

Longfellow Creek Natural Drainage System (NDS) Project

Construction at SW Kenyon St and 24th Ave SW

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has partnered with the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and the Office of Arts and Culture to develop planned improvements near the intersection of SW Kenyon St and 24th Ave SW.

What is a Natural Drainage System?

Natural drainage systems are built in the roadway shoulder (the space between the street edge and the property line) and are filled with deep-rooted plants and spongy soils that temporarily hold and clean polluted stormwater from streets and sidewalks, removing pollutants before they can reach Longfellow Creek. Natural drainage systems offer multiple benefits to local neighborhoods and ecosystems, including increased landscaping, improved stormwater drainage, healthier creek ecosystems, increased habitat along our streets, traffic calming, and pedestrian improvements.

What Will the Project Include?

- **Natural drainage system:** Natural drainage systems will help improve stormwater drainage and remove pollutants from stormwater runoff to improve water quality in Longfellow Creek.
- **New walkway, bridge, and boardwalk:** A bridge and boardwalk over Longfellow Creek will be installed to make it easier for people to get to nearby schools, homes, and bus stops.
- **Art installation:** Through the City's Public Art Program, Portland-based artist Brian Borrello developed an art installation to create an unexpected, thought-provoking, and perhaps magical place for the community to walk and gather.

Construction Timeline

Construction for this site is expected to begin as soon as June 2022 and will go through late 2022/early 2023. During construction, the contractor will first install the natural drainage system and boardwalk, then complete roadway work. After this work is finished, crews will complete landscaping and planting.



A completed natural drainage system.

What to Expect During Construction

- Construction work will generally occur during weekday, daytime hours
- Construction noise, dirt, dust, and vibrations near the work area
- Parking restrictions and temporary lane closures near the work area
- The SW Kenyon St pedestrian walkway over Longfellow Creek will be closed during boardwalk construction
- Pedestrian detours will be in place
- The project team has notified nearby schools about the upcoming construction

Stay in Touch

SPU is happy to answer questions and provide any information you need to stay informed about this project and its impacts to you and your neighborhood.

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Visit: www.seattle.gov/utilities/longfellowNDS



A newly planted natural drainage system.