. 60th St. as a site for an early action project installation as part of the University Green Stormwater Infrastructure project. While construction for the full project in north Seattle is planned for 2021 to 2023, King County is also planning one or more early action projects:

- King County's work in July will further the assessment of your street for a potential installation of green stormwater infrastructure on the right-of-way or planting strip on this street.
- King County will learn the results of the July work in fall 2018.
- If King County proceeds with work for your street, construction is planned for 2019.

To learn more, please visit: www.kingcounty.gov/NaturalDrainage

How King County works with the community

The King County project team knows that residents may have many questions about green stormwater infrastructure and what it means for your street. Should construction be planned, King County will work with the community to provide project information and identify potential impacts.

Stay up to date by visiting the website, www.kingcounty.gov/NaturalDrainage, and signing up for the project email list. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dana West by email at dana.west@kingcounty.gov or call 206-477-5536 or TTY: 711.

Some frequently asked questions:

How does Green Stormwater Infrastructure work?

Unlike traditional "gray" stormwater infrastructure, which uses pipes, underground storage tanks, and treatment plants to collect and clean stormwater, green stormwater infrastructure uses engineered designs of plants, trees, and soil to manage stormwater where it falls. The goal of green stormwater infrastructure is to manage stormwater by allowing it to soak into the ground or evaporate into the air.

What happens with the fence, rockery, pavement or other improvements that I have installed in the public right-of-way (or planting strip) when the County installs green stormwater infrastructure?

The project team is evaluating and identifying the most feasible locations for roadside rain gardens. If the area in front of your property is selected you may be required to remove or relocate improvements that are within the public right-of-way. You will be given plenty of

notice if construction will occur in the public right-of-way or planting strip in front of your home.

Where can I find more information about the right-of-way use in Seattle?

- <http://streetsillustrated.seattle.gov>
- <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/public-space-management-programs/planting-in-the-right-of-way>
- https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal_code/

How does King County decide when and where to use green stormwater infrastructure?

King County uses a combination of strategies to select the project site and locations of the green stormwater infrastructure systems. King County tests the soil, carefully examines the blocks under consideration, and conducts outreach to surrounding residents and businesses.

King County considers the following factors:

- Project costs
- How much stormwater can be managed with green stormwater infrastructure
- Location of nearby adverse conditions (steep slopes, high groundwater, contaminated sites)
- Potential impacts to existing trees
- Existing soil conditions
- Location and condition of existing utilities
- Community input
- Width of existing public right-of-way and planting strip
- Presence of driveways
- Existing parking congestion and availability of off-street parking
- Project construction, operation, and maintenance costs
- Parking
- Co-benefits with other neighborhood goals, such as traffic calming, pedestrian/bike infrastructure, or tree canopy

King County's work to date:

- **2017:** King County began a green stormwater infrastructure project in north Seattle. This project will install facilities to help control a combined sewer overflow in Portage Bay. In 2017-18, the project team is studying soil, groundwater, surface water flow, and street conditions in the project area to identify the best locations for facilities to be installed. Previous studies have taken place as early as 2015 in the north Seattle area.
- **February 2018:** King County conducted soil testing, providing fliers to homes on this street.
- **May 2018:** King County conducted in-person surveys to ask about parking, stormwater drainage issues, and to learn generally if residents had any concerns about green stormwater infrastructure on the street. King County left a project fact sheet and a flier with a link to the online survey at homes where the project team did not reach people in person.
- **July 2018:** King County is currently providing residents information about upcoming early action project work and the potential selection of 1st Ave. N.E. from N.E. 59th St. to N.E. 60th St. for a green stormwater infrastructure installation. The installation would benefit and inform the overall project design. It would also offer residents a chance experience green stormwater infrastructure in a neighborhood setting.

Alternative formats available: 206-477-5536 or TTY: 711