



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC ART

in SPU Drainage and Wastewater

BOOK 2 OF 2 of the DWW Art Master Plan
December 2017

Vaughn Bell, Artist

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OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE
SEATTLE



**Seattle
Public
Utilities**

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Note on Acronyms:

Throughout this document the following acronyms/shorthand will be used:

SPU: Seattle Public Utilities

DWW: Drainage & Wastewater

Arts: Office of Arts & Culture

AMP: Art Master Plan

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1.PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 SHIP CANAL WATER QUALITY PROJECT

Project Background

The Ship Canal Water Quality Project (SCWQP) is a major infrastructure investment that requires a prolonged period of construction from roughly 2018-2025.

The outcome of the SCWQP is a major reduction in the amount of pollutants and sewage flowing into our local water bodies.

Within the larger SCWQP are many projects, including a pump station, multiple conveyance projects, 8-foot diameter tunnel under the Ship Canal, conveyance gates, and a 2.7-mile, 18.8-foot diameter tunnel that will capture and temporarily hold more than 29 million gallons of storm water mixed with some sewage during heavy rains. The scale, cost and impact of this project is significant, yet the ultimate product will have relatively little public visibility as it is primarily an underground facility.

The holistic vision articulated in Book 1 of the Drainage and Wastewater Art Master Plan guides public art for the Ship Canal Project. Since the Ship Canal Water Quality Project is a large project over a significant time-span, it is treated as its own chapter here in the Project Opportunities section of this Plan.



Vision and Goals for Public Art on the SCWQP



- Increase public awareness of the function of water quality projects and infrastructure
- Make an invisible system more visible
- Connect people to the flow of water in city and home, and their own place in their local ecology
- Ask big questions and delve deeply into issues of how humans, water and many things in between relate to each other
- Be at the forefront of public art practice
- Create meaningful, inspiring, thought-provoking art experiences in the public realm, both during construction and as a permanent part of the urban landscape

Vision and Goals for Public Art on the SCWQP: The Whole Basin Approach



The public art program addresses the whole basin that drains to the Ship Canal. A conceptual approach for artists may be to consider how people who live some distance from the Ship Canal, Lakes, and Puget Sound itself can make the connection that water they use and touch flows to these water bodies. Public art can increase awareness that water is a great unifier flowing throughout the city and through the body. Public art in the larger geography can make evident the way in which it is all one system.

Artworks related to the, “whole system,” should seek to reveal connections and make the invisible visible.

The Ship Canal: Context and Content

Histories

According to Coll Thrush's book *Native Seattle*, Puget Sound was called Salt Water, and the tidal estuary of Salmon Bay flowed into it, a rich place to harvest clams and salmon. On the shore of Salmon Bay was the large Shilshole village called Tucked Away Inside. Once a vibrant estuary providing food to Native Shilshole community, Salmon Bay was transformed into the Ship Canal: a waterway for industry, boatbuilding and fishing vessels. The topography was deeply altered, the flow of water through the city engineered. The engineering of the landscape not only created passage for boats, it completely altered the ecology of the estuary and displaced the remaining Native community.

The Indigenous life of the place, past and present, must be honored. The memory of the place, what is has been over time, can become more present through public art.



List of resources for Ship Canal and Salmon Bay History:

Native Seattle: Histories from the Crossing-Over Place by Coll Thrush of *special note in this book is the "Atlas of Indigenous Seattle"*

Emerald City: An Environmental History of Seattle by Matthew Klinge

"Water's natural rhythms nourished our areas native culture. Then came the Ballard Locks." By Lynda Mapes, *Seattle Times*, June 30, 2017

<http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/seattle-native-culture-water-hiram-chittenden-ballard-locks-ship-canal-100-years/>

<http://makingthecut100.org/>

The Ship Canal: Context and Content

City in Flux

The neighborhoods around the Ship Canal continue to exemplify the sense of the City in flux. Growth, new development and change characterize the experience of local business districts and residential areas.

Within the sense of the City as constantly changing, public art can stake a foothold and define place.



Waterway Experience

Movement parallel to the waterway and across bridges is the primary way that most residents experience the local waterway. In many parts of the surrounding neighborhoods the water itself is not visible to pedestrians because it is bordered with water-dependent industries and marinas. In other places, the Burke-Gilman trail carries cyclists and pedestrians along stretches of the Ship Canal. Access points to touch the water are limited.

The vista from the water, in which the fishing boats and piers are front and center, shifts our perspective to recognize the way in which our place is built upon and around water.



The Ship Canal: Context and Content

Nighborhood and Community and Place

The SCWQP spans multiple neighborhoods. At the western terminus of the project there is the Tunnel Effluent and Pump Station in Ballard. The storage tunnel goes underground all the way to a site adjacent to the North Transfer Station in Wallingford. In addition, conveyance pipes bringing effluent into the tunnel extend out from it, and a siphon tunnel carrying the wastewater to treatment extends under the Ship Canal.

Neighborhoods with distinct identities are connected by the flow of water. Community identity and history can be celebrated and elaborated through public art practice.



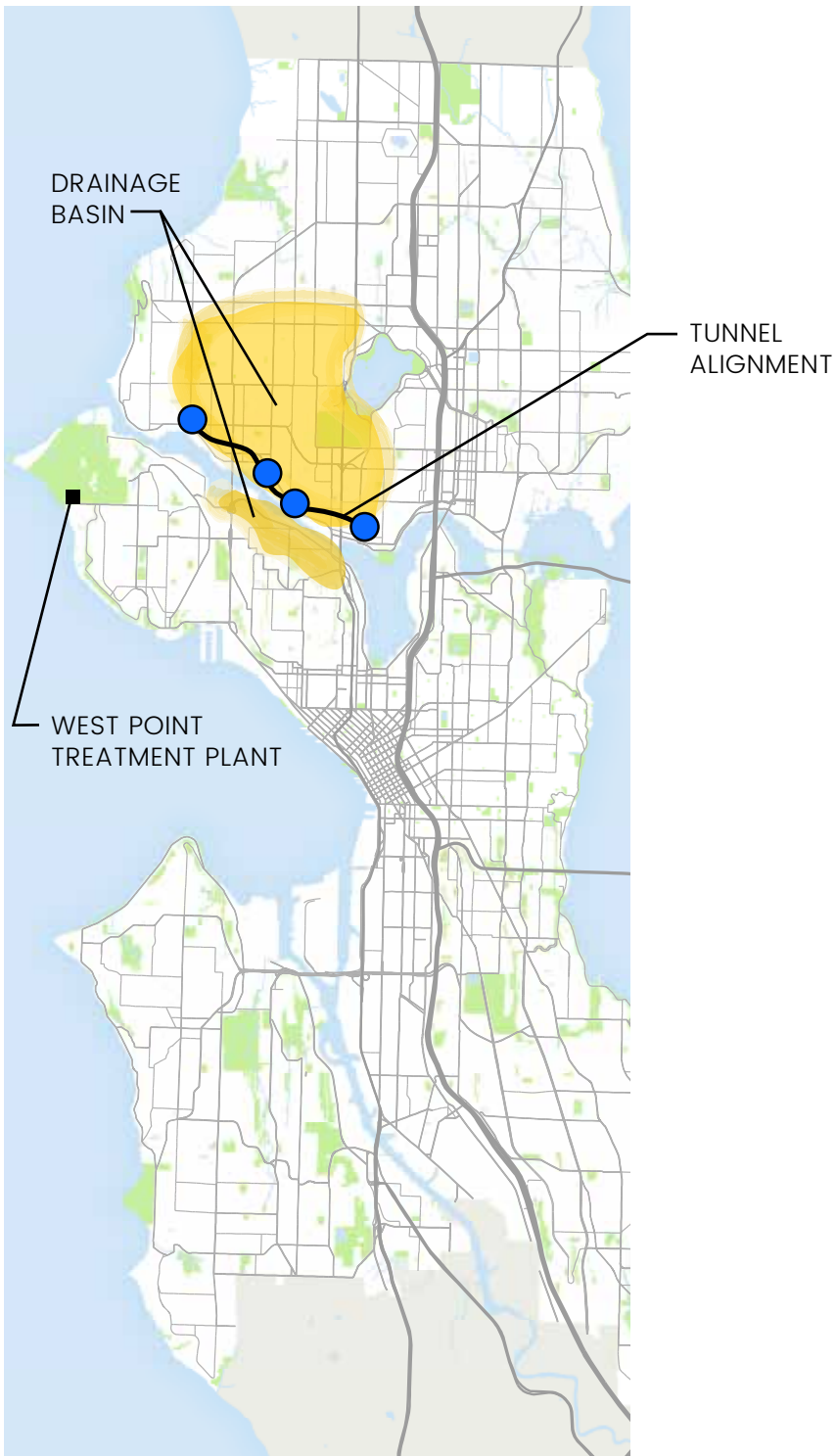


viewing the neighborhoods from the waters of the Ship Canal.....walking the alignment of the SCWQP tunnel





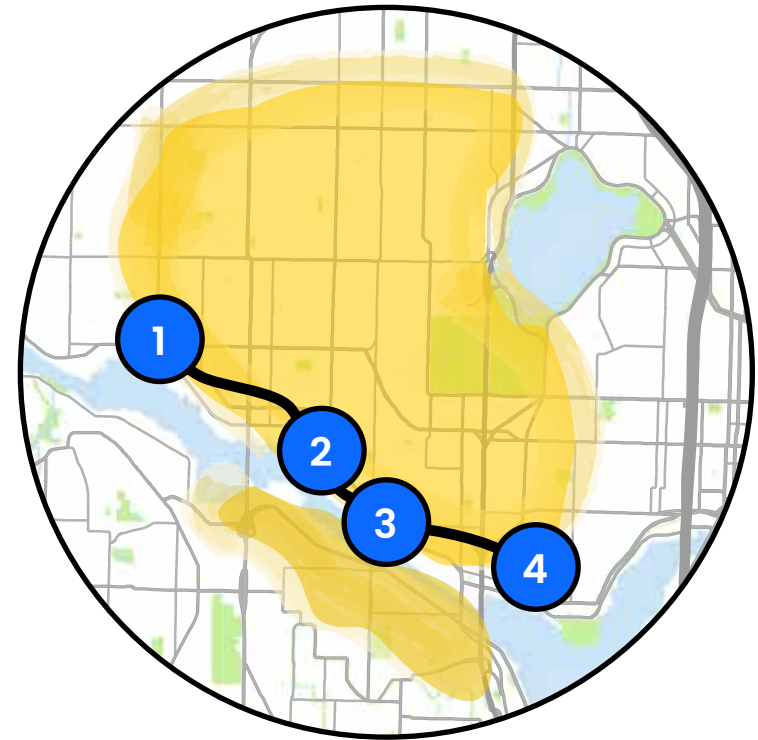
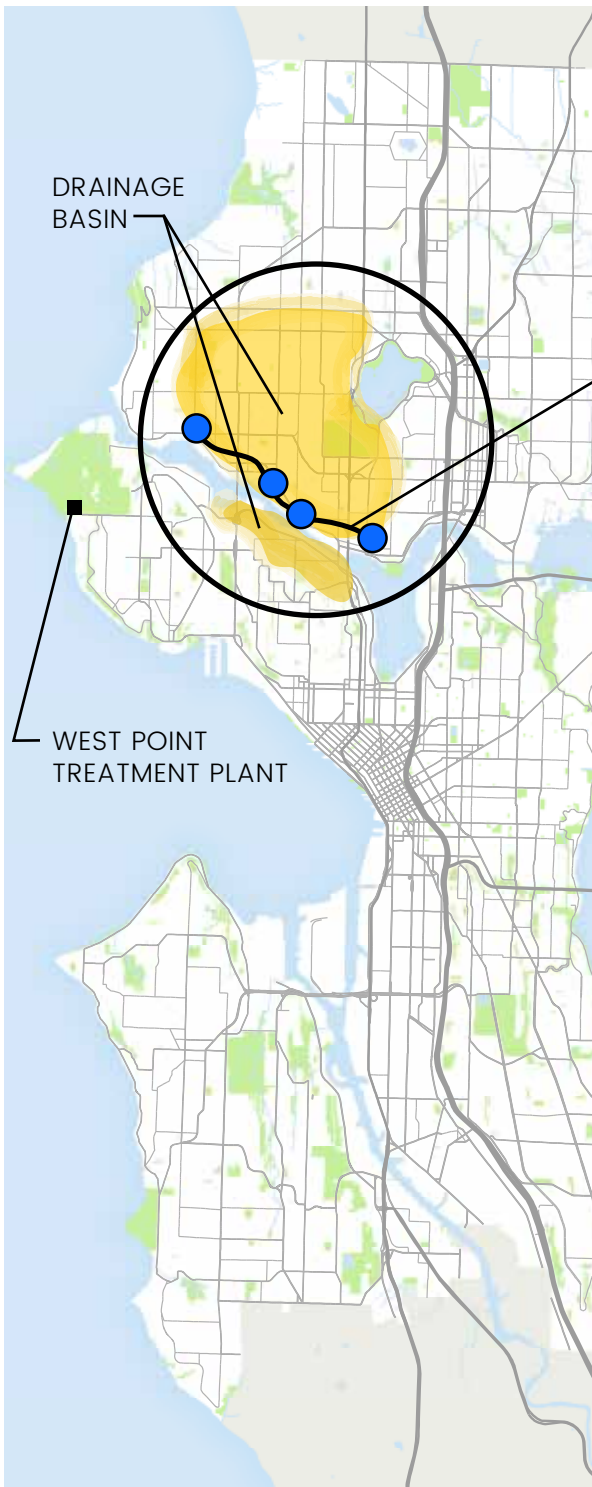
1.1 SHIP CANAL WATER QUALITY PROJECT



BASIN-WIDE PROJECTS:






-  Basin-wide projects will encompass the range of sites and neighborhoods that drain to the Ship Canal.

1.1 SHIP CANAL WATER QUALITY PROJECT



TUNNEL ALIGNMENT
DETAIL MAP

TUNNEL ALIGNMENT PROJECTS

-  Connective Thread/Connective Flow addresses the linear site of the whole alignment and surrounding basins
-  1 24th Avenue NW Pier, Tunnel Effluent Pump Station, Yankee Diner Site
-  2 11th Avenue NW Drop Shaft Location
-  3 Fremont Siphon Area
-  4 Interlake Avenue North in Wallingford

SCWQP Coordinating Artist Strategy

Goals for Coordinating Artist:

- Maintain holistic vision unifying multiple public art projects
- Ensure that public art projects connect to local neighborhoods
- Ensure that public art projects respond to central themes in the Art Master Plan
- Ensure that public art projects extend to consider the whole basin
- Facilitate artist collaborations with design teams

Because this is a multi-year project with many complex elements, it is recommended that a coordinating artist be on board as part of the project team for a duration of several years starting in early 2018. This artist will provide a holistic perspective on the various public art projects and will help other artists to connect with central themes and goals identified in the Art Master Plan.

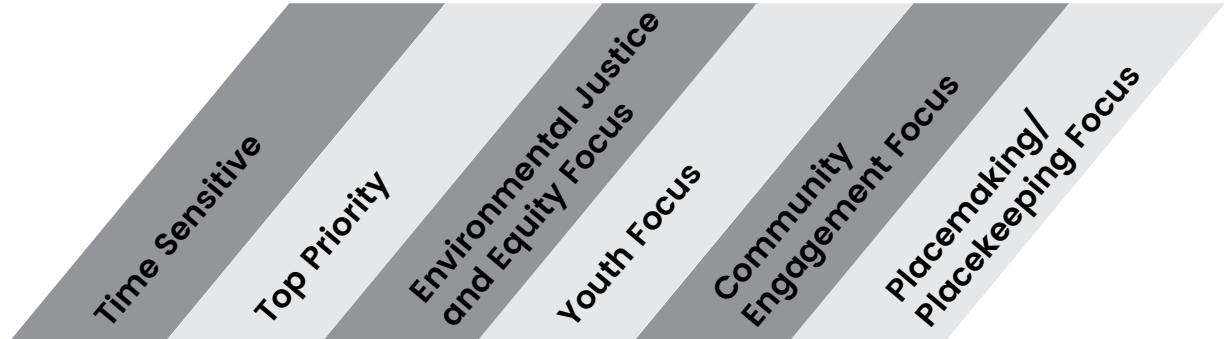
The coordinating artist will serve as liaison between the public art program and SCWQP project managers and communications staff, and connect the dots between multiple art projects and construction timelines.

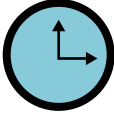





The coordinating artist will also create a temporary work during construction and a work of permanent public art along the tunnel alignment. The coordinating artist's role is not to create the signature artwork of the project, but rather to provide a connective thread amongst multiple creative voices.

The model of a coordinating artist within the project is a tested strategy for public art in major complex infrastructure projects and will improve connectivity, community collaboration, place-making potential, and cohesion of the public art projects.

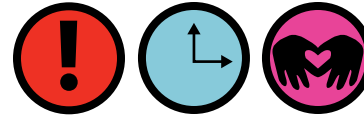
See Appendix 2.1 Scope of Work for SCWQP Coordinating Artist.

1.1 Ship Canal Water Quality Project: Public Art Opportunities



PROJECT NAMES	PAGE #						
The Water Underground	17	■	■			■	
Connective Thread/ Connective Flow	18		■				■
Local Ecologies of Water: Art as a Bridge between Science and Community	19		■				■
Native History Boat Tour and Artist-Led Boat Tours	20			■		■	
Curated Construction: Art for Fences and Sound Walls	21						■
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Tunnel Effluent Pump Station	25	■	■	■		■	
24th Ave NW Pier	26	■					
“Yankee Diner” Site	27		■				■
11th Ave NW Drop Shaft Location	28						■
Fremont Siphon Area	29						■

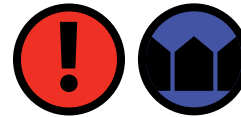
PROJECT OPPORTUNITY “The Water Underground”



Location(s):	the whole basin
Budget Range:	5-10 artist projects with budget of \$10,000-\$30,000 each
Time Frame:	2018-2025
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We Are the Weather

The Water Underground is intended as a curatorial framework that will unite a collection of temporary artworks over a period of 3-4 years. Temporary, performance based, installation or participatory artwork will unfold during construction and connect people in the surrounding basins to the flow of water through their homes and neighborhoods. Sites will include public spaces throughout the basins that drain to the Ship Canal. The SCWQP coordinating artist will assist in creating a cohesive vision and communications around these projects.

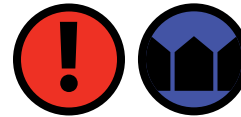
PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: “Connective Thread/Connective Flow”



Location(s):	the whole basin, the right-of-way along the storage tunnel alignment
Budget Range:	\$100,000-\$200,000
Time Frame:	2018-2025
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

Sites in the right-of-way along the storage tunnel alignment and throughout the Ship Canal drainage basins present an opportunity for an artist to develop art that will relate to underground facilities and reveal the invisible workings of the system and flow of water. Artwork can provide a portal of sorts for people to grasp the idea of water flowing underground. The artwork will consist of multiple small elements sited at locations in the right-of-way that connect people in the basins to the flow of water through their homes and neighborhoods by adding visual elements to the pedestrian environment.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Local Ecologies of Water: Art as a Bridge between Science and Community



Location(s):	the whole basin (other versions of this project will be located in Creek drainages throughout the City/see pp. 39)
Budget Range:	\$30,000-\$70,000
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Habitat and Inhabitants, We Are the Weather

By examining water quality in our receiving water bodies and how CSO's contribute, artists can help the public make the connection between the neighborhoods that they inhabit and the waters of Puget Sound. Water quality data, how we collect this data, and how we impact it may be a source for artistic collaboration.

An artist or artist team will collaborate with scientists to create a work of art that engages the public with the science of water quality, focusing on the drainage basins surrounding the Ship Canal. Scientific research, knowledge, and data collection are closely linked to the work of SPU DWW. A deep level of understanding of local ecological conditions is not always present within the general public, yet we are all part of these local conditions. Artists, who think deeply about how people experience and come to know the world through all their senses, may provide an avenue to make this data accessible to people in more dynamic ways.

The artist/teams will develop projects that:

1. are rich in meaning and aesthetically compelling
2. work with scientific information and scientists and data in a deep and collaborative way rather than in a superficial manner
3. create a deeper connection between the public and the environment/ecology of which they are part by bringing scientific processes, data and methods to the public in a manner that is accessible while not oversimplifying

SEE DRAFT RFQ IN APPENDIX

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Native History Boat Tour and Artist-Led Boat Tours



Location(s):	Ship Canal
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-2023
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

The view from the water opens up new perspectives on the Ship Canal for people who live nearby. Public events with free boat tours that include cultural programming can provide a deeper relationship to the place. Boat tours will connect to the Tunnel Effluent and Pump Station and nearby pier projects.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Curated Construction: Art for Fences and Sound Walls



Location(s):	sites include the Pump Station site and additional sites to be determined by the SCWQP Coordinating Artist as construction unfolds
Budget Range:	\$15,000-\$50,000 per site per year for a curator to program fences and walls with rotating artwork.
Time Frame:	2017-2024
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, myriad other ideas

The elements of construction projects, such as fencing, conveyors, and sound walls, are all possible sites for art. Art can tell the story of the project, communicate about water quality, and contribute to the aesthetic qualities of the neighborhood during construction. This is a good opportunity for emerging public artists and artists whose work is primarily two-dimensional.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Photographer in Residence for Construction



Location(s):	the whole basin
Budget Range:	See previous resident photographer budgets
Time Frame:	2018-2024
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, construction

An art photographer will be given access to the construction site, to produce photos to be shared with the public.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Sound Artist in Residence for Construction



Location(s):	the whole basin
Budget Range:	\$30,000
Time Frame:	2018-2024
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, construction

A sound artist will be given access to the site, to conduct field recordings and produce a sound piece that can be performed or otherwise shared with the public.

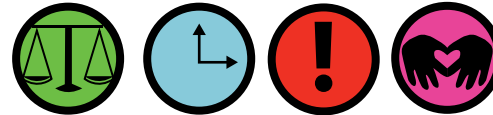
PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Artist-led Walks: “Walk the Flow”



Location(s):	the whole basin
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-2024
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

Artist-led walking tours of neighborhoods surrounding the Ship Canal can make people aware of the flow of water through their streets and yards. This project opportunity exists for other neighborhoods as well. See page 35 for more details.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Tunnel Effluent Pump Station

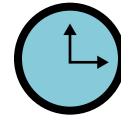


Location(s):	24th Ave NW and Shilshole Ave in Ballard
Budget Range:	\$100,000-\$200,000
Time Frame:	an artist was selected for this project in 2017
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants, Native history and culture

Standing on Market Street in Ballard, the neighborhood’s historic architecture may feel very present in the midst of new development. However, the presence of the water just a block or two away is often not felt, even though the maritime industries that grew Ballard into an industrial and urban area are still present. The site of the SCWQP pump station, and the pier nearby from which dirt excavated from the tunnel will be loaded onto a barge, actually can serve to lead people to the water. The artworks at these sites will also reveal the older histories and cultural realities of the area.

An artist will be commissioned to create a major artwork that relates to the Native history, culture, and the ecology of the Ship Canal/Salmon Bay and related estuaries at the Tunnel Effluent Pump Station. The artwork will include permanent outdoor sculptural materials, and the artist may collaborate with landscape architects on the selection of plants or landscape elements as well.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: 24th Ave NW Pier



Location(s):	24th Ave NW in Ballard
Budget Range:	\$40,000
Time Frame:	an artist was selected for this project in 2017
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, maritime history

An artist will design inlays for the pier, to be integrated during construction. The artist will develop artwork that references the maritime history of the site.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: “Yankee Diner” Site



Location(s):	TBD
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	TBD
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

The SCWQP coordinating artist will help develop this scope when more information is available.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: 11th Ave NW Drop Shaft Location



Location(s):	11th Ave NW and NW 45th Street in Ballard
Budget Range:	\$100,000-\$200,000
Time Frame:	2018-2025
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather

The 11th Ave Drop Shaft is in a neighborhood of industrial character next to the large Fred Meyer which has a high level of vehicular and cyclist traffic, as well as some pedestrians. There is a possible site for public art at corner of 11th Ave NW and NW 45th St. near Fred Meyer and the Burke Gilman Trail. Vaults will be placed in the right-of-way and SPU will acquire an easement for some property at the corner.

Further discussions with the project team will help determine if a larger sculptural work is feasible at this location; it may be in conflict with the Fred Meyer sign. Alternately, a work in the ground plane relating to pedestrian and cyclist movement in the area would be of interest.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Fremont Siphon Area



Location(s):	2nd Ave NW/Leary Way NW/NW 36th St., a space exists at the edge of the Fremont Siphon site along the Burke Gilman trail.
Budget Range:	\$150,000-\$250,000
Time Frame:	2018-2025
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather

Underneath the Burke-Gilman trail and nearby Leary Way in Fremont, a lot of water will be flowing invisibly underground, including multiple pipes underneath the Ship Canal itself. Meanwhile, at grade, this is a busy thoroughfare with multiple modes of transport and boats traversing the narrow Ship Canal in the midst of the Fremont neighborhood’s business and commercial center. The site is a good candidate for a sculptural work that can relate to foot and cyclist traffic on the neighboring Burke Gilman Trail.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Interlake Ave. N.



Location(s):	Interlake Ave. N and N. 35th St.
Budget Range:	100,000-\$200,000
Time Frame:	2018-2025
Priority (1-3):	3
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather


SPU will have a small facility at the corner of Interlake Ave. N and N 35th St. Since this is directly adjacent to the North Transfer Station, it is not considered as a priority location for another major public art commission but may still be a site for a public art piece. The surrounding area is residential to one side and commercial to the other. Aesthetic enhancements may be made to the small SPU facility such as surface decoration or sculptures attached to the structure. This could be a bookend piece to the Pump Station artwork.



1.2 COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH SOCIALLY ENGAGED ART









PROJECT SITES

 Initial focus areas for
Artists in Situ / Artists in Basin

CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Artists in Engagement Program
Walk the Flow Program

1.2 Community Building through Socially Engaged Art: Public Art Opportunities

PROJECT NAMES	PAGE #	Time Sensitive	Top Priority	Environmental Justice and Equity Focus	Youth Focus	Community Engagement Focus	Placemaking/Placekeeping Focus
							
Artists in Engagement Program: Stories of Water	33		■	■	■	■	
Artists in situ/Artists in basin	34			■		■	
“Walk the Flow” Artist-led Community Walks	35			■		■	
New “Water Spirit” Mascot	36					■	

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Artists in Engagement Program: Stories of Water



Location(s):	multiple sites to be identified though partnerships with specific community based organizations that work with SPU Environmental Justice and Service Equity division (ESJE)
Budget Range:	\$50,000-\$100,000/year for residency and production of work, ongoing over multiple years
Time Frame:	2017-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

What stories do people carry with them of water? Personal, mythical, traditional, poetic, anecdotal...all ways of talking about water can be considered. Stories of water can encompass water’s preciousness and its danger, its emotional associations and functional force. The idea of water can include weather, climate, oceans and seas, rivers and streams, water to drink and to wash with, water to swim and to fish in, dirty water and clean water. How might people experience water differently, or the same, in Seattle compared to in their homeland or in other places where they have lived? By connecting with watery stories, people from diverse and divergent backgrounds may find common flow.

Selected artists will develop relationships with communities through partnerships with local community based organizations. This residency-type arrangement will be facilitated through the work of SPU EJSE, and the selected artists will work with a community over a period of minimum one year. The artists will engage people in conversations about “Stories of Water.” The artists will work with these communities to collect, gather, produce, inspire and communicate peoples’ stories about water.

The outcomes of these interactions could take one or more of the following forms: videos, website, performances, community forums, events, festivals, story collection published online or as a book, exhibition, images, photographs, or other forms identified in the community process.

SEE DRAFT RFQ IN APPENDIX

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Artists in situ/Artists in basin



Location(s):	Delridge and Lake City neighborhoods, future basins TBD, partnered with libraries
Budget Range:	\$50,000-\$100,000/year for residency and production of work, ongoing over multiple years
Time Frame:	Launch 2018
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

SPU has maps that delineate drainage basins throughout the City. What this means is that within a single basin all the water is gathering together before it ultimately reaches a larger water body. This is a powerful metaphor for the gathering of people together, and as an organizing principle it is a tool for ecological education.

Selected artists will be “Artists in situ” for specific locales (Lake City and Delridge have already been identified).The artist will be to be “in situ” in the community/drainage basin over a period of time and develop artwork as a collaborative process with the community. The outcome of this work is not pre-determined but will evolve over time. The artists will start out spending a minimum of 1 year “in situ.” The local library will be the primary/initial locale for the artist to connect with the neighborhood. The selected artists will produce ongoing multi-media documentation of their “in-situ” work, recognizing it as a process-based, socially engaged art form.

The outcomes of these interactions could take one or more of the following forms: installations, videos, website, performances, community forums, events, festivals, exhibition, images, photographs, or other forms identified in the community process.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: “Walk the Flow” Artist-led Community Walks



Location(s):	throughout the City, focus on areas where SPU capital projects are under way; opportunities include Montlake CSO and Ship Canal areas, for example
Budget Range:	\$2,000-\$20,000 for each location depending on scope
Time Frame:	Any time
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather

Artists will work with SPU staff to lead community walks on un-conventional routes that trace the flow of water through the neighborhood. Temporary installations or interventions in the right-of way along the route can relate to the pathways of water. Additional opportunities may include artist-designed maps of storm water flow, audio guides/podcast tours or even performances and parades. This is an opportunity for multiple artists whose practice includes performance, walking, or public interactions. Artists will develop walks for specific locations. SPU may begin by focusing walks on neighborhoods where capital projects are planned or in progress.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: New “Water Spirit” Mascot



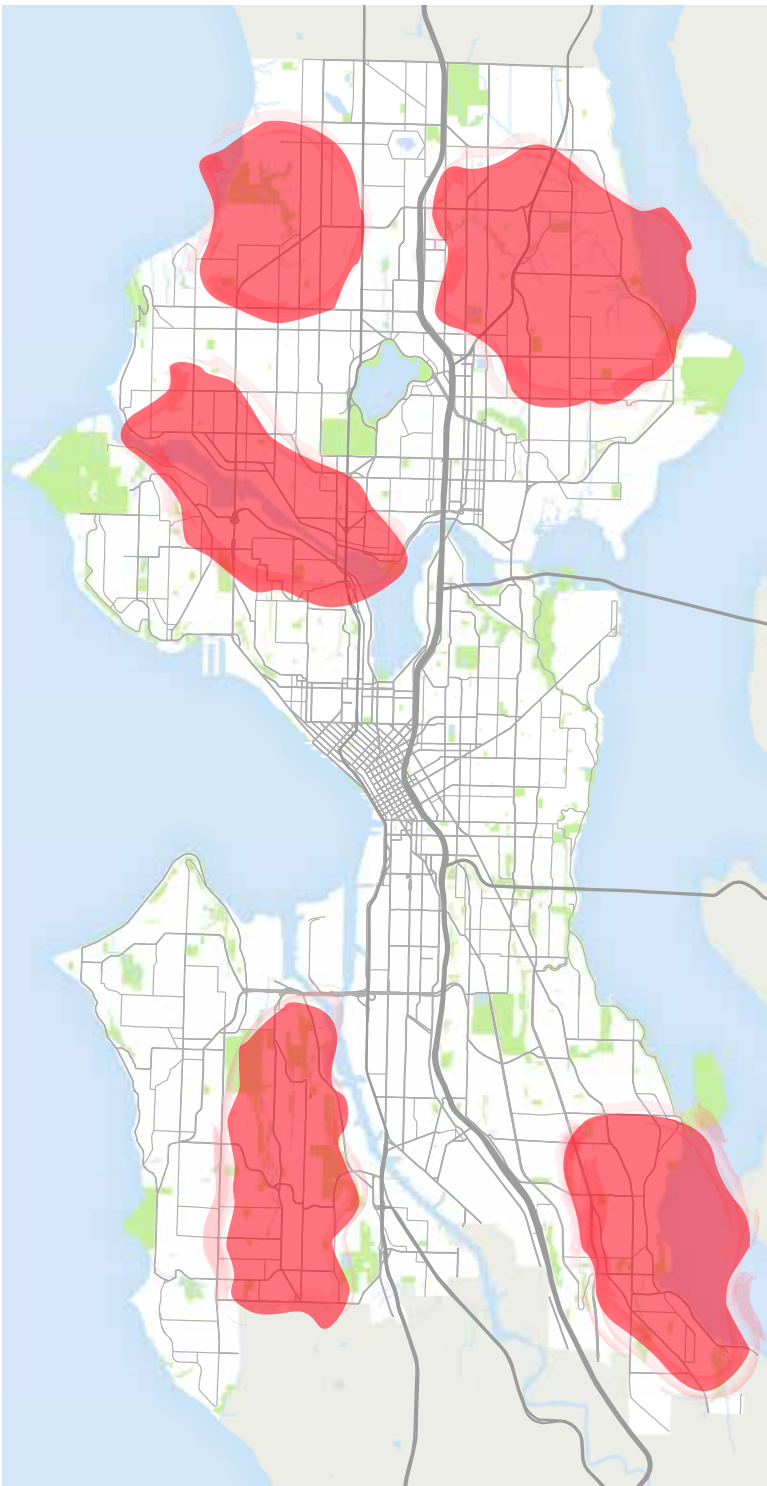
Location(s):	throughout the City, relates to capital projects, maintenance work and community events
Budget Range:	TBD (SPU marketing funds)
Time Frame:	Any time
Priority (1-3):	3
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

Humor and mystery may combine to take the idea of a mascot or costumed icon to a more nuanced level or to subvert the concept of a mascot. A local performance artist, sculptor, or designer of wearable artwork will create a new mascot for SPU Drainage and Wastewater. Performances may occur as part of community festivals, at groundbreaking ceremonies, or events.



Seattle Municipal Archives, Photograph Collection , Item No: 101110, Description: SPU Director Diana Gale and Bert the Salmon mascot, Creekstock, Longfellow Creek, Date: Apr 27, 2000, Photographer: Ian Edelstein

1.3 EDUCATIONAL ART - SCIENCE COLLABORATIONS



PROJECT SITES



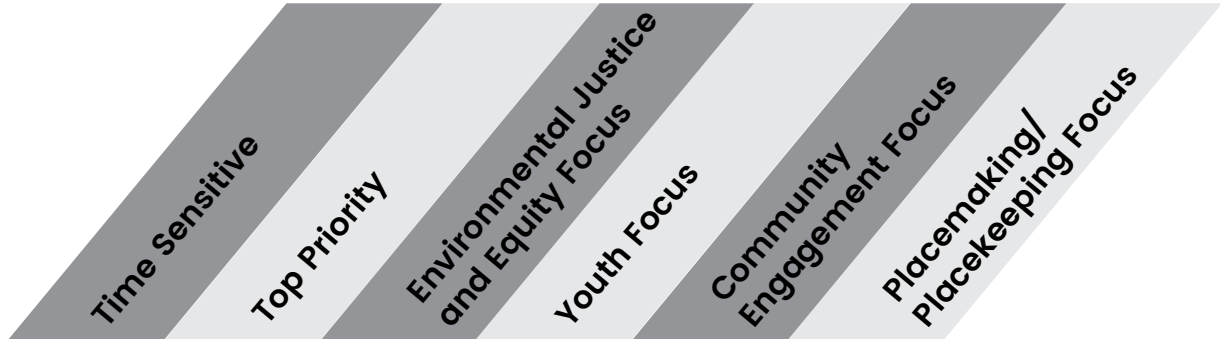
Local Ecologies of Water:
Art as a bridge between Science and
Community Location Areas:

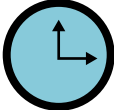





- Ship Canal
- Lake Focus Area: Taylor and Mapes Creeks
- Pipers Creek
- Longfellow Creek
- Thornton Creek

CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

Art Connecting Youth with Water
Rainwise Design Partnerships
GSI Education and Engagement

1.3 Educational Art-Science Collaborations: Project Public Art Opportunities



PROJECT NAMES	PAGE #						
Local Ecologies of Water: Art as a Bridge between Science and Community	39		■	■	■	■	
Community-Creek Pilot Project	40			■	■	■	
Art Connecting Youth to Water Pilot Project	41			■	■	■	■
Green Stormwater Infrastructure Education and Engagement through Art	42					■	■
Rainwise Design Partnerships	43					■	■

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Local Ecologies of Water: Art as a Bridge between Science and Community



Location(s):	Creek Areas and Drainage Basins including Longfellow Creek, Pipers Creek, Thornton Creek, the Ship Canal, and Taylor Creek/Mapes Creek/Lake Washington in SE Seattle
Budget Range:	Five artists or artist teams with a budget of \$30,000-\$70,000 for each project
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants, Native history and culture

SPU DWW 1% for Art program presents an opportunity for artists to be placed at the nexus of ecological knowledge and public understanding. DWW has a holistic perspective on many watersheds and water bodies. While managing the flow of water through the urban environment and considering the substances that we let flow into our local water bodies, SPU DWW develops deep knowledge of local hydrology, ecology and meteorology. Within this knowledge is also the recognition of what is not known: the relative unpredictability of climate, the chances of a 100 year storm occurring, or the vast array of microbial inhabitants in a stream bed, for example.

Scientific research, knowledge, and data collection are closely linked to the work of SPU DWW. A deep level of understanding of local ecological conditions is not always present within the general public, yet we are all part of these local conditions. Artists, who think deeply about how people experience and come to know the world through all their senses, may provide an avenue to make this data accessible to people in more dynamic ways.

Each artist/team will develop a temporary project that addresses an area of scientific information and local ecological condition relevant to SPU DWW work.

The artist/teams will develop projects that:

1. Are rich in meaning and aesthetically compelling
2. Work with scientific information and scientists and data in a deep and collaborative way rather than in a superficial manner
3. Create a deeper connection between the public and the environment/ecology of which they are part by bringing scientific processes, data and methods to the public in a manner that is accessible while not over-simplifying

SEE DRAFT RFQ IN APPENDIX

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Community-Creek Pilot Project



Location(s):	Longfellow Creek and High Point Neighborhood
Budget Range:	\$10,000
Time Frame:	2017-2018
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Habitat and Inhabitants

The DWW Artist in Residence was tasked with developing a small pilot project for the Art Master Plan. Urban creek watersheds are a focus area for natural drainage, and provide one venue in which artists can develop work that is closely connected to ecological and riparian research.

The art project "Meet Your Creek: Postcards from the Creek" by Vaughn Bell will develop based on research and exploration of the Longfellow Creek Watershed and connecting to people who live in this area. Over the course of a year -2018, beginning with a kick-off in November 2017, in tandem with community events sponsored by SPU to celebrate the Anniversary of the Watershed Action Plan- a series of participatory community events will unfold around the creek. These will include:

- Artist led walks
- Draw/write your own "postcard from the creek" workshops
- Audio, video recording, and drawing activities along the creek

The community events and images, audio, video and drawings generated through the process of research and engagement may then lead to an installation or exhibition in a local community space, such as the Delridge Library, High Point Neighborhood House, or a local park or natural area. Locations may also be rotated to reach the diversity of audiences in the Watershed. Sites along the the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail may be included, highlighting sections of Creek connections to surrounding neighborhoods.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Art Connecting Youth to Water Pilot Project



Location(s):	TBD
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, Habitat and Inhabitants, We Are the Weather

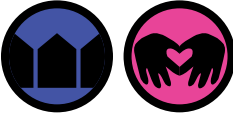
Teaching artists can combine art and science in public art projects with youth, offering hands-on opportunities for young people to understand natural processes, the built environment, and water ecology.

The selected artist or team will serve as a teaching artist as well as a creator of public art. They will work with youth either in a school setting or through after school or other program to develop an art project that incorporates green stormwater solutions in their community. The artist will work with youth as collaborators. Depending on the age range of the young people involved, the curriculum elements of the program many vary, but can include science topics that are relevant in the creation of artwork.

For example, a teaching artist could work with young people to create a rain garden on school grounds with art incorporated, such as decorative ceramics that the youth create. The creation of the rain garden and the art provides an opportunity to incorporate knowledge about water flow, hydrology, pervious versus impervious surfaces, and ecology. The artistic component invites the students to consider ways of communicating about the natural world to the public.

Book 1: Art Master Plan Vision: Diving Deeper offers guidance on approaches to this project.

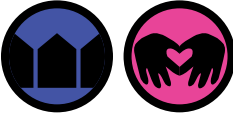
PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Green Stormwater Infrastructure Education and Engagement through Art



Location(s):	natural drainage systems focus areas
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	We are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants

Artists can focus on a neighborhood’s sense of ownership and community awareness of green storm water solutions, especially those located in the roadside areas and adjacent to homes. Selected artists will develop temporary art in the right-of-way. The artwork will be performance or participatory artwork created in concert with outreach and engagement processes during design and construction of GSI in residential neighborhoods. Possible approaches may include: storytelling, blessings, kid-friendly activities, temporary applications in the sidewalk such as stencils, events or many other forms.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Rainwise Design Partnerships



Location(s):	throughout the City, partner with Rainwise Program
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	any time
Priority (1-3):	3
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants

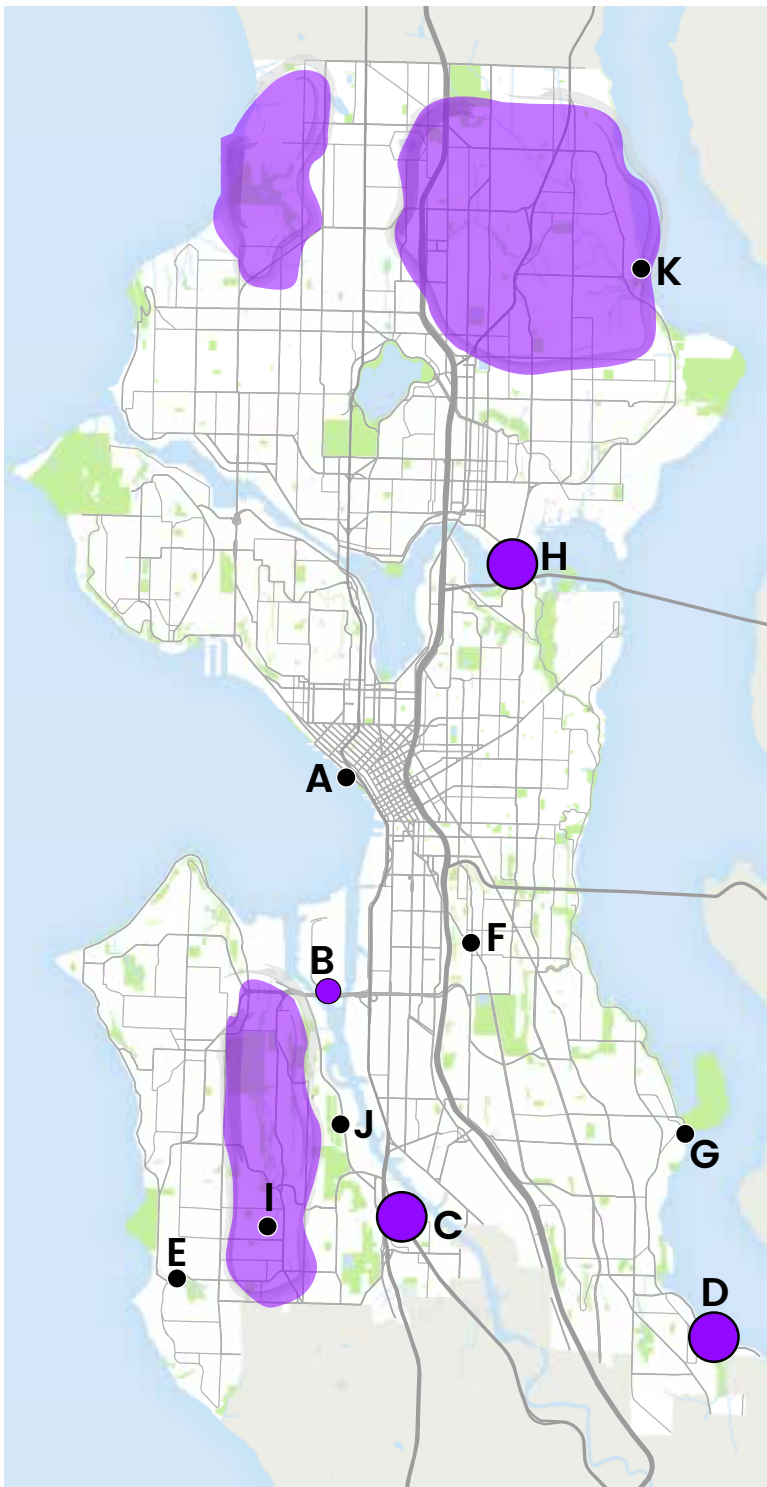
Elements of the Rainwise program are great candidates for artist’s input. These include: cisterns, signage, downspouts and rain garden elements. An artist can be selected to develop standard design elements that individuals could incorporate into Rainwise projects.

cisterns can be beautiful




"cisterns can be beautiful" courtesy of Bob Spencer

1.4 PLACE MAKING AND PERMANENT PUBLIC ART IN INFRASTRUCTURE



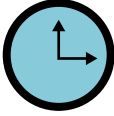





PROJECT SITES

-  Roadside Bioretention Opportunities in Neighborhoods
- A** Central Waterfront Storage
- B** East Duwamish Waterway and Chelan
- C** South Park
- D** Taylor Creek
- E** Fauntleroy Creek
- F** Maple Playfield
- G** Seward Park
- H** Montlake
- I** Longfellow Creek Green Space
- J** Puget Park
- K** Thornton Creek at Matthews Beach Park

CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

- Invisible Infrastructure
- Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts
- Shoreline Street Ends
- Parks Land Bank Sites
- Signature Sculpture, site TBD

1.4 Place-Making and Permanent Public Art in Infrastructure: Public Art Opportunities

PROJECT NAMES	PAGE #	Time Sensitive	Top Priority	Environmental Justice and Equity Focus	Youth Focus	Community Engagement Focus	Placemaking/Placekeeping Focus
							
Invisible Infrastructure	46					■	■
Signature Sculpture/Project to be identified	47		■				■
Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts	48					■	■
Shoreline Street Ends	49						■
Central Waterfront Storage	50	■					■
East Duwamish Waterway/Chelan	51						■
South Park Water Quality	52	■		■			■
Fauntleroy Creek	53					■	■
Maple Elementary/Maple Playfield	54	■	■	■	■	■	■
Seward Park	55						■
Montlake	56	■					■
Longfellow Creek Greenspace	57		■		■	■	■
Puget Park	58						■
Thornton Creek at Matthews Beach Park	59						■
Parks Land Bank Sites	60						■

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Invisible Infrastructure

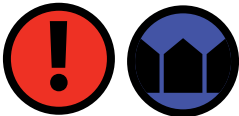


Location(s):	throughout the City
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	any time
Priority (1-3):	TBD (pending discussions on feasibility)
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

As we move through the urban environment, we are in the midst of a system of water flow and drainage, but we usually are not aware of it. Pump stations, utility cabinets, vaults and outfall locations fade into the urban fabric and are often impossible to distinguish from other types of infrastructure such as transportation or electrical. SPU and regional agencies install signs such as “Puget Sound Starts Here” or “No Dumping Drains to Creek” marking the entrance of storm water into grates. Utility covers sometimes are marked SEWER or STORM for functional purposes. Facilities are often identified with signage that simply includes the Seattle Public Utilities logo and a name or number.

Making the system visible and knowable has been identified as an important goal for DWW’s public art program. As an initial project addressing this theme, an artist will work with SPU staff to understand the types of facilities and locations where the graphics could be used. The artist will then develop a visual language for identifying DWW facilities. The graphic elements will be designed in a format to be easily applied as stencils, decals, or signage to existing and new facilities.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Signature Sculpture/Project to be identified



Location(s):	TBD
Budget Range:	\$300,000-\$500,000
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

SPU has prioritized the commission of a significant sculptural work. A possible location is yet to be determined; sites may include those related to the Water line of business.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts



Location(s):	places where DWW is building roadside bioretention throughout the City
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	We are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants,

In addition to managing and cleaning storm water, roadside bioretention adds beauty and natural habitat to the streetscape. While passersby may admire plants growing in the swales, it is often not obvious how the bioretention functions. Visual elements that bring to people’s attention the flow of water are encouraged. Artistic elements should be poetic rather than didactic, but may serve an educational function.

The selected artist will design a kit of parts of artistic elements that may be incorporated into roadside bioretention responding to community input. Not all elements will be incorporated in every location, so each part of the kit must stand alone as well.

The artist will work with staff and engineers to produce specifications for incorporating the designs. The artist will also fabricate or work with a fabricator to produce the elements such as inlays. The artist will not be responsible for installing the artwork but rather will deliver a complete package that can be incorporated into project CD and implemented as part of construction. Thus, installation specifications should be simple and able to be incorporated by SPU project contractors.

Kit of Parts may include:

- Inlays that can be added to adjacent sidewalks.
- Visual elements for inlets such as inlays or patterns.
- Ideas for edges, railings, signage, stepping stones and benches.

SEE DRAFT RFQ IN APPENDIX

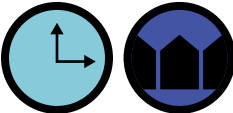
PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Shoreline Street Ends



Location(s):	shoreline street ends exist in many neighborhoods along Lake Washington, Lake Union and Puget Sound- they are SDOT right-of-way
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	3 (consider SDOT planning for the Shoreline Street Ends)
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

Throughout the City, public access to waterways is possible at street ends where the street grid runs into lakes. These properties are right-of-way and managed by the Seattle Department of Transportation. Artwork at Shoreline Street Ends can create a draw and amenity for local access to water bodies. Street ends in close proximity to outfalls are good candidates as they have a specific connection to Drainage and Wastewater.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Central Waterfront Storage



Location(s):	Vine Street area in Belltown
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-2020
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

An artist can design permanent public art to be integrated in the right-of-way at SPU storage areas. Space is limited. Coordination is needed with Waterfront and Seawall Art Plans.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: East Duwamish Waterway

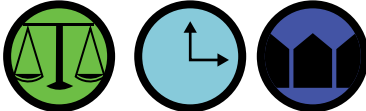


Location(s):	Parks property or right-of-way along East Duwamish Waterway on Harbor Island
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	3
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We are the Weather

This project is a possible crossover with the King County CSO Art Plan. While no SPU capital projects are in the immediate vicinity, SPU CSO work will improve water quality in the Duwamish River, and this area may present an opportunity to reveal connections to the River and raise awareness. Artwork could relate to cyclists and pedestrians in this freight-oriented area along the West Seattle Trail. Duwamish River history and water quality can be the focus.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: South Park Water Quality



Location(s):	South Park neighborhood, Duwamish River
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2019-2022
Priority (1-3):	discuss whether another project should be sited in South Park.
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

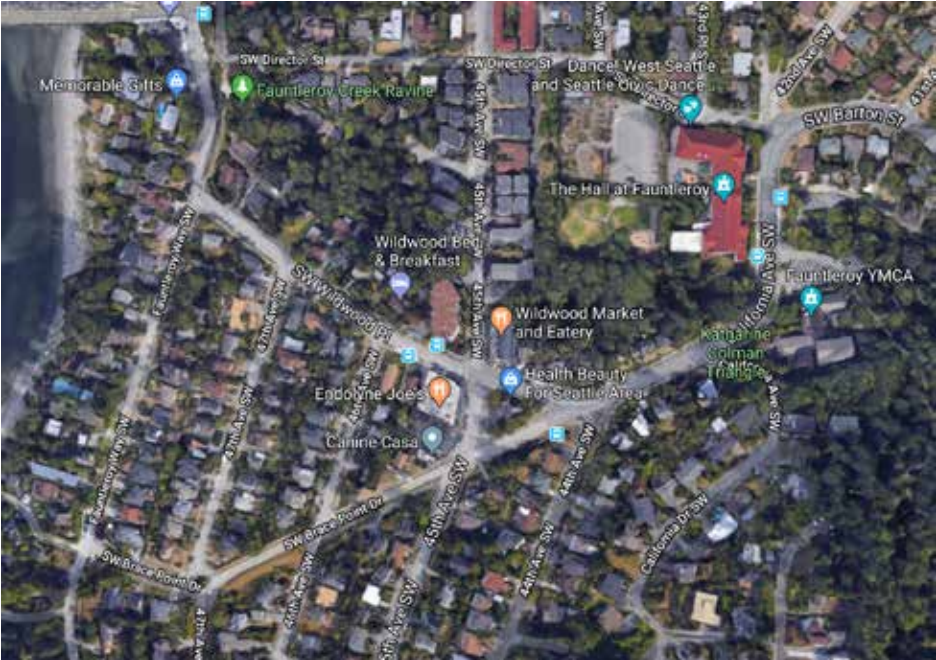
Several capital projects have been or are planned for construction in the South Park neighborhood. With its proximity to the Duwamish River, South Park presents an opportunity for public art addressing water quality. Public art in this neighborhood should also address community concerns of the diverse population.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Fauntleroy Creek

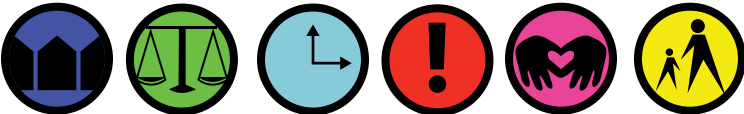


Location(s):	45th Ave. SW and SW Wildwood Place, Fauntleroy Creek Natural Area
Budget Range:	\$75,000-\$200,000
Time Frame:	2019-2020
Priority (1-3):	TBD
Sources and Inspiration:	Habitat and Inhabitants

Fauntleroy Creek runs through a ravine in West Seattle, surrounded by a natural area that is well cared for by the local community. It goes underground for a section before ultimately emptying into the Sound near the ferry terminal. Permanent public art already exists near the ferry terminal, but SPU capital project work to install a storage tank near 45th Ave. SW and SW Wildwood Place presents an opportunity for public art at this intersection. Public art at this location could reveal and relate to the creek flowing nearby, or public art could be sited in nearby areas to mark the entrances to the natural area.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Maple Elementary/Maple Playfield



Location(s):	Pearl St. DWW improvements- Beacon Hill - S. Dawson and Corson Ave. S, Parks partnership site or ROW
Budget Range:	\$100,000- \$200,000
Time Frame:	2018-2020, construction 2019-2020 - SELECT ARTIST IN 2017-2018
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water

Maple Playfield is located adjacent to Maple Elementary on Beacon Hill, in a diverse neighborhood. This is an opportunity for an artist to be involved in a community-centered project that unfolds during design and construction. Community engagement is a priority, including involvement of Maple Elementary School, and an artist could create art that is temporary and participatory in the neighborhood during construction. Locations for permanent public art on the actual project site are limited as it is an underground storage tank in the right-of-way, but permanent artwork could be sited at adjacent Parks property at the Maple Playfield next to the school.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Seward Park

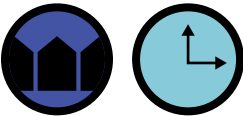


Location(s):	Henderson CSO Site near entrance to Seward Park, Parks partnership site
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	Construction is complete, so an art project is not dependent on capital project timeline
Priority (1-3):	3 - dependent on interest of Parks Department and community members
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, We Are the Weather

The Henderson CSO project constructed a large underground storage tank that contains storm water and prevents combined sewer overflows into Lake Washington. The site, on Parks property near the entrance to Seward Park, offers vistas of the Lake and good public access. The large CSO storage tank underground on the site is invisible to the public, and opportunity exists to connect park visitors to an understanding of the flow of water on site and in surrounding neighborhoods.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Montlake



Location(s):	E. Shelby St. and W. Shelby Street, pump stations and parks
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2019-
Priority (1-3):	3 - dependent on interest of neighborhood, the sites are in out-of-the way residential locations
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

The Montlake CSO projects include several sites around the Montlake Cut, primarily in residential neighborhoods. There are multiple possible locations for artwork including a pump station and Parks property along Portage Bay. Other locations along the Montlake Cut are the property of the Army Corps of Engineers. Because of the location, it may make more sense to focus a temporary project such as “Walk the Flow” (see page 35) here rather than siting a permanent artwork.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Longfellow Creek Greenspace



Location(s):	Longfellow Creek Greenspace between SW Thistle St and SW Kenyon Street in West Seattle; directly east of Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School, Parks partnership site
Budget Range:	\$50,000-\$150,000
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	1
Sources and Inspiration:	We Are the Weather, Habitat and Inhabitants

Longfellow Creek Greenspace follows a section of the Creek in the Delridge neighborhood. This is a great opportunity for an educational partnership with local schools and community members in exploring the Longfellow Creek watershed. The project direction could be a temporary project focused on education and engagement and/or a permanent place-making work in the green space and right-of-way developing out of the education and engagement process. This connects to the 25th anniversary of the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail.

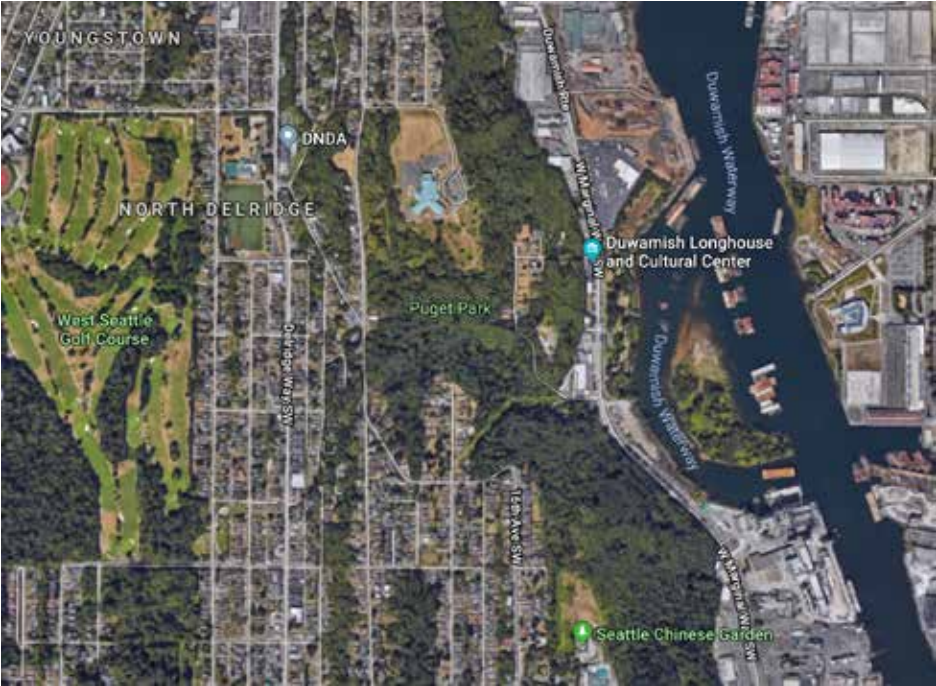


PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Puget Park



Location(s):	Surface drainage and sub-basin area for SPU that is close to the Duwamish River Trail, Parks partnership site
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	TBD
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

Puget Park is part of the West Seattle Greenbelt, and encompasses a large area of forested land that primarily drains to the Duwamish River. It includes around 5 miles of hiking trails. A public art project for this area could include trail markers, natural materials, interpretive information about the ecology of the forest as it connects to the flow of water, or other approaches appropriate to a natural area. In addition, an artist working in the Longfellow Creek Watershed on the project Local Ecologies of Water (p. 39) may also create work in relation to the West Seattle Greenbelt. Further discussions between SPU and Parks staff can gage interest in a public art project for this location.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Thornton Creek at Matthews Beach Park



Location(s):	Park and ROW near creek at Matthews Beach, Parks partnership site
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	TBD
Priority (1-3):	TBD
Sources and Inspiration:	Habitat and Inhabitants

The presence of the outlet of Thornton Creek at this park presents a wonderful opportunity for an artwork relating to the Creek and Lake Washington. Spawning salmon can sometimes be seen in the Creek here. Further discussions between SPU and Parks staff can gauge interest in a public art project for this area.



PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Parks Land Bank Sites



Location(s):	Throughout the City
Budget Range:	TBD
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	TBD

Land Bank parks are new parks on land recently acquired by the City. Further discussions between Arts, SPU and Parks staff are needed to identify the scheduled Land Bank park sites for the next several years and what potential these sites have for public art. Parks that have a direct connection to Drainage work or facilities may be candidates for permanent public art.

PROJECT OPPORTUNITY: Taylor Creek



Location(s):	Taylor Creek from Deadhorse Canyon to Lake Washington
Budget Range:	\$150,000
Time Frame:	2018-ongoing
Priority (1-3):	2
Sources and Inspiration:	Connecting to Water, Habitat and Inhabitants

Taylor Creek flows through a steep ravine in Southeast Seattle, then disappears underground for a short distance, flows through back yards and into Lake Washington. SPU’s restoration work on the Creek will address sedimentation concerns to improve salmon habitat.

The artist will collaborate with SPU, Parks, and community members in the Taylor Creek area to create and install a series of artistic wayfinding elements that will allow the public to connect with Taylor Creek as it travels from the trailhead of Deadhorse Canyon to Lake Washington.

2. Appendices

2.1 Draft Scope of Work for SCWQP Coordinating Artist

Ship Canal Water Quality Project Coordinating Artist Scope of Work:

- attend project team meetings (2-4 x/month)
- attend community meetings as needed, lead community walks
- attend design commission or other reviews as needed
- review plans for various components of the project during design and give feedback to facilitate artwork integration and improve aesthetics
- work with Arts Office PMs to facilitate scoping and selection of additional artists to create work related to SCWQP (both temporary and permanent commissions)
- serve as liaison to the project team and other artists working on components of the project
- respond to opportunities for art as they arise
- contribute a holistic and consistent creative voice to whole SCWQP art program
- maintain seattle.gov email account with presence on project team lists and working presence at SPU offices
- create a small temporary, participatory artwork as part of “The Water Underground” to unfold during construction, that will relate to the alignment of the tunnel and connect people in the surrounding basins to the flow of water through their homes and neighborhoods
- create a permanent artwork - “Connective Thread/Connective Flow”- consisting of multiple small elements sited at locations along the tunnel alignment that connects people in the basins to the flow of water through their homes and neighborhoods by adding visual and/or sculptural elements to the pedestrian environment; possible sites may be at drop shafts and in the right of way along the tunnel alignment; the permanent artwork concept may arise out of the temporary project

2.2 Draft RFQ for Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts

Call for Artists- Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts

Background:

<http://www.seattle.gov/environment/water/green-stormwater-infrastructure>

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/EnvironmentConservation/Projects/GreenStormwaterInfrastructure/CurrentGSIPProjects/index.htm>

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/EnvironmentConservation/Projects/GreenStormwaterInfrastructure/index.htm>

As part of the Plan to Protect Seattle's Waterways, SPU is building natural drainage systems, also called roadside bioretention, in several neighborhoods throughout the City. These roadside bioretention sites are located in the right-of way, typically in residential areas. The bioretention sites, also called swales, collect dirty storm water from the street and allow it to soak into the soil, preventing pollutants, sediments, and high flows of water from degrading the water quality in our creeks, river, lakes and Puget Sound.

The design of roadside bioretention varies by location. Local hydrology, street layout, engineering demands and the input of community members help determine the design of the bioretention. However, many elements are common to most roadside bioretention.

The intent of the Roadside Bioretention Kit of Parts is to provide a kit of elements that may be incorporated at roadside bioretention projects throughout the City. These elements are not neighborhood-specific, but rather add aesthetic and educational value to the bioretention in any location. The items that are included in any given project will be determined by the individual SPU project with community input.

Artist Scope of Work:

The selected artist will design a kit of parts of artistic elements that may be incorporated into roadside bioretention. Not all elements will be incorporated in every location, so each part of the kit must stand alone as well. The artist will work with staff and engineers to produce specifications for incorporating the designs. The artist will also fabricate or work with a fabricator to produce the elements such as

inlays. The artist will not be responsible for installing the artwork but rather will deliver a complete package that can be incorporated into project CD and implemented as part of construction. Thus, installation specifications should be simple and able to be incorporated by SPU project contractors.

Kit of Parts will include:

- Inlays that can be added to adjacent sidewalks. Designs for inlays will keep in mind that the amount of adjacent sidewalk being built varies by location, and often includes patches between existing sidewalk. Designs will creatively address this potentially "messy" aspect of the sidewalk surface, while fitting within SDOT standard sidewalk specifications and safety requirements.
- Visual elements for inlets such as inlays or patterns.
- Ideas for edges, railings, signage, stepping stones and benches.

In addition to managing and cleaning storm water, roadside bioretention adds beauty and natural habitat to the streetscape. While passersby may admire plants growing in the swales, it is often not obvious how the bioretention functions. Visual elements that bring to people's attention the flow of water are encouraged. Artistic elements should be poetic rather than didactic, but may serve an educational function.

All designs should keep in mind maintenance or artwork in the right of way, slip/trip hazards, and accessibility. Placement of footings or other items in the swales is discouraged for the most part as it may impede function and maintenance.

Artist Qualifications:

- Experience developing construction documents and specifications
- Experience working in the right of way
- Flexibility and collaborative attitude
- Interest in revealing ecology through art

2.3 Draft RFQ for Artists in Engagement Program: Stories of Water

Call for Artists- Artists in Engagement Program

Project theme: “Stories of Water”

What stories do people carry with them of water? Personal, mythical, traditional, poetic, anecdotal...all ways of talking about water can be considered. Stories of water can encompass both water’s preciousness and its danger, its emotional associations and functional force. The idea of water can include weather, climate, oceans and seas, rivers and streams, water to drink and to wash with, water to swim and to fish in, dirty water and clean water. How might people experience water differently, or the same, in Seattle compared to in their homeland or in other places where they have lived? By connecting with watery stories, people from diverse and divergent backgrounds may find common flow.

Artist Scope of Work:

Hire a lead “artist in engagement” for this program. This artist may then coordinate the hire of additional artists for specific projects and communities. This artist will be hired using 1% for art funds, and would thus be on contract with the Office of Art and Culture. Their contract would be similar to an artist residency contract, however, this person should work in this role for an extended period of time in order to develop relationships with communities. Their initial term should be a minimum of one-three years, with the intention that if things go well the program will continue.

The lead artist will work with SPU environmental justice and service equity division staff who will connect the artist with community partner organizations (community based organizations- CBOs) who are already working with SPU to accomplish outreach and inclusive engagement outcomes. SPU staff will also connect the artist with public outreach and engagement liaisons. Funding from SPU for organizations may support CBO’s staff time to coordinate with the artist. During contracting conversations with organizations, SPU staff will ask about their interest in involvement with this program and potentially write it into the scope of their contracts.

The lead artist will work over a minimum 1-3 year period in order to establish and deepen relationships. As the program unfolds, the lead artist will be the contact

point and liaison between SPU’s environmental justice and service equity division and other artists. In a structure similar to an artist residency, the lead artist will have a workspace and City of Seattle email address. The lead artist will coordinate, with SPU and the Office of Art and Culture, the hiring of additional artists. The lead artist will develop artwork in collaboration with other artists and communities. The lead artist will also be tasked with developing, producing and disseminating, with SPU and the Office of Art and Culture, ongoing multi-media documentation of the “Stories of Water” program.

The selected artist(s) will develop relationships with communities and engage them in conversations about “Stories of Water”. The artist(s) will work with these communities to collect, gather, produce, inspire and communicate peoples’ stories about water. The outcomes of these interactions could take one or more of the following forms or other forms: videos, website, performances, community forums, events, festivals, story collection published online or as a book, exhibition, images, photographs.

Process for artist selection:

The Office of Art and Culture will issue an RFQ with EJSE input and run an artist selection panel. Staff from SPU ESJE would be on the panel.

Artist selection criteria::

- a strong portfolio of past socially engaged artwork
- experience working with diverse communities
- a commitment to community engagement
- strong organizational and communication skills
- past curatorial experience or experience collaborating with other artists
- the ability and interest to be involved and present for a long-term project

Call for Artists- Artist-Scientist Collaborations Program

Background:

Seattle Public Utilities Drainage and Wastewater has a holistic perspective on many watersheds and water bodies. While managing the flow of water through the urban environment and considering the substances that we let flow into our local water bodies, SPU DWW develops deep knowledge of local hydrology, ecology and meteorology. Within this knowledge is also the recognition of what is not known: the relative unpredictability of climate, the chances of a 100 year storm occurring, or the vast array of microbial inhabitants in a stream bed, for example.

Scientific research, knowledge, and data collection are closely linked to the work of SPU DWW. A deep level of understanding of local ecological conditions is not always present within the general public, yet we are all part of these local conditions. Artists, who think deeply about how people experience and come to know the world through all their senses, may provide an avenue to make this data accessible to people in more dynamic ways.

Proposal:

SPU DWW 1% for Art program presents an opportunity for artists to be placed at the nexus of ecological knowledge and public understanding.

Artist Scope of Work:

Four artists or artist teams should be selected, one for each of four locations outlined below. Each artist/team will develop a temporary project that addresses an area of scientific information and local ecological condition relevant to SPU DWW work. The artist/team will develop a project that:

- 1.is rich in meaning and aesthetically compelling
- 2.works with scientific information and scientists and data in a deep and collaborative way rather than in a superficial manner
- 3.creates a deeper connection between the public and the environment/ecology of which they are part by bringing scientific processes, data and methods to the public in a manner that is accessible while not over-simplifying

Projects may take any of the following forms or other forms: participatory

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community events, performance activities, walks, audio or video, temporary installations in public venues, or others.

Selection Criteria:

The call should be national/international to attract artists for whom this call is particularly relevant to their body of work. The selected artists should have a strong portfolio of past work that engages communities and deals with scientific subject matter in an in-depth and revelatory manner.

Process:

The selected artists will work with SPU and Arts staff to focus on an area of scientific interest in relation to the location for their work (see below for locations and possible areas of nexus). After a period of research and collaboration, the artists will propose artworks for realization. The artworks may take a variety of forms. Documentation of the artworks will also be an important component of connecting the public with the artists' work.

Recommendations for commissioning projects that combine art and science:

- 1.allow time for collaboration to take place between artist and scientists
- 2.allow time for in-depth research on the part of the artist
- 3.facilitate this research and relationships by supporting artist with contacts when possible and a budget aligned with the intention for research time

Locations/Topics:

Selected artists will work in local neighborhoods with specific connections to particular issues and projects. Below is a list of locations that have been identified as focus areas for artists to concentrate on.

Thornton Creek-

Recent SPU work at Thornton Confluence, especially experimental techniques to improve water quality by seeding the hyporheic zone with micro-organisms from healthy streams in the Cedar River watershed, can be a source for artistic collaboration and inspiration. Some questions artists may pursue in relation to this site:

How do we humans recognize our connection to the microscopic world?

Can we reveal what is invisible in the workings of the stream?

How can the public connect to the stream as an ecological community of many species rather than just flowing water?

What does it mean to restore the ecological function of a system after human intervention?

Focus areas of scientific collaboration with nexus to SPU:

stream ecology

hydrology

soil micro-organisms

soil chemistry (especially as it relates to contaminants)

fisheries

Longfellow Creek-

2017 will be the 25th anniversary of the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail project. Longfellow Creek, flowing through the Delridge and Westwood neighborhoods, remains both a community amenity in places and ignored and invisible in other places. Citizen volunteers and community groups such as Puget Soundkeeper conduct water quality surveys and salmon surveys. Many neighborhood groups conduct restoration work in the natural areas surrounding the creek. Some questions artists may pursue in relation to this site:

How can the public connect to the stream as an ecological community of many species rather than just flowing water?

What does it mean to restore the ecological function of a system after human intervention?

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Focus areas of scientific collaboration with nexus to SPU:

stream ecology

hydrology

soil chemistry (especially as it relates to contaminants)

plant ecology/native plants

ecology of urban forests

fisheries

Pipers Creek-

Fall Salmon Spawning surveys and Salmon in the Schools can be an entry point for artistic collaboration. Some questions artists may pursue in relation to this site:

How can the public connect to the stream as an ecological community of many species rather than just flowing water?

What does the presence of salmon in an urban context teach us?

Focus areas of scientific collaboration with nexus to SPU:

stream ecology

hydrology

fisheries

soil chemistry (especially as it relates to contaminants)

water quality in Puget Sound

Ship Canal Basin and Ship Canal Water Quality Project-

By examining water quality in our receiving water bodies and how CSO's contribute, artists can help the public make the connection between the neighborhoods that they inhabit and the waters of Puget Sound. Water quality data, how we collect this data, and how we impact it may be a source for artistic collaboration.

Possible areas of scientific collaboration with nexus to SPU:

climate and weather

fisheries

water quality in Puget Sound



Thanks to everyone who contributed to this Art Master Plan and the research and explorations that fed into it. What a wonderful opportunity to contemplate the possibilities for public art, and to think about the relationships between humans, the systems we build and maintain, other species, and water.

Vaughn Bell
December, 2017

End of Book 2. See Book 1 for Vision.