

# South Park Flooding Recovery Incident

## Public Safety and Human Services Committee

January 10, 2023  
OEM, SPU, HSD

Seattle Office Of Emergency Management

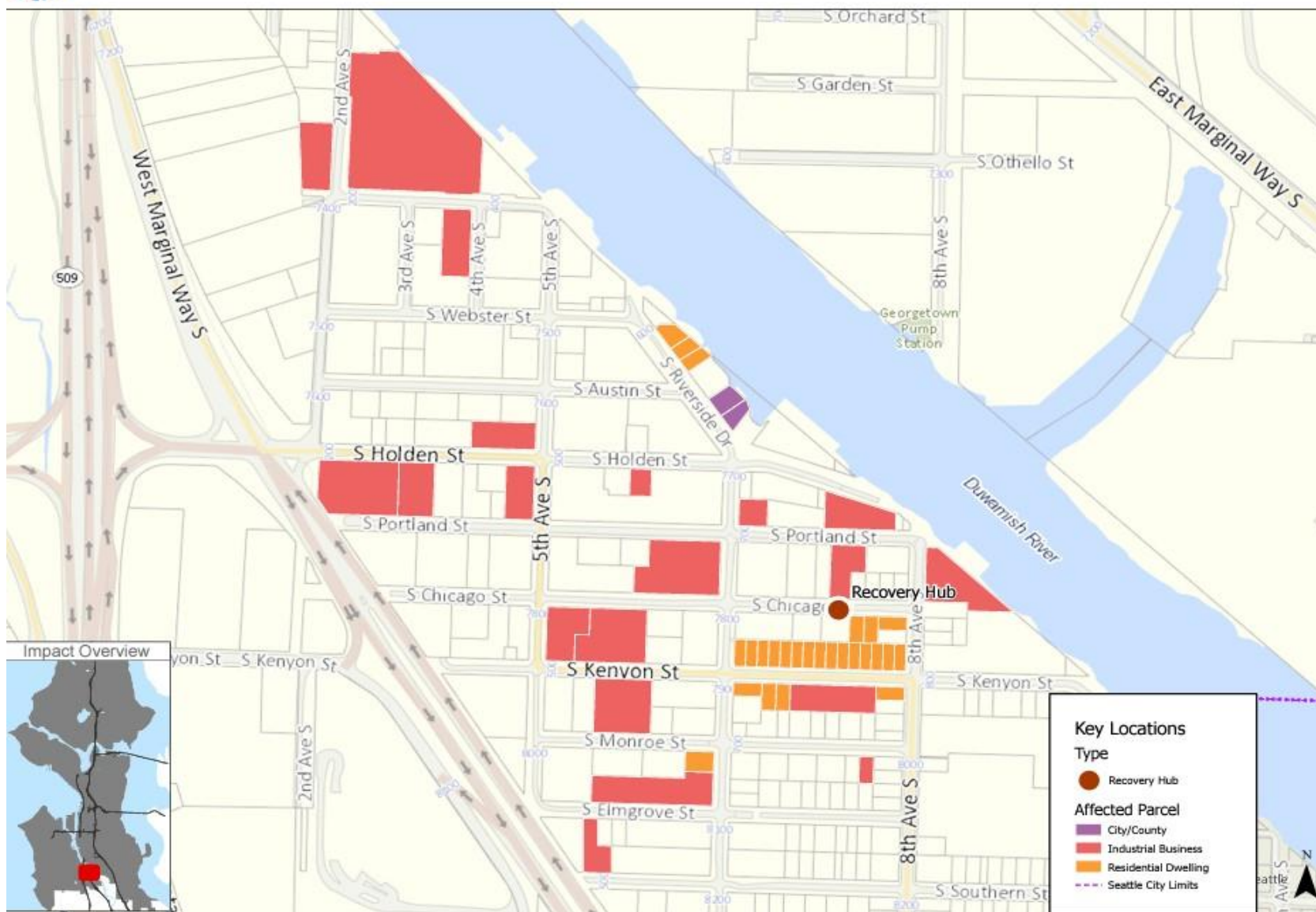


City of Seattle



# December 2022 South Park Flood

Seattle City EOC  
updated: 1/5/2023 2:00pm



Seattle Office Of Emergency Management



City of Seattle



## Office of Emergency Management

- Flooding in South Park started on December 27<sup>th</sup>
- Literally perfect storm; very low pressure, extreme King Tide, heavy rain resulting in Duwamish River overtopping its banks
- 49 properties – homes and businesses impacted
- 14 agencies involved
  - City departments & Community Based Orgs (CBOs)
- Urban flooding response, then recovery effort

# Office of Emergency Management

- Now assisting with on-scene project management for recovery efforts
  - OEM does not usually work on-scene
  - Recovery focus makes this incident unique
- Community connections with Khmer and Villa Comunitaria
- Working with King County & State Emergency Management organizations to find possible funding opportunities



# Seattle Public Utilities Response

## Pre-storm Preparedness

- Wet Weather Preparedness
- Prepared for King Tides: staged resources before Dec. 27 storm
- Just Health Action contract for community preparedness
- Installed grinder pumps and backflow preventers in high impact homes
- Sandbag stations in community

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## Dec 27, 2022 Storm Event

- Exceeded predicted intensity from NOAA/NWS and SPU's readiness preparation

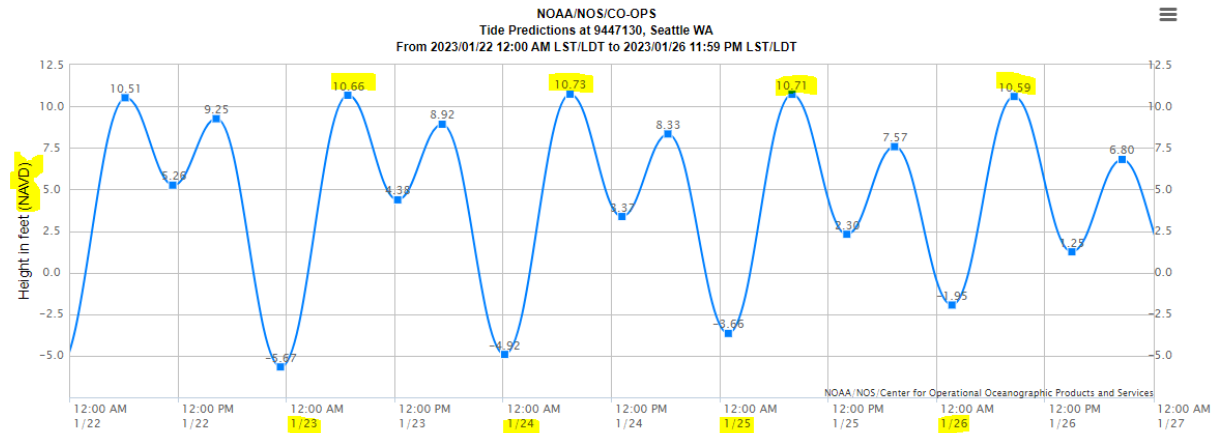
## SPU initiated the response

- Infrastructure assessment, sandbags
- Emergency housing for 15 families
- Engaged OEM, worked with Mayor's office leadership
- Significant coordination with City depts, community partners
- Coordination trailer, meeting tents, portable toilets, sinks, shower, laundry
- Clean City solid waste/debris collection/sharps collection kits
- In-home clean-up
- Media Response



# Preparing for January King Tide

- Next King Tides expected last week of January
- Incident Command Structure in place
- Predicted tides: 10.6-10.7' (Dec 27 water level was 12.8')
- SPU identifying riverside bank low points and sandbagging opportunities
- Install berm at SPU pump station site prior to next King Tide
- SPU communication with residents and businesses on preparation strategies



# Preparing for Sea Level Rise

## Planning

### Duwamish Valley Resilience District

- Grant-funded OSE/OPCD/SPU sea level rise adaptation planning with South Park and Georgetown community members

### SPU sea level rise adaptation planning (pictured on right)

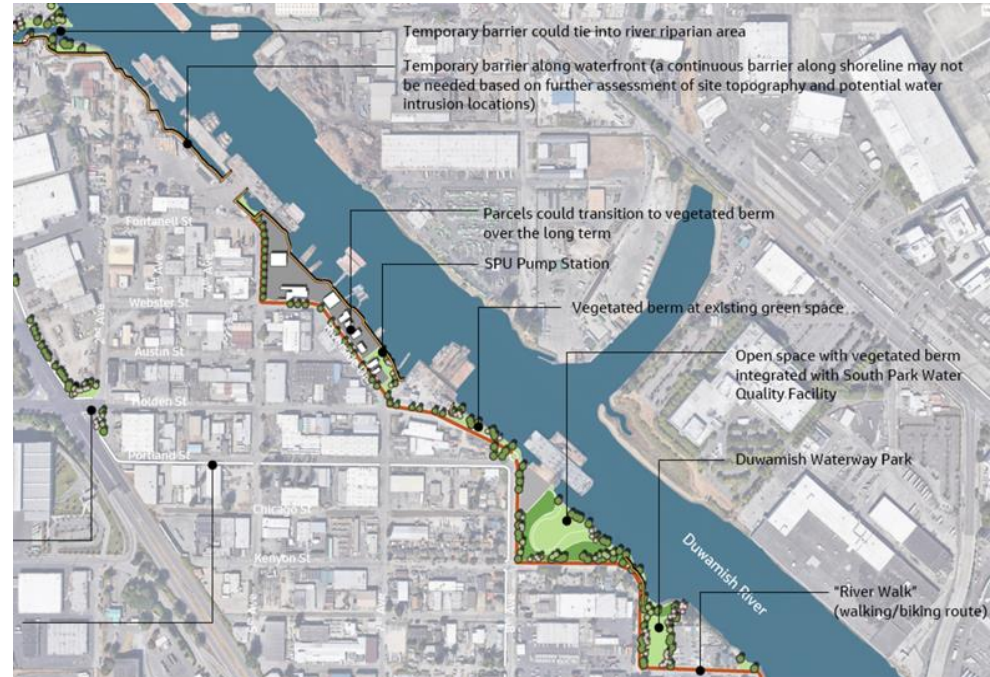
- Future property acquisition
- Physical infrastructure construction to prevent future shoreline flooding

## Funding Opportunities

### Federal

- US Army Corps of Engineers
  - 2017 Corps-SPU Planning Study
  - New Start Program
- BRIC Grant

### King County Flood Control District



# Key SPU and Partner Actions: To-Date and Future

Project	Lead	Funding	Complete/ 2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030+
Prelim South Park CBA/ Flood Risk Management Study	US Army Corps of Engineers	USACE/SPU	✓							
Prelim Sea Level Rise (SLR) Adaptation Strategy	Jacobs	SPU	✓							
Stormwater Drainage Improvements, Phase 1	SPU	SPU/SDOT	Pump Station, Drainage + Roadway Improvements					Stormwater Quality Facility		
Resilience District: SLR Adaptation/Community Capacity/Funding	OSE/OPCD/ SPU	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation								
Ongoing Operational Readiness	SPU	SPU								
Stormwater Drainage Improvements, Phase 2 (additional roadway improvements)	SPU, partner with SDOT	Possible KC Flood Control District, federal transportation funding	Currently in options analysis							
SLR Infrastructure - Planning & Prelim Design	OPCD/SPU	FEMA BRIC (Local match required)								
SLR Infrastructure - Design	TBD	TBD								
SLR Infrastructure - Permitting	TBD	TBD								
SLR Infrastructure - Construction	TBD	TBD								





# SPU Next Steps

- Community Meetings:
  - Open House and community discussion last Saturday to support impacted residents
  - Late Jan/early Feb – community meeting on future investments and timeframes
- Next King Tide events week of January 23<sup>rd</sup> – ongoing preparedness work
- Community recovery - ongoing
- Community SLR resilience planning and action



# Human Service Department Response

**Role:** HSD is responsible for the coordination of the City's Emergency Support Function 6 (ESF #6) Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services

## HSD Response:

- Regular coordination meetings with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) who are taking the lead on culturally appropriate and in-language service for impacted communities
- Utilizing ongoing HSD programs/contracts and invested \$35,000 into new emergency contracts for case management and need response
- Coordinating with CBOs and American Red Cross on meeting non-shelter needs including:
  - Medical support
  - Transportation
  - Food
  - Primary school coordination
  - Pet care
  - Utility Discount Program



# HSD Response

Thank you to the CBO's supporting the response.

## **HSD's guiding partnership principles with Community Based Organizations (CBOs)**

- Ensuring all impacted households receive a check-up every 24 to 48 hours
- Assigning unassigned families to a culturally and linguistically appropriate CBO
- Ensuring impacted families have a housing option and food option
- Ensuring timely and accurate sharing of information to CBOs, to community members and to city departments

## **Work ahead**

- Property owners will determine safe return per property
- Continue offering housing and need option to support transitions



# Summary

- Recovery efforts involved multiple departments and agencies
- Engagement and interaction with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) critical
- Ongoing operations
  - After Action Report and Improvement Plan to be developed once operations have concluded.

