



## CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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### **City Begins Pre-Design Work for Aging Sewer Beach Lines**

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, August 13, 2010 – The City will begin the pre-design phase to evaluate and determine the integrity of sewer lines along the shore of Eagle Harbor next week. This will be the first step toward developing a strategy to replace, repair or rehabilitate the beach lines, which have been in place since the late 1970's and are beginning to show signs of age. It was the failure of one of these lines that caused a sewage spill into Eagle Harbor last spring.

Residents of the Wing Point area can expect to see city crews and environmental consultants working along the beach starting in mid-August 2010 and continuing through the year.

There are three pressurized and one non-pressurized ductile-iron sewer lines serving the City that are located within Eagle Harbor. The three pressurized mains include: a sixteen-inch outfall line that conveys treated wastewater into Puget Sound, two ten-inch lines, and one six-inch sewer line all of which convey untreated sewage to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at 1220 Donald Avenue. In the spring of 2009, the beach line originating west of the ferry terminal developed a leak. An estimated 300,000 to 500,000 gallons of untreated sewage leaked into Eagle Harbor before crews were able to make the necessary repairs.

The Public Works Engineering Department was authorized by the City Council in July 2010 to enter into a contract with BHC Consultants to analyze the condition of the existing sewer lines and develop cost effective strategies for replacing, repairing or rehabilitating the beach lines, as well as examine permitting requirements and financing opportunities.

“Our goal is to come up with a 100 year solution to this problem,” said Newkirk. “With the new technologies and materials that are available today, this should be a very reachable goal.”

Newkirk added, “The public can expect to be fully informed as we move forward with this project. The affected property owners as well as our rate payers will have multiple opportunities to learn about the project and provide input as it moves ahead.”

For more information and to sign up for email notifications of project updates, please visit our website at [www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us](http://www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us), then select “Projects”, then “Eagle Harbor Sewer Mains Project”. The project listserv signup appears on the left side of the page.

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