

Sliver by the River Proviso LSLU Briefing

JUNE 18, 2025

KRISTA CAMENZIND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, WATER AND LAND RESOURCES DIVISION

Caveat

Exploration of the issues raised in the Proviso are ongoing.

Information in this presentation is draft and may change in the final report sent in September.

Report Components



Background description of Sliver by the River demographics & flooding;



Possible actions to address flooding in the Sliver by the River, including cost, implementation timelines, and outside funding options; and



The County's plans for community engagement.

Agencies Involved in Preparing Report

King County

- DNRP - Water and Land Resources Division
- DNRP - Wastewater Treatment Division
- Department of Local Services Director's Office
- DLS - Road Services Division
- DES - Office of Emergency Management
- Executive's Office - Office of Climate
- Executive's Office - Performance, Strategy, and Budget
- Public Health – Environmental Health Division

Other Governments Consulted

- Flood Control District
- Seattle Public Utilities



SOUTH PARK BRIDGE

Sliver Description

- ❑ 14-acre area along Duwamish River;
- ❑ Home to approximately 100 people in 40 housing units, including single family homes and multi-family units;
- ❑ Effectively part of South Park neighborhood;
- ❑ Racially and culturally diverse – 70% BIPOC;
- ❑ Low income – median household income in South Park 27% less than in all of Seattle.

Seattle Public Utilities Flood Preparations

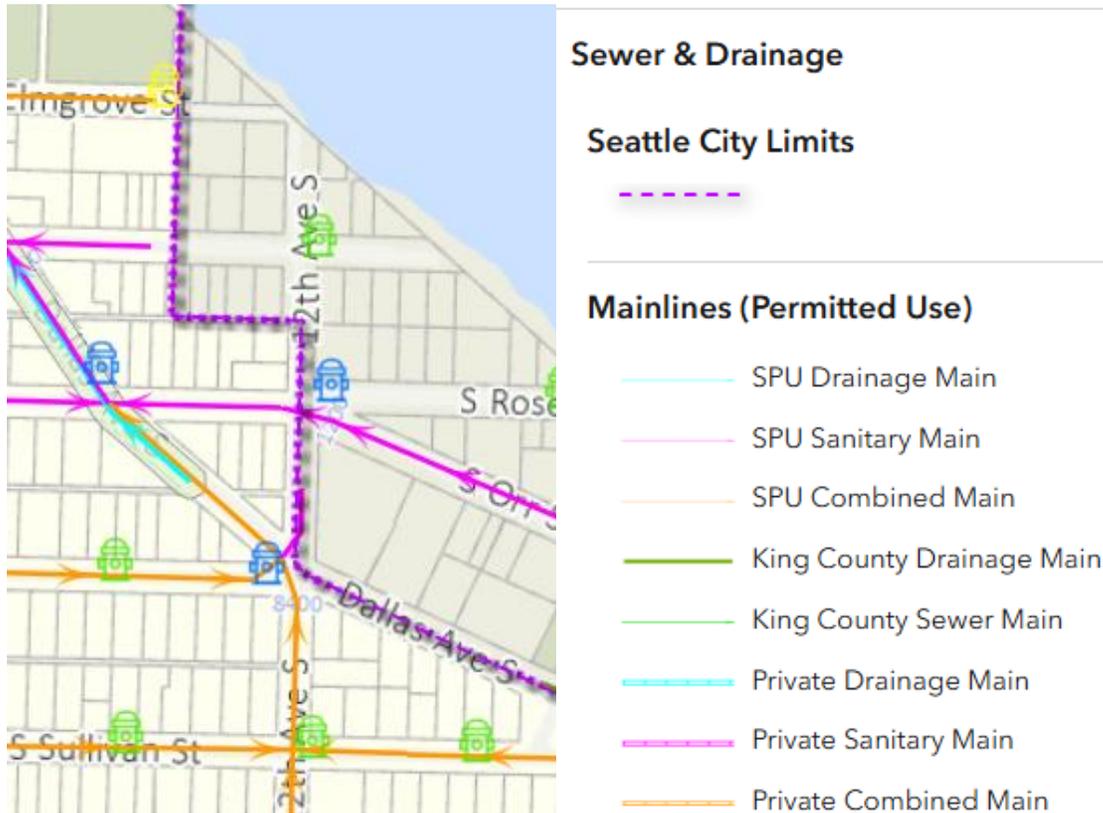
SPU FLOOD RESPONSE & PREP

- ❑ Seasonal sandbag wall in South Park and Sliver
- ❑ Installation of grinder pumps to prevent sewer backups, in partnership with WTD
- ❑ South Park Pump Station for sewer and stormwater
- ❑ Roadway and drainage improvements in South Park
- ❑ South Park Rapid Response Plan
- ❑ Ongoing community engagement
- ❑ Long-term sea level adaptation planning along the Duwamish River

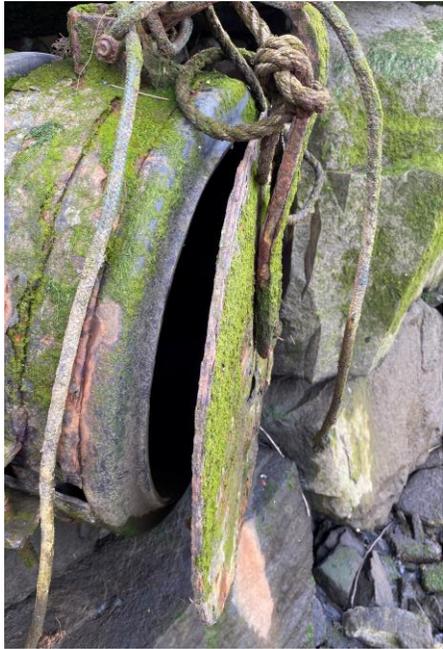
SEASONAL SANDBAG WALL IN THE SLIVER



Possible Actions – Sewer Conversion



- ❑ 21 on-site septic systems
 - ❑ 85% are 60 years old or older.
- ❑ On-site septic vulnerable to climate change, such as flooding and rising groundwater.
- ❑ Estimated \$84k-\$124k for each property owner to convert to sewer.
- ❑ No public funding currently available.
- ❑ Research into possible grants or other funding strategies ongoing.



Possible Actions – Drainage & Infrastructure

- ❑ Road Services Division.
- ❑ Tide valve at South Southern outfall failed to close in December 2022 flooding, allowing river water to flow into the stormwater drainage system.
- ❑ Preliminary estimate for replacement is \$80k
- ❑ Replacement in the next 12 to 18 months using existing Roads' budget, unless design phase indicates other concerns.

Possible Actions – Home Buyouts

- ❑ Flood Control District funding source for home buyouts in King County. When the FCD purchases property, it goes into the County inventory and the FCD funds maintenance.
- ❑ FEMA grant program administered through State. King County has not accessed since creation of FCD.
- ❑ Home buyouts require willing sellers.
- ❑ Homes typically demolished.
- ❑ Can be attractive sites for nuisance activities and require resources to manage.

Community Engagement Plan

- ❑ DLS will lead community engagement for the County.
- ❑ A DLS Community Service Area (CSA) Liaison has been assigned to the Sliver.
- ❑ Starting summer 2025, the CSA Liaison will be available to community at:
 - ❑ Community office hours bi-monthly to start, then monthly,
 - ❑ Monthly SPU community meetings, as scheduled,
 - ❑ Meetings with South Park Community groups twice per year,
 - ❑ Community events, such as the Duwamish River Festival.
- ❑ DLS will collaborate with other County departments to share information on the breadth of County services with Sliver residents.

To Be Explored

- King County Flood Management Plan
 - Reviewing for relevant actions.

- Policy or Code Updates
 - None identified at this time.

- Intergovernmental Agreements
 - None identified at this time.



Questions?