



Pikes Peak Reservoir and Pump Station Project

Frequently Asked Questions

In Bridle Trails State Park, Bellevue Utilities, through a utility easement with Washington State Parks, owns, operates and maintains the Pikes Peak Reservoir and Pump Station facilities. Bellevue Utilities is planning to replace both the reservoir and pump station. This is a high priority project because these valuable water system assets provide water service reliability and fire protection to the residents of the Bridle Trails area.

How big will the reservoir and pump station be once the project is complete?

The existing one million-gallon steel reservoir is approximately 85 feet in diameter and 28 feet high. The new reservoir will need to hold 1.25 million gallons as determined through previous City planning efforts. The exact dimensions of the new reservoir have not been decided.

The existing pump station is too small to provide adequate space for workers to safely access critical electrical panels in the pump station. The new pump station will be larger than the existing station; the exact dimensions of the new pump station will be determined upon completion of preliminary technical evaluation work. Preliminary sizes of both facilities will be shared as potential alternatives are identified and evaluated.

What could the new reservoir look like and be made of?

Bellevue Utilities will evaluate material options, including steel, similar to the existing reservoir, and concrete. Potential aesthetic measures will also be evaluated as the project progresses.

If the new reservoir is steel, it will look similar to the current reservoir. If the new reservoir is concrete, it could take on a different look (e.g. the surface texture and color could be different.) Bellevue Utilities has not determined what the reservoir will look like, but will carefully consider feedback and input from the Community Advisory Group and the public before deciding.

Will the community be able to provide any input regarding the reservoir's appearance?

Yes. There are many factors to consider in choosing material type such as the material's integrity and longevity. Nonetheless, the project team would like to solicit the public's and Community Advisory Group's feedback to help inform its appearance.

Is Bellevue Utilities going to consider looking at sites outside of the park?

Bellevue Utilities is exploring options for utilizing the Cherry Crest Pump Station as part of the proposed alternatives. The Cherry Crest Pump Station (located about one mile to the south) is due to be replaced by 2024, and the location alternative would speed up the replacement timeline and combine the two pump stations into one.

What is the existing footprint, and does Bellevue Utilities plan to stay within the footprint?

The existing fence generally surrounds the utility easement area, which is 117 feet by 118 feet, plus an access easement between NE 39th St and the site. There is a portion of the utility easement area

outside the main fenced area, but it is too early to determine if that area will need to be utilized. Bellevue Utilities is also considering the possibility of a slight modification to the footprint to better fit the new facilities but without increasing the total square footage of the easement.

Will trees be removed as part of this project?

Bellevue Utilities' intent is to keep work within the existing utility easement area in Bridle Trails State Park and minimize impacts to existing trees. The utility easement area includes land directly around the reservoir and pump station plus an ingress and egress area between the NE 39th St and the site.

It may be necessary to enlarge the fenced area around the existing site while still staying within the overall utility easement area granted to Bellevue Utilities. This process may require the removal of a limited number of trees, but the project team will do its best to minimize these impacts to the greatest extent possible and continue to keep the community informed throughout this process. No decisions have been made yet regarding this, but Bellevue Utilities wants to be open and transparent that this is a possibility. The project team will not know until potential alternatives are developed and put through a rigorous technical evaluation.

When does Bellevue Utilities' easement with the State Park expire or need to be renewed?

Bellevue Utilities' utility easement was amended in 2015 and a payment schedule has been developed through the year 2029. In 2029, a new payment schedule will be re-negotiated for future years. There is no termination date for the easement.

During construction, will there be impacts to the existing trail network?

It is too early in the process to know what the impacts will be to the trails. Temporary impacts are possible but restoration of impacted trails, if any, would be a project requirement. Bellevue Utilities will work with Washington State Parks and local community groups to minimize impacts. More information about specific construction activities, equipment, and the extent of the impacts will be available later during design.

When the reservoir is under construction, will there still be water service to homes?

Yes, Bellevue Utilities will modify operations of the water system as needed to maintain water service during construction.

Stay Informed

Project updates: www.bellevuewa.gov/pikespeak.htm

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