## Madison Valley Stormwater Project



February 2013

# Project Complete: The Madison Valley Stormwater Project Team Thanks You!

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is pleased to announce the completion of the Madison Valley Stormwater Project. Landscaping crews have put the finishing touches on the project area within the southwest corner of Washington Park, and equipment has been demobilized, signifying the end of this important multi-year project.

The Madison Valley Stormwater Project team thanks the community for continued patience and input during this major capital stormwater conveyance and storage project.

Historically, Madison Valley has experienced substantial surface water flooding and sewer backups. After the storm in August 2004, which resulted in significant flooding in Madison Valley, SPU began an in-depth process to develop and evaluate a wide range of options to reduce the potential for stormwater flooding and sewer backups primarily in the vicinity of 30th Avenue East and East John Street.

SPU designed and constructed Phases 1 and 2. See inside for more details. Together, the new infrastructure is capable of containing the amount of stormwater that caused flooding and numerous sewer backups in the two largest storms in 157 years of record – in August 2004 and December 2006.

The total cost of both phases of the project and additional drainage improvements is \$34.5 million.



Conceptual Washington Park drawing

# Watch your mailbox for an invitation to a community event this spring!

Please join us for a community event this spring to celebrate the completion of the Madison Valley Stormwater Project. The landscaping in the Washington Park project site should be established and temporary fencing around the grass and plantings in the park removed by then. Event details will be provided at a later date.



Washington Park, January 2013

# Phase 1 Project Operational in December 2009

Phase 1 of the Madison Valley Stormwater Project included the expansion of the 1 million gallon above-ground stormwater holding area at 30th Avenue East and East John Street (see map on page 3). This facility now has the capacity to hold 1.7 million gallons of stormwater during very large storms. Typically when it rains, water is able to drain into a combined sewer system. However, during times of very heavy rainfall, the pipelines can become full. When the pipelines become full, the above-ground holding area is activated and can hold water until the pipelines clear. During nonstorm conditions, this area serves as attractive open space for the community and includes many native trees and plants, walking paths, a sandy play area for kids, and art sculptures.



Stormwater holding area at 30th Avenue East and East John Street

### Phase 2 Project Operational in October 2011

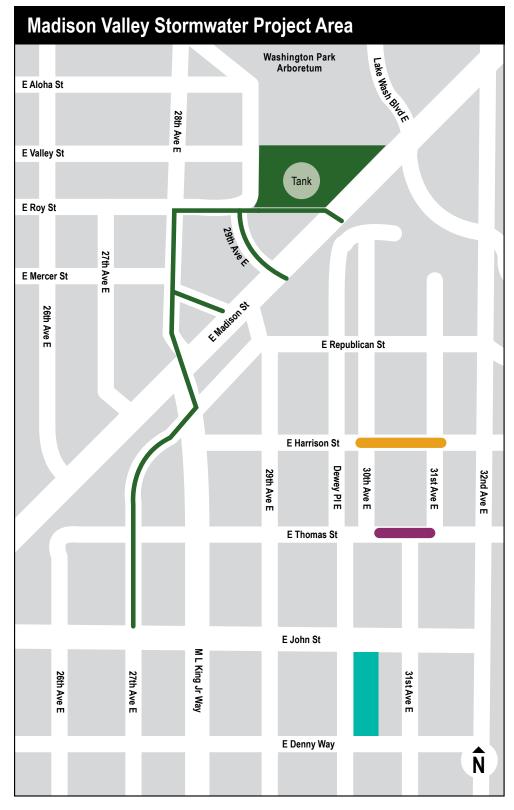
Phase 2 of the Madison Valley Stormwater Project included the installation of a new 48-inch diameter stormwater pipeline between East John Street and Washington Park. Phase 2 also included construction of a partially below-ground 1.3 million gallon stormwater storage tank and 0.9 million gallon above-ground stormwater holding area in Washington Park. Based on modeling results, stormwater storage would only be needed in the Washington Park above-ground holding area during storms the size of the two largest storms in the 157-year record or greater. After a storm, stormwater will flow from the storage system to the combined sewer system as soon as capacity is available, typically within hours after a major rainstorm.

#### Drainage System Improvements on 28th and 29th Avenues East

New large stormwater inlets were installed on East Madison Street at 29th Avenue East and also just north of City People's Garden Store to capture greater amounts of stormwater during large rain events. The new inlets on 29th Avenue East tie into a new 48-inch stormwater pipeline which is described above. The area around 29th Avenue East and East Madison Street is one of the lowest elevations in the neighborhood, and these improvements will help the overall system capture and convey stormwater run-off. In addition, new stormwater inlets were installed in 28th Avenue East, and were connected to the new Phase 2 stormwater system to reduce the risk of stormwater flooding.



Phase 2 stormwater storage tank in Washington Park



#### Sewer and Drainage Improvements in East Thomas and East Harrison Streets Operational in October 2012

SPU also constructed new combined sewer pipelines and improved stormwater infrastructure on East Thomas and East Harrison Streets. On East Thomas Street, a new 12-inch combined sewer pipeline was installed between 30th and 31st Avenues East. The East Harrison Street work included a new 18-inch combined sewer pipeline between 30th and 31st Avenues East and a new 35,000 gallon underground stormwater storage tank.

In both locations, new stormwater inlets, maintenance access holes, and catch basins were installed. Together, these two local improvements greatly reduce the potential for sewer backups and stormwater flooding on 31st Avenue East between East John and East Republican Streets.



East Harrison Street, January 2013

- Stormwater Pipeline Alignment
- Phase 1 Above-Ground Stormwater Storage Area July 2009 – December 2009
- Phase 2 Stormwater Pipeline & Stormwater Project Site
  July 2010 December 2012
- E Thomas St & 31st Ave E Sewer Improvements March 2012 – May 2012
- E Harrison St & 31st Ave E Sewer & Stormwater Improvements May 2012 – January 2013

#### New Landscaping and Walking Paths into Washington Park from East Madison Street

A comprehensive landscaping plan was developed by the project team as part of the Phase 2 project. With help from the community, the landscaping plan incorporated many new native trees and plants in Washington Park. Two new walking paths were added to provide improved access to the southern portion of Washington Park – one across from City People's Garden Store on East Madison Street and the other at the corner of 29th Avenue East and East Roy Street.

The visible surface of the new stormwater storage tank includes an art wall with a stone façade and nooks in the wall where small birds can nest, such as wrens.

While plantings are being established in Washington Park, neighbors can expect to see temporary fencing around the newly planted areas. The temporary fencing is anticipated to be removed in spring 2013. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this area of Washington Park.



New entrance into the southwest portion of Washington Park

#### **Contact information**

With active construction complete, SPU will no longer staff the 24-hour construction hotline or email. Please contact Grace Manzano, Project Manager, at 206-233-1534 or **grace.manzano@seattle.gov** if you have project-related questions. Project website: **www.seattle.gov/util/MadisonValley**