

Holden Natural Drainage Systems (NDS) Project

Dear Neighbor,

We are reaching out to let you know about an upcoming project at 17th Avenue SW and SW Holden Street. If you are a renter at this address, please help forward this letter to the property owner or let us know how we can reach them.

Planning for Natural Drainage along 17th Avenue SW and SW Holden Street

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is installing natural drainage systems (NDS) on SW Holden Street between 16th Avenue SW and 17th Avenue SW and on the half-block on the east side of 17th Avenue SW (view map for project area). This project site was chosen from community input and in coordination between SPU and Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). The project will help improve water quality in Longfellow Creek, meet SPU's water quality treatment goals, and provide roadway improvements.



What will the project include?

- **Natural Drainage Systems:** Natural drainage systems will help improve stormwater drainage and remove pollutants from stormwater runoff to improve water quality in Longfellow Creek.
- **Roadway Improvements:** This project will include roadway improvements, such as curb bulbs, ADA ramps, and landscape plantings.

Upcoming Community Engagement Opportunity

Please join us for an online meeting on October 26 at 7 pm. We will be at the Highland Park Action Coalition (HPAC) meeting to talk about the project. All are welcome to join! The link to the Zoom meeting is posted on our website: www.seattle.gov/utilities/HoldenNDS

Community input, alongside technical evaluations, will be essential during each project phase. The project team will work with impacted neighbors and community members to understand important issues in the neighborhood and identify feasible and appropriate locations for natural drainage systems. Community members will be able to share their input through a variety of online and in-person activities and surveys. Community engagement will be on-going through all phases of the project - planning, design, and construction.

Project Schedule

The Holden NDS project is currently in the planning phase. SPU is gathering early input from community and permitting agencies.



What is a Natural Drainage System?

Natural drainage systems are built in the planting strip or 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 the stormwater reaches 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, and pedestrian and roadway improvements.

To see a built natural drainage system, please visit SPU's Delridge NDS project located on 17th Avenue SW between SW Henderson Street and SW Kenyon Street. The Holden NDS project will have similarities to the Delridge NDS project but may incorporate different project elements.



Examples of natural drainage systems a few years after installation



Stay in Touch

SPU is in the early planning stages. As we gather more information and feedback from community, we are happy to answer questions and provide any information about the project and its impacts and benefits to you and your neighborhood. Please visit the website below to sign up for project updates.

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Visit: www.seattle.gov/utilities/HoldenNDS