

# 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

---

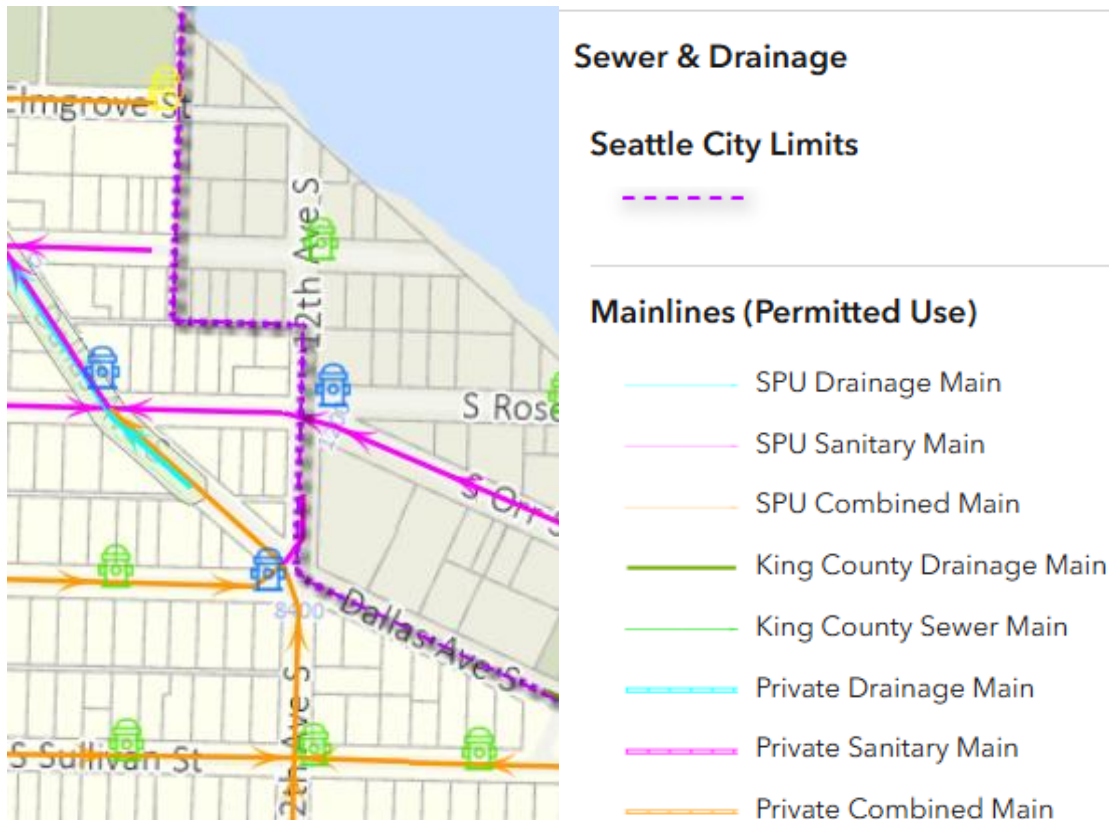
## SPU FLOOD RESPONSE & PREP

- ❑ 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

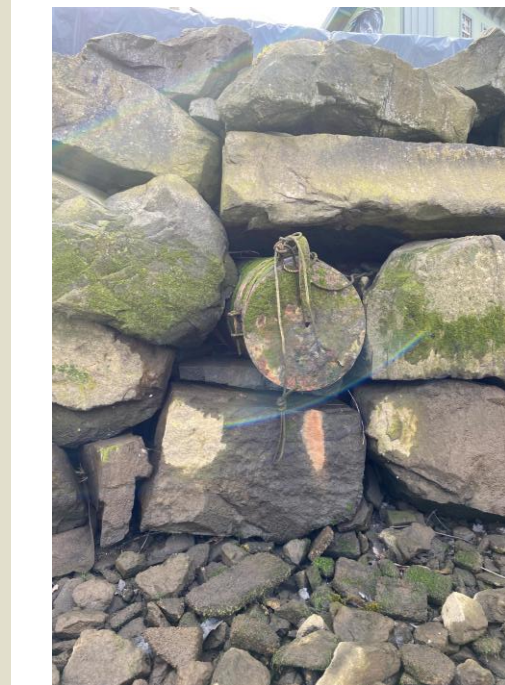


# Possible Actions – Sewer Conversion



- ❑ 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.



- ❑ Only cities have authority to annex.
- ❑ Sliver part of North Highline Potential Annexation Area.
- ❑ 2015 Seattle received approval to annex the “Duwamish Annexation” area, which includes the Sliver and Triangle.
- ❑ Sliver could be annexed independently.
- ❑ County continues to engage with Seattle occasionally.
- ❑ Last formal discussions in 2015.



# 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?