

# LOWER COAL CREEK FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION PROJECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# **General Project Overview**

# What is the Lower Coal Creek Flood Hazard Reduction Project?

The City of Bellevue (Bellevue) is seeking to reduce the risk of flooding in the Newport Shores neighborhood. To reduce the possibility of flooding from Lower Coal Creek, Bellevue will construct new bridges (culverts) at five creek crossings in the neighborhood. These bridges will better allow the passage of creek water, reduce the chance of debris blockages, and eliminate the partial fish passage barrier that currently exists at Cascade Key.



Bridges scheduled for construction in 2019

# Where is the project located?

The project is located in Newport Shores, which is where Coal Creek flows into Lake Washington. See map at left.

# Why did Bellevue choose to focus on the Newport Shores neighborhood?

Over the last two decades, Bellevue has received and responded to numerous flooding complaints associated with a range of causes, including backup of storm drains, bridge blockages, and creek overflows during large storms.

# Who is funding this project?

The King County Flood Control District is funding this project. The District collects a tax on all properties in King County for flood control planning and projects.

# What is the project schedule?

The anticipated project schedule is:

- 2015-2018: Final designs and permit acquisition
- 2017-2019: Construction of new bridges.

In 2017, Bellevue constructed a new bridge at upper Skagit Key; in 2018, Bellevue constructed bridges at Cascade Key and Newport Key; and in 2019, Bellevue will construct new bridges at Glacier Key and lower Skagit Key.

# **2019 Bridge Construction**

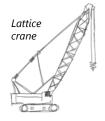
# What will the new bridges look like?

The new bridge at Glacier Key will have a slight incline as you ascend and a slight decline as you descend (similar to the design of the bridge that was recently completed at Newport Key). The new bridge at lower Skagit Key will be constructed at the same level as the existing road (not raised).

Both bridges will have wider sidewalks to meet current sidewalk standards. The bridges will have slotted rails to allow views of the creek, but will also meet standards for bridges.



Flooding at Glacier Key





# What kind of construction equipment will be used?

The construction crew will use a variety of equipment to build new bridges, including lattice cranes and drill rigs (see images at left). Bellevue will work with residents to minimize the impact of having construction equipment in the neighborhood.

# **Outfalls Construction**

# What is the status of the construction of new outfalls in Lake Washington?

Bellevue had initially planned on rerouting storm drain outfalls away from Coal Creek to reduce the risk of flooding in the streets of Newport Shores. However, this project has been postponed indefinitely since the City was unable to obtain permanent easements for new storm drain outfalls into Lake Washington. Without the easements which would allow for construction of the outfalls, there still may be some flooding in the roadways of Newport Shores moving forward.

# **More Information**

# Can I find more information online?

Please visit the project's webpage for updates (<a href="https://utilities.bellevuewa.gov/utilities-projects-plans-standards/projects-in-your-neighborhood/lower-coal-creek-flood-hazard-reduction/">https://utilities.bellevuewa.gov/utilities-projects-plans-standards/projects-in-your-neighborhood/lower-coal-creek-flood-hazard-reduction/</a>).

#### How can I reach the project manager?

Contact Jim Stockwell, Project Manager, at 425-452-4868 or <u>JStockwell@bellevuewa.gov</u> with questions and/or concerns.