



Seattle
Public
Utilities King County



Ship Canal

WATER QUALITY PROJECT

Digging Deep for Sustainability

November 2019



Project Background

The Ship Canal Water Quality Project team is building an underground storage tunnel to significantly reduce the amount of polluted stormwater and sewage that flows into the Lake Washington Ship Canal, Salmon Bay, and Lake Union from our sewer system.

Our Commitment to the Environment

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) are committed to building and operating facilities that benefit our communities and the environment. We are building infrastructure to keep polluted water and sewage out of our waterways using sustainable methods, materials, and equipment.



The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure's Envision Rating System recognizes sustainable performance of projects. Envision

helps teams think through decisions, such as what materials to use or what to do with removed dirt, with sustainability as a central criterion. The project is pursuing Envision Platinum – the highest level of recognition.



Envision recognizes projects that go beyond current standard practices and recognizes significant contributions to sustainability. It has 60 criteria (also called credits) arranged in five categories:

- **Quality of Life** – including things like improving public safety, enhancing public spaces, and developing the local workforce.
- **Leadership** – including things like providing opportunities for community involvement and extending the life of the infrastructure.
- **Resource Allocation** – including using recyclable and regional materials.
- **Natural World** – including managing stormwater, controlling invasive species, and restoring disturbed soils.
- **Climate and Risk** – including reducing emissions and planning for climate change.

Envision also gets teams to consider the “triple bottom line” framework of people in our communities, our planet and environment, and profit for our local economy. Sustainable practices are documented and rated for all phases of the project including planning, design, construction, and long-term operations. This helps agencies implement projects that reduce long-term operations costs and provide multiple benefits to the communities they serve by taking the entire life cycle of the things we build into account. Envision has been helpful in getting our team to ask questions in a new way and think about how our decisions impact the sustainability of the project.

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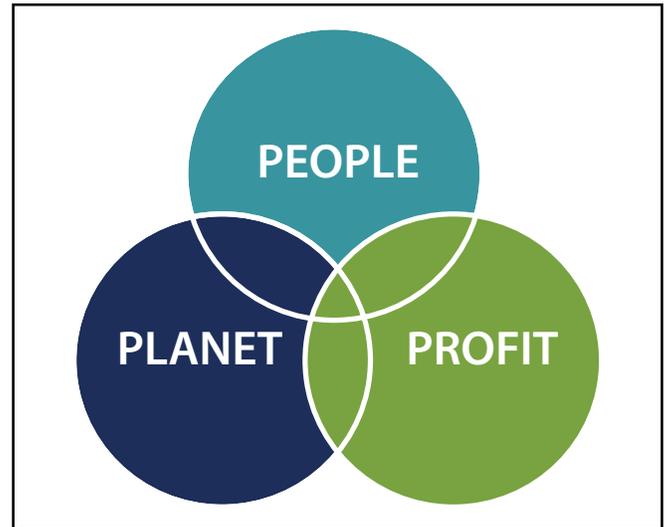
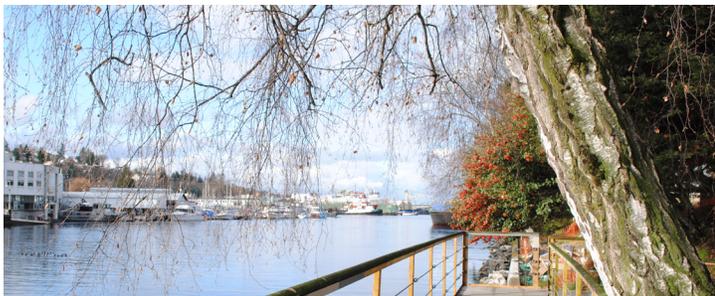
Greener Elements Make for Greater Benefits

SPU, King County WTD, and Envision prioritize the environment and our communities when designing, constructing, and evaluating projects. Check out what our team is doing to serve the community and the environment through this project:

Community

We are striving to work with communities where we'll be doing construction and to leave neighborhoods safer and more welcoming. As part of this work, we'll be:

- Sharing information before impacts happen whenever possible through email updates, on our website, and in conversations with residents, businesses, and community groups.
- Translating materials for non-English speakers.
- Proactively replacing and/or repairing aging infrastructure in the project area when possible to reduce future construction impacts to the community.
- Upgrading intersections in the project area to make them more accessible and pedestrian friendly.
- Incorporating temporary and permanent public art by local artists in our project areas.
- Working with affected tribes to minimize impacts to tribal fishing.



Envision uses the “triple-bottom line” to think about non-monetary impacts to communities and the environment

Environment

Both SPU and King County WTD are committed to protecting public health and the environment. This project will help by stopping polluted sewer and stormwater from getting into the Ship Canal. But we're going even further by:

- Using native vegetation and pollinator plants to enhance biodiversity and soil health.
- Removing contaminated soil and groundwater during construction.
- Using recycled materials and energy-efficient equipment.
- Transporting tunnel spoils using barges instead of trucks to reduce emissions.
- Replacing the 24th Ave pier in Ballard in a way that will reduce water contamination and improve habitat for our water-loving plants and animals.

Contact

For questions or comments about our sustainability efforts or this project:

Contact: Richard Fernandez

Email: SPU_ShipCanalProject@seattle.gov

Call: 206-684-0285

For interpretation services please call **206-684-0285**

如需要口譯服務 請撥電話號碼

통역 서비스를 원하시면 **206-684-0285** 으로

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