



www.skywayws.org

# SKY LINES

January 2024

happy new year 2024

## CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Design of the Rainier Ave S/S 113th Watermain Replacement project continues. The field survey work is essentially complete and preliminary design plans to replace the existing watermain have been developed and are under review. The project is located east of Rainier Ave S, north of S 113th Street, and along S 113th Street east of Rainier Ave S and replaces ~1,250 linear feet of 6-inch asbestos cement pipe and 2-inch galvanized pipe with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe and replaces existing water service lines, valves and fire hydrants. Construction is planned for summer 2024. The project is funded in part by a 20-year low-interest Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) loan from the Department of Commerce.



Design of the 80th Ave S Sewer Extension project is in progress. This project is funded by a King County \$1 million Equitable Wastewater Futures grant and will make public sewer available to residents currently on septic systems in the project area. The project includes construction of ~850 linear feet of new sewer main north along 80th Ave S, across Renton Ave S, and continuing north to the intersection at S 126th St. Construction is planned for completion by December 2024.

Over the past year as we dealt with lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, District staff have continued to work very hard maintaining your water and sewer systems:

- Applied for and were awarded Public Works Trust Fund loans for 3 water capital construction projects totaling \$3.755 million. The loan contracts include low interest rates and extended repayment terms (20 years).
- Collected and analyzed approximately 4,000 water samples including the fifth round of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) testing. UCMR 5 requires sample collection to test for 30 chemical contaminants between 2023 and 2025 using analytical methods developed by the EPA and consensus organizations.
- Installed 1 new water service connection.
- Cleaned your 8 sewer pump stations weekly.
- Repaired 5 main breaks in your 40 miles of water main, repaired or replaced 21 service lines and 5 fire hydrants.
- Monitored water and sewer construction at the Earlington Village developer project at 76th Ave S and S Langston Rd including ~1,700 LF of water main, 58 water services, 10 water meter drops, ~3,900 LF of sewer main, 32 manholes, and 14 side sewer connections.
- Monitored 7 pressure reducing stations.
- Recorded more than 20,850 meter readings for water consumption.
- Have converted approximately 60% of the water system to AMR (automatic meter reads) by exchanging an additional 402 meters in 2023.



### In calendar year 2024, we plan to:

- Construct the Rainier Ave South/South 113th Street capital project to replace approximately 1,250 feet of old and undersized water main pipe.
- Complete design and advertise the Skyway Park North Phase 1 project to replace approximately 6,100 feet of sewer main pipe, 35 manholes, and 4,000 feet of water main pipe.
- Convert approximately 375 individual water meters to AMR.
- Deploy leak detection equipment for ongoing water system monitoring and evaluation.

Our mission continues to be providing you with reliable water and sewer service every day.

## Discover The Future of Your Lawn

What does the lawn of the future look like in the Pacific Northwest? In Episode 9 of the "We Need Water" podcast, our friends at Cascade Water Alliance share more about the Lawns of the Future featuring gardener extraordinaire and speaker Marianne Binetti. Discover the reasons to remove some of your turf and the benefits you will see. Plus, some of Marianne's favorite plants and her tried and true method to start transforming your lawn into something new!

Listen to the podcast on [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), [Buzzsprout](#), or wherever you get your podcasts. Watch the full episode on [YouTube!](#) Follow [@weneedh20](#) on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#) for more water conservation, sustainable gardening, and education tips.



# WHCA News *and* Updates



## Winter Quarterly Meeting is on January 16

Join us at Lakeridge Elementary at 7 p.m. for our quarterly community catch-up. Enjoy some food, mingle with neighbors, and hear the latest local news from local officials including police, fire, and Skyway Water & Sewer!

## Planting event at Skyway Park on January 20

Register today to join West Hill Action Mob + King County Park in putting 90 plants in the ground along the trail at Skyway Park. [MyWestHill.org/events](https://www.mylwesthill.org/events)

**CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:** Our website, social media accounts, and newsletter are great ways to stay in the loop: [MyWestHill.org/connect](https://www.mylwesthill.org/connect)



[MyWestHill.org](https://www.mylwesthill.org) [MyWestHill](https://www.mylwesthill.org)

## HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED

Skyway Water and Sewer District and The Salvation Army partner to provide financial assistance to individuals and families struggling to pay for their water and sewer services. The program is funded by District rates and customer donations and is administered by the Salvation Army. For more information, call us at 206-772-7343 or the **Salvation Army at 425-255-5969 Extension 214.**



## 2023 RATE ASSISTANCE

During 2023 there were 301 qualifying low-income senior or disabled customers that participated in the District's Rate Discount Program. The cost of this program was approximately \$133,879.08 -- \$18,887.52 in water service and \$114,991.56 in sewer service.



SKYWAY COMMUNITY

# WARNING DON'T GET SCAMMED



Beware - criminals are targeting the elderly and people living on fixed incomes with phone scams.

## SCAMS INCLUDE:

- Government agencies
- Prize winners
- Utility companies
- Kidnapped or arrested family
- Mortgage loan modifications
- Banking institutions
- Credit card holds
- Access account alerts (ie Amazon)

## LEGITIMATE AGENCIES WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO SEND MONEY VIA

- Western Union
- Prepaid money orders
- Gift cards
- Money Gram / Green Dot
- Prepaid Visa and Master Card
- iTunes Cards

Education, good judgment, and a healthy dose of skepticism are the best defenses against becoming a victim. Be alert, be aware, take your time and always report possible fraud.

King County Sheriff's Office  
non-emergency # 206-296-3311



# LATE PAYMENT

= LATE CHARGE

This is a friendly reminder that water and sewer bills are due on the due date indicated on your bill. A late fee (penalty) of 10% is applied if current charges are not paid within 10 days of the bill due date. The late penalty may be waived once every 10 years per property owner if the account is otherwise current. If you have concerns or need payment assistance, please contact us at 206-772-7343 or visit our website at [www.skywayws.org](https://www.skywayws.org)

