

53rd Place Open Space Watercourse Restoration
City of Mercer Island
Elayne Grueber

Project Narrative

Watercourse 46a.3 is situated within a steep ravine primarily bounded by the 53rd Place Open Space, in an area that has experienced pre-historic and historic landslide activity. Ongoing erosion of the watercourse results in frequent City maintenance and dredging of the sediment pond on the west side of E Mercer Way, causing adverse impacts to downstream water quality and aquatic habitat. Consequently, the City prioritized the Sub-Basin 46a.3 Watercourse Stabilization project in its Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The City's goals for the project include reducing streambank erosion in Watercourse 46a.3 to improve water quality and stream habitat and to reduce maintenance requirements.

The project involves work in an approximately 500 linear feet reach of Watercourse 46a.3, approximately 450 ft upstream of East Mercer Way. Construction is anticipated within an area covering approximately 14,000 square feet (0.32 acres) in and adjacent to the SE 53rd Place Open Space.

The City has hired a consultant and has completed the 60% design plans and a Critical Areas Study, both are included with this application. The plans show the location and types of remediation planned for the project.

Permitting Discussions

In October, Gareth Reece, Michele Lorilla, Jim Harriman and I met to discuss the permitting needs for this project, specifically how the City could support the required SEPA. Based on the conversations, it was decided to process with a building permit.

My consultant have made the requested changes to the Critical Areas Study to incorporate feedback received. I believe we are ready to proceed with permitting review and processing.

Questions

I have no further questions at this time.