

#### Western Washington University

#### Western CEDAR

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2022 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (Online)

Apr 28th, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

# On-site sewage system (OSS) and social vulnerability GIS dashboard: using data to inform approaches for equitable wastewater futures

Meagan Jackson

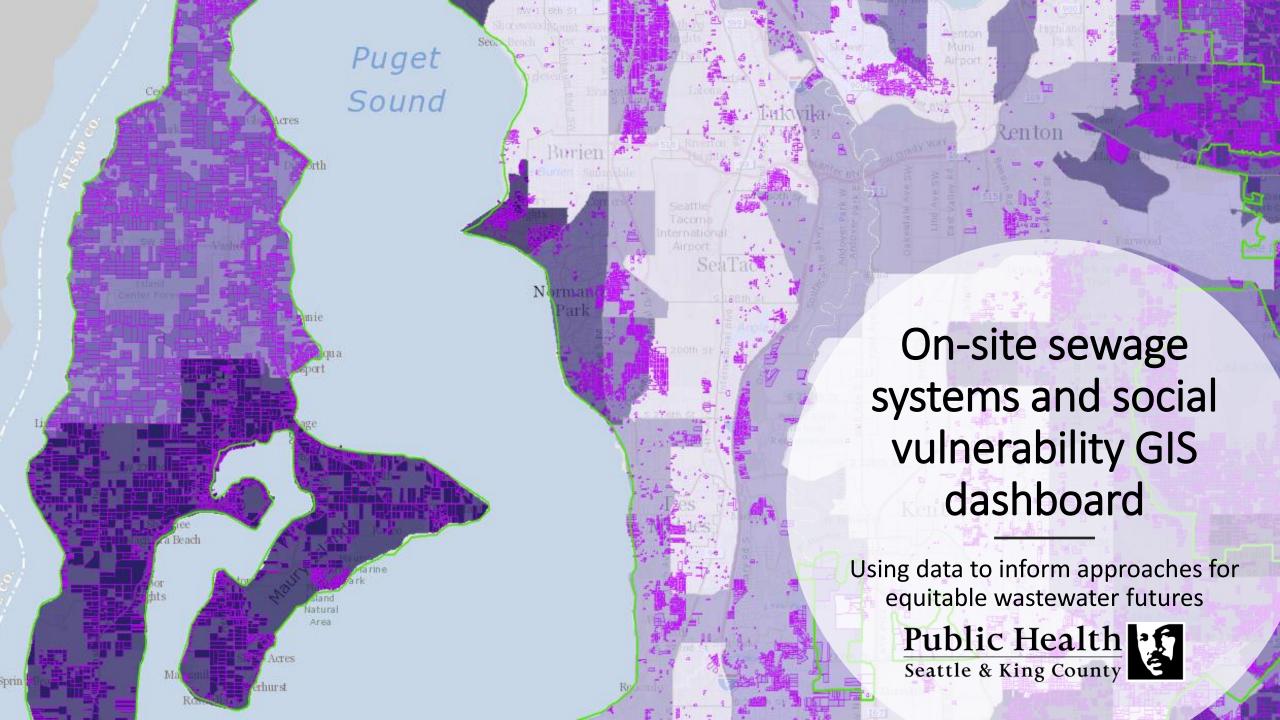
Lynn Schneider

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Jackson, Meagan and Schneider, Lynn, "On-site sewage system (OSS) and social vulnerability GIS dashboard: using data to inform approaches for equitable wastewater futures" (2022). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 353.

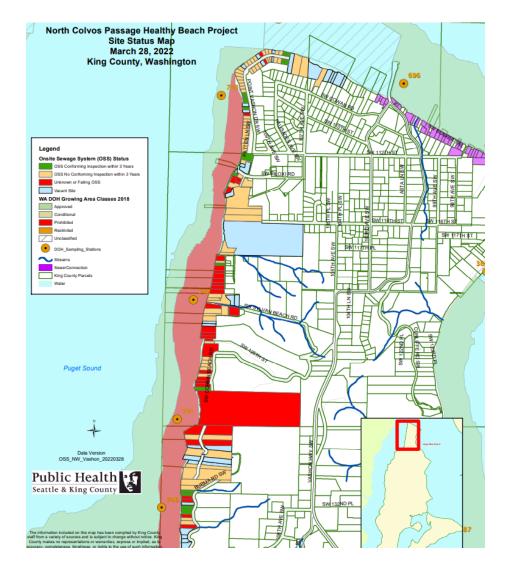
https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2022ssec/allsessions/353

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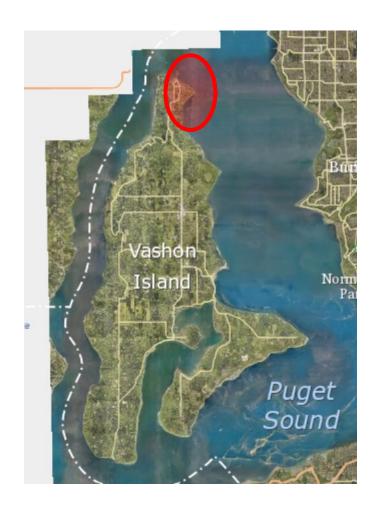


## On-site sewage systems & Salish Sea



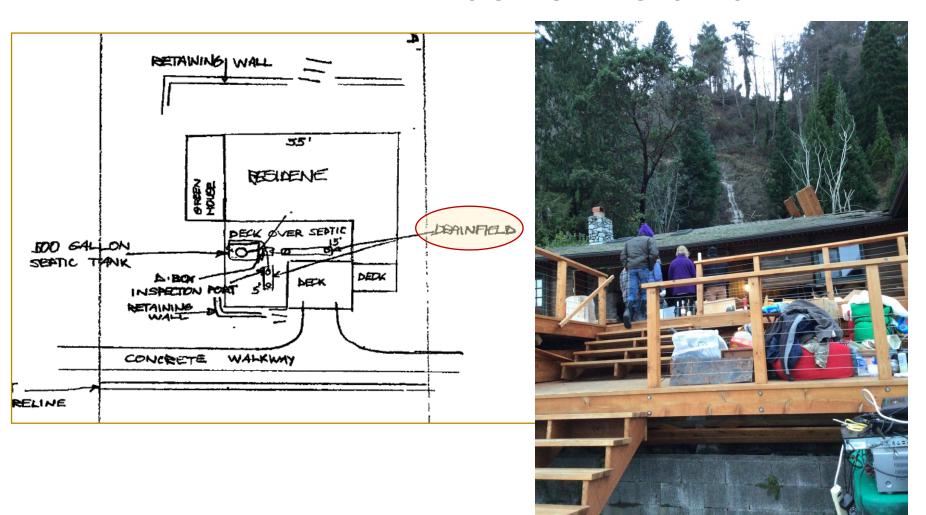


## Addressing failing on-site sewage systems





# Addressing failing on-site sewage systems – Vashon Island



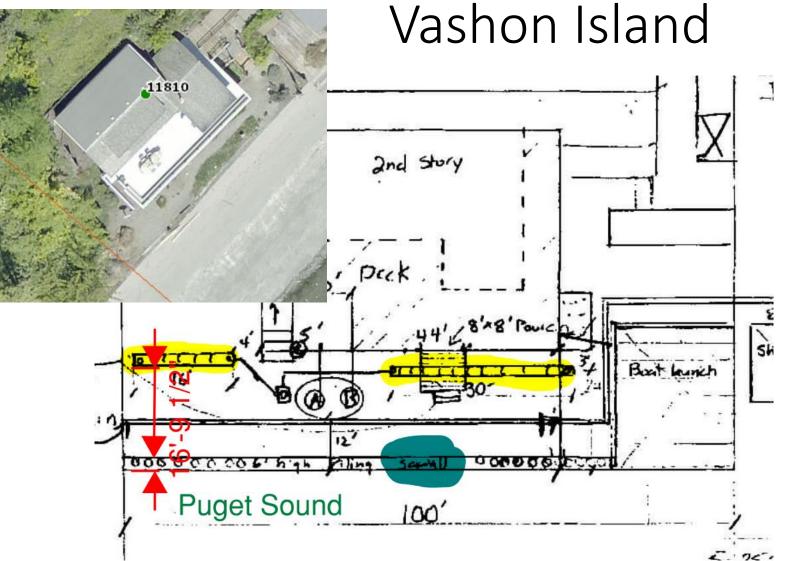
Location: Vashon Island

Urban Growth Area: **No**Home damaged by slide – New
OSS required to rebuild the
home.

Treatment Plant does not accept septage.

Pumping service is very expensive due to Ferry Fees No replacement area for an OSS, best solution is a Holding Tank System, but the cost is way too high!

# Addressing failing on-site sewage systems –



Location: Vashon Island
Urban Growth Area: No
Home is for sale; a Time of Sale
Inspection determined the
septic tank is leaking.
Treatment Plant does not accept
septage.

Pumping service is expensive due to Ferry Fees
No replacement area for an
OSS, best solution is a Holding
Tank System, but the cost is way too high!

## Addressing failing on-site sewage systems





"Either I pay to connect the property to sewer, or I send my son to college."

### Example of Sewer Connection Costs when an OSS Fails

Location: Renton

Urban Growth Area: Yes

Estimated OSS age: 96 years

Water and Sewer District: City of

#### Renton

Distance to Public Sewer: **162 ft** 

Required Extension: **260 ft**One-time Sewer Connection

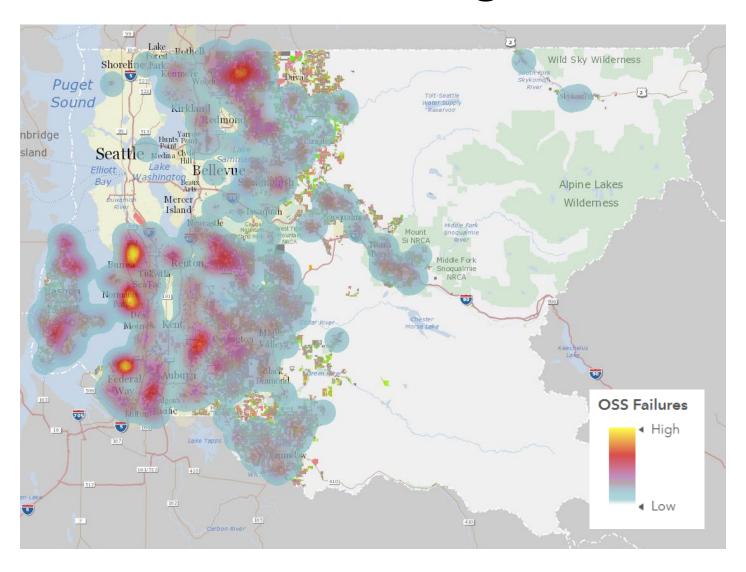
Estimate: **\$220,000** 

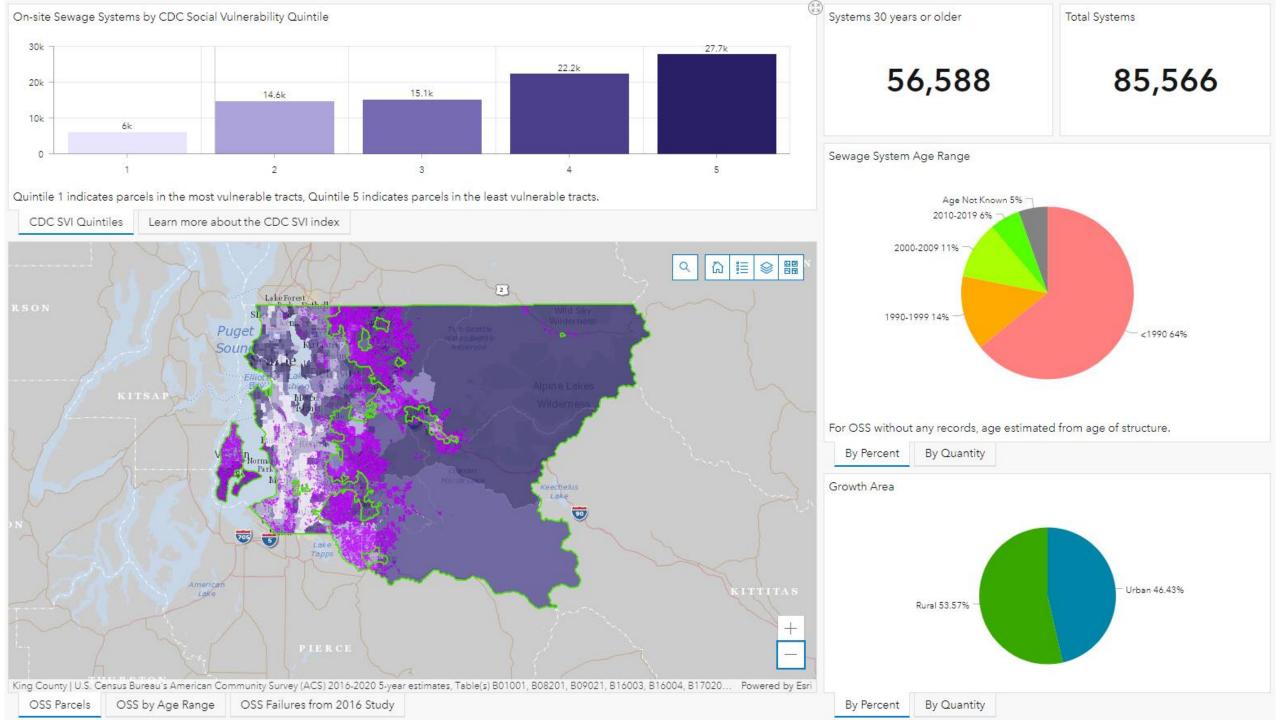
**Estimated Total Connection Cost** 

(includes monthly charges):

\$233,734.75

## Where are failures occurring?





### What now?

- Street and community-level planning for sewer expansions, incorporating anti-displacement and community-centered approaches
- Funding for wastewater treatment
- Policy changes to support this work



## Thank you!

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