

## AMON BASIN REVEGETATION

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will remove invasive weeds and revegetate portions of the Amon Basin Preserve previously disturbed by a City sewer construction project with native plants. The project's goal is to establish a sustainable population of native plant species on this previously disturbed property.



In 2007 and 2008 the City partnered with two State agencies and the Tapteal Greenway to acquire the Amon Basin properties and to establish them as a natural open space preserve. The two State agencies, the Washington State Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council and the Washington State Department of Transportation, contributed funds to meet environmental mitigation purposes. The City's investment was conditioned on the ability to construct a long-planned City street across the preserve as development of the surrounding area advanced. At the time of the acquisition the City's long range sewer system master plan called for installation of a sewer pipeline through the preserve. In 2011, the City completed the Leslie Trunk Sewer. A portion of the sewer pipeline was installed through the Amon Basin properties. The project included a robust revegetation program designed to restore the property disturbed by the sewer construction and to enhance wetland vegetation.

In late 2014, representatives from WSDOT, the City's Public Works Department, and Wildlands, Inc. inspected the Amon Basin properties and determined that the long-term success of the 2011 revegetation effort was poor. It was determined that a second revegetation program was desirable to achieve the site management goals of the City and WSDOT.

### PROJECT MAP

For a map of the project area, click [HERE](#).

## CONSTRUCTION DETAILS & SCHEDULE

Contractor: Wildlands, Inc.

Start Date: Summer 2015

Contract Value: \$121,130

Completion Date: Fall 2019

## FAQS

### **Why is the City doing another revegetation project?**

The City is committed to fulfilling its management responsibilities for the Amon Basin properties. These responsibilities center around preserving the native vegetation on the property, providing a publicly accessible natural open space area, and preventing urban development on the property. After the sewer construction the first restoration project did not work as well as originally planned, so the City feels a second effort is called for.

### **Why didn't the first revegetation project succeed?**

The City and its contractor, Wildlands, Inc. evaluated the original project to determine the causes contributing to the first project's poor performance. The factors identified as harmful to the project's success were: impacts from people, pets, and wildlife; the disturbance of the topsoil leading to poor growing conditions; and infrequent watering after the one-year maintenance period.

### **Why is this project important to the area?**

The goal of this project is to make sure the ecosystem functions impacted by the sewer line project are restored, improved, and maintained.

### **What is involved in this project?**

The project is broken down into several phases. The first phase will involve clearing out unwanted and non-native plantings and weeds from the designated area. Next, the soil conditions will be improved for better growing success. The actual planting will take place during the fall and winter of 2015 – 2016. An ongoing monitoring and site management program will continue for three years.

### **How will this impact the surrounding area?**

The entire purpose of this project is to restore the area, therefore the City and the contractor are sensitive to any impact to the footprint of the surrounding area.

### **Why does the site have so much fencing?**

Fencing is needed to protect the young plants from trampling by people and animals and from grazing by animals.



### **Is there a detailed description of the plan?**

Yes, the City has a [Native Plant Restoration Plan](#), published by Wildlands, Inc. that provides a detailed breakdown of the project. The project area will be evaluated on a regular basis to track the success of the project.

### **Won't the plants grow back on their own?**

They might and they might not. The City made a commitment in 2011 to restore the vegetation and this project ensures the City maintain that commitment.

### **What stakeholders have been included in the project?**

The City's Public Works Department is the primary sponsor and funding source for the project. The City's Parks and Recreation Department is working with Public Works to ensure successful implementation. The City solicited and received positive feedback on the plan from the Washington State Department of Transportation, who also coordinated sharing the plan with the Washington State Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council. The Tapteal Greenway, the other original partner to the site acquisition, has reviewed the plan.

## **CONTACTS**

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