



**Waterway 1 Full Sewer Repair
SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

Description of Proposal

Throughout the City of Seattle, SPU replaces deteriorated sewer pipes and associated structures using its Full Sewer Replacement Program. Sewer lines are replaced based on the potential they have for future problems or failure. Problems range from nuisance issues to property damage. Generally, the work removes a section of the existing pipe and replaces it with a new pipe. Typically, the sections of pipe are in City-owned street rights-of-way or on City easements on private property. Work typically includes (but is not limited to) traffic control, potholing, full trench excavation, replacement of pipe sections and pipe fittings, reinstatement of laterals, bedding, disposal of excavated material, dewatering, backfilling, CCTV inspection after repair is done, bypass pumping of drainage and wastewater, and restoration of disturbed ground and damaged and demolished paved surfaces. To support design of the sewer repairs, SPU may conduct geotechnical investigations of subsurface soil and groundwater conditions in the vicinity of existing sewer lines.

To obtain efficiencies in the contracting and construction of these sewer pipe replacements, SPU bundles individual, unrelated pipes into a single construction bid document. Contractors then bid on the packaged set and the successful bidder conducts the pipe replacement as specified in contract documents. SPU is currently preparing Full Sewer Replacement Contract 25-1 that bundles five different pipe replacement projects. Four of the pipes included in the contract are categorically exempt from SEPA threshold determination requirements as established by WAC 197-11-800 and Seattle Ordinance 114057 (SMC 25.05.800) as they would affect pipes less than 12 inches in diameter (SMC 25.05.800.X) and are not assessed in this DNS.

The remaining project is the Waterway 1 Full Sewer Replacement Project, which involves pipes larger than 12 inches in diameter and is the subject of this Checklist. The Waterway 1 Full Sewer Replacement Project would replace approximately 61 linear feet (LF) of a failing 15-inch diameter clay sewer main constructed in 1912. The pipe section is between upstream maintenance hole (MH) 025-200 (in street right-of-way for 43rd Ave NE) and downstream MH 025-198 (on parcel 152504HYDR). Additional, related work would:

- Replace 7 LF of a broken 18-inch diameter clay sewer main from approximately 129 feet to 136 feet downstream from upstream MH 025-197 (in street right-of-way for NE 35th St). After completion of the spot repair, cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) line the sewer main for approximately 195 LF from MH 025-197 (in street right-of-way for NE 35th St) to MH 025-198 (on parcel 152504HYDR);
- CIPP line a 10-inch diameter RCP sewer main for approximately 66 LF from MH 025-204 (in street right-of-way for 43rd Ave NE) to MH 025-198 (on parcel 152504HYDR);
- CIPP line a 15-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) sewer main for approximately 145 LF from MH 025-217 (on private parcel 4114600160 [3335 43rd Ave NE]) to MH 025-199 (on parcel 152504HYDR). After CIPP lining the sewer main, install two tee liners on wye connections to the sewer main at approximately 43 and 46 feet downstream from MH 025-217 (both on parcel 4114600160 [3335 43rd Ave NE]); and

- Install new maintenance holes and other appurtenances as needed and reinstate laterals.

New pipework would be installed using standard cut-and-cover and open-trench methods. CIPP lining and tee liners would be installed using trenchless methods that use existing maintenance holes for access.

Proponent

Seattle Public Utilities
Seattle Municipal Tower Suite 4900
P.O. Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

Location of Proposal

The Waterway 1 Full Sewer Replacement Project would occur in the City of Seattle's Laurelhurst neighborhood in street rights-of-way for 43rd Ave NE and NE 35th St, on parcel 152504HYDR owned and managed by WDNR, and on privately owned parcel 4114600160 (3335 43rd Ave NE). Work on parcel 4114600160 would occur in an SPU-acquired easement. The WDNR parcel is known as Waterway 1 and is a waterfront property used as public open space and maintained by the Laurelhurst Community Club and Friends of Waterway 1 through a Memorandum of Agreement with the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation.

Lead Agency

Seattle Public Utilities, the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen (14) days from the issuance date below. A copy of the environmental checklist is available online at

<http://www.seattle.gov/utilities/neighborhood-projects/construction-impacts>

Public and Agency Comments

Comments on this DNS must be submitted by December 18, 2025 and must be sent by email to:

Nathan Hart, SEPA Responsible Official
Seattle Public Utilities
nathan.hart@seattle.gov

Signature: _____
Nathan Hart

Issue Date: December 04, 2025

Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by an \$120 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on December 30, 2025. Please see the Office of the Hearing Examiner web site for Temporary Operating Rules During COVID-19: <http://www.seattle.gov/hearing-examiner>