#### Protecting Puget Sound from CSOs by retrofitting Urban Neighborhoods with Green Stormwater Infrastructure



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Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Vancouver BC

April 13, 2016, 3:30-5pm, SW3F session

http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Construction/Seattle/BartonCSO-GSI.aspx www.svrdesign.com

💱 King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division





#### Barton CSO Control with Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)

 King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) led project within the public right-of-way of the City of Seattle





Photo from Google Earth



#### **Regulatory Requirements**

Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)

Combined Sewer System (CSS)



- Ecology requires no more than 1 CSO event per year over a 20-year rolling average
- Consent decree: United States of America and the State of Washington v. King County (USDC Civil Action No. 2:13-cv-677 lodged on April 16, 2013)
- In 2008, average 4 CSOs per year, 4 MG



### **Project Team – Design & Construction**

- Developer/Owner of Facility:
  - King County Wastewater Treatment Division
- Consultant Design Team
  - MIG I SvR (Prime civil & landscape)
  - Associated Earth Sciences Inc. (Hydrogeologist/Geotechnical)
  - Aqualyze Inc (GSI & Basin modeling)
  - ILM, Bill Lucas (GSI modeling support)
  - PRR (Community outreach)
  - Sue Nicol (Arborist)
  - Pacific Geomatic Services (Surveyor)
- Permitting through Seattle Department of Transportation and Washington State Department of Ecology
- Community Involvement
- Contractor
  - Goodfellow Bros., Inc. (Prime)
  - T. Yorozu Gardening Co. (bioretention soil & plantings)
  - Aquatech Well Drilling & Pumps
- CM support MWH



# Why GSI was chosen for CSO Control by King County in 2011 for Barton CSS

- Facility Plan evaluated green & grey alternatives
- GSI allows for adaptive management over time
- Lifecycle costs less than gray infrastructure
  - Pump station cost reduction
  - Treatment plant cost reduction
  - Greenhouse emissions reduced





#### **Barton CSS Basin Description**

- 1,111 acres
   (450 ha)
- Five sub-basins
- CSS pipes convey flows to the Barton Pump station then on to West Point Treatment Plant



### Why this area?

- 45% of stormwater flows entering CSS come from the project area. Streets drain to CSS.
- 72 streets in project area
   151 acres (61 ha)
- Available space in street right of way planting strip





## **Challenges at start of Design Phase**

- Approved Facility Plan scope: shallow infiltration on the blocks
- Shallow infiltration was not feasible
- On the heels of another not-sosuccessful roadside rain garden project
- Community fears and concerns
- New City ROW permitting process
- Federal consent decree schedule
- New technology for WTD in addressing CSOs

Seattle removes rain gardens in Ballard

By Paula Wissel





### King County Approach

- Take the time to study existing conditions
- Geotechnical & Hydrogeological Testing
- Understand street surface flows and use of flow model
- Design for individual streets and site context
- Careful and rigorous construction
- Early and on-going community involvement from planning through O&M



#### **Design Process**



### **Public Outreach During Design**

- 6 community meetings
- 24 block level meetings
- 2 neighborhood surveys
- 4 association briefings
- 2 rounds of neighborhood canvassing
- 6 project update newsletters
- 10 small group neighborhood meetings
- Nearly **700** email, phone or street conversations with more than **500** residents and stakeholders.





### Future (summer)





### Future (winter)



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#### What We Heard from Neighborhood

- Existing Drainage Concerns
- Pests
- Parking
- Access
- Vegetation and Trees
- Maintenance
- Minimize Construction Impacts
- Define agency roles
- Be consistent with terminology





#### **Field Reconnaissance**



- Above- and Below-Ground Infrastructure and features
- Within ROW & Adjacent





#### **Project Area Geology**

- Soil layers
- How and where water flows underground
- Water table
- Deep infiltration borings
- Monitoring wells
- Infiltration test pits





Map & photo shown provided by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc.



#### CROSS-SECTION OF MONITORING WELLS TO TEST SOILS AT DIFFERENT DEPTHS THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT AREA

#### LEGEND:

BMW - GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS TO MEASURE SHALLOW GROUNDWATER LEVELS (20 FT. DEEP)

MW - GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS TO MEASURE DEEP GROUNDWATER LEVELS (45-205 FT.)

IB - DEEP INFILTRATION BORINGS TO FIND OUT THE RATE WATER FLOWS THROUGH THE UNSATURATED VASHON SOIL LAYER (BEIGE LAYER)

- ✓ WATER LEVELS, AS MEASURED BY WELLS
- TD TOTAL DEPTH OF WELL UNDERGROUND

NOTE: SLOPE SHOWN IS NOT TO SCALE (STEEPER THAN ACTUAL)

#### **GSI** with Deep Infiltration Design Elements for Barton

- Bioretention swales
- Underdrains
- Underground Injection Control (UIC) screen wells





#### **Describing Street Selection to the Public**

- Factors below helped select the most effective streets in the project area for bioretention in the right-of-way
- Selection criteria are guides, not set in stone



King County

#### **Street Selection: Wide Planter Strips**





#### **Street Selection: Flatter Streets**







# Street Selection: Lower Portion of Blocks





#### Site Considerations: Where to Locate GSI



- Each street is unique
  - Locations of trees (556 trees reviewed)
  - Above & below ground utilities
  - Parking patterns
  - Accessibility
  - Driveway access
  - Cross Slope





- Maximum temporary ponding depth 12 inches (~30 cm)
- Swales drain within 24 hours
- Access & Drainage: Bottom length ~15 30 feet (4.5 9 m)

Top Length ~25 - 40 feet (7.6 – 12.1 m)

### **GSI Design – more details**

- Swale side slopes 2.5:1
- Minimum bottom width 12 in (30 cm)
- Planting Infrastructure
- 18 in (46 cm) bioretention soil
- 6 in (15 cm) sand
- Filter drain rock & underdrain
- Partial & fully lined sections





### **GSI Design – Curb Cuts & Presettling**



## GSI Design - UIC Screen Well & MH

- One per block (~660 feet, 200m)
- Design depth varied at each location due to soil conditions
- Total Depth 65 100 feet (~19.7 30.3m)
- Well Screen 20 40 feet (~6 12m) of 8 inch (~20 cm) diameter



#### **Bioretention: Planting Overview**



#### Plant Palettes – Designed for the Varying Existing Street Character



PLANT CONCEPTS IN RESPONSE TO STREET CHARACTERISTICS

## Modeling

- Subcatchment delineation
- Barton Pump Station upgrade 33mgd
- Continuous Model (EPA SWMM) over last 30 years
- COS Bioretention Soil Design Infiltration Rate of 6 in/hr (15 cm/hr)
- Flow monitoring of CSS
- Rain gauge in project area
- 151 acres in Project Area
   Figures provided by Aqualyze



## Modeling

- 15 streets with GSI
- ROW Area = 11.6 acres (4.7 ha)
- Parcel Area (including disconnected downspouts)
   = 20.2 acres (8.1 ha)
- Parcels 43%+/- Impervious
- ROW 64% +/- Impervious





### **Procurement, Cost & Construction**

- Public Competitive Bid
- Engineer's Estimate \$5.06 Million
- Low responsive responsible bidder \$5.10 Million
- Milestones & Constraints in Contract
  - Two construction seasons 2014
    & 2015 (8 and 7)
- Lump Sum bid with select unit prices for items more likely to change (e.g. depth of well screen)



### **Pre-Construction**

- Gas relocates done before main contract
- Tree removal
- Construction Staff Training



## Construction

- Checklists for Inspectors
- Mockups
- Flow Tests
- Community Outreach







### **Construction – Bioretention**



- Ongoing testing of soil
- Grading mock-up
- Minimize foot traffic
- Curb cuts blocked
- Increase time for wells off line





### **Plant – Construction Establishment**





### **Operation and Maintenance**

- Maintained by King County as a CSO facility
- O&M Plan

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#### Maintenance – Acceptable vs Unacceptable



ACCEPTABLE MAINTANCE

UNACCEPTABLE MAINTENANCE

Mostly healthy vegetation with good appearance

Appearance is good

Occasional weedy species (5-10%)





Debris buildup



Appearance is poor



Weedy







## Monitoring



- Cells and wells are taking all the water that drains to them
- Monitoring flows out of basin.
- Less water flowing to treatment plant = reduction in treatment costs.
- Data loggers in UIC Wells to measure water level
- Adaptive management to be applied if needed. Four more streets design and permitted.
- Stay tuned.....



### **Next Steps**

- Continue "Establishment" O&M for 2-3 years. Begin routine maintenance in 2017/2018.
- Continuing flow & CSO monitoring within basin
- Compliance reporting in 2017
- King County will be expanding and looking to use GSI for CSO control in more areas within Seattle where feasible.
- Joint GSI Program between King County WTD and Seattle Public Utilities on design standards, policies and procedures for CIP GSI projects. <u>www.700milliongallons.org</u>





#### **THANK YOU!**



Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division

For more information about the Barton CSO control project with GSI go to: <u>http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Construction/Seattle/BartonCSO-GSI.aspx</u> <u>http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wastewater/CSO/BeRainwise.aspx</u>

SPU & King County Wastewater Joint GSI program: <u>www.700milliongallons.org</u>

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### December 8, 2015 Storm Event





### RainWise





#### What is RainWise?

More than 500 Seattle homeowners have installed rain gardens and cisterns that are helping to control stormwater runoff and preventing combined sewer

overflows as part of the RainWise program in Seattle.

Fall, winter and early spring are great times to start a RainWise project:

- Plants have time to grow healthy roots and with plenty of rain you don't need to water them until summer
- Contractors who install rain gardens and cisterns tend to be more available fall, winter and early spring.





Check your RainWise eligibility at the 700 Million Gallons website 🗗

You can also call the Garden Hotline at 206-633-0224 for eligibility information.

#### Resources

Download the **Be RainWise flier** to learn more about this program.



- Rebate to homeowners to redirect building downspouts to rain garden/cistern
- So far 82 Installations in Barton (\$230,255 in rebates, 121,402 sf roof disconnected)
- Opportunity for residents to take action on their property
- www.700milliongallons.org

