Geotechnical work near you

Starting as early as Monday, August 14, Sound Transit plans to conduct up to three geotechnical borings on the W Duwamish Greenbelt, a City of Seattle greenspace located between the Pigeon Point neighborhood and the West Seattle Bridge (see map at bottom right). Sound Transit is in the planning phase for the West Seattle Link Extensions project. This work, along with other investigations throughout the project corridor, is necessary to plan and design potential light rail alignments being studied in the environmental review process (see reverse side for project map).

Geotechnical drilling
To study soil and groundwater conditions, a drill rig is used to bore vertically into the ground while collecting soil samples. Following the collection of soil samples, a monitoring device is installed which will be used by crews to monitor water levels on future visits. Water level readings will be taken every few months as the design phase progresses. In accordance with all local regulations, the 4- to 12-inch diameter borings will be installed carefully to avoid soil erosion and dirt or mud from leaking into surface waters, wetlands, and drainage systems. Following the completion of the work, any exposed soil will be reseeded with a native seed mix.

What to expect
- Work will begin as early as Monday, August 14, and is anticipated to be complete by Monday, September 11. All work will occur on weekdays.
- Activities are scheduled from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. All vehicular roadways will remain open.
- This work is coordinated through the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections, and Seattle Parks Department.
- Biologists working with Sound Transit have been monitoring the heron colony and will continue to monitor the colony leading up to and during the work. The monitoring will be conducted as approved by WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Vegetation removal is limited to invasive species only.
- Construction crews may close the bicycle/walking path intermittently for short durations, up to 15 minutes, to allow equipment to reach the boring locations. Flaggers will be present to assist people through the work zone, as needed.
- ‘No parking’ signs will be placed on the west side of SW Marginal Place north of SW Charlestown Street/18th Avenue SW at least 72 hours prior to work start.
- Due to inclement weather or unforeseen issues, dates and times are subject to change.
- Drilling equipment will sound similar to a truck engine running, with occasional hammering.
- If you have questions during daytime hours, please call 206-903-7229.
- If you have questions after hours, call the 24-hour hotline: 1-888-298-2395.
Sound Transit plans, builds, and operates regional transit systems and services to improve mobility for Central Puget Sound.
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