

Elliott Bay Connections

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

June 2026

Table of Contents

ACCESS AND HOURS.....	2
ACCESSIBILITY.....	2
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.....	3
GREENWAY.....	4
MYRTLE EDWARDS AND CENTENNIAL PARKS.....	4
BEACHES AND SHORELINE.....	5
CHILDREN'S EXPLORATION AREA.....	5
FOOD & DRINK.....	6
PUBLIC RESTROOMS.....	7
BIKE TRAIL AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS IN THE PARKS.....	7
TRAIL LIGHTING.....	7
OTHER PARK FEATURES.....	8
PUBLIC ART.....	8
NEW PLANTINGS, LAWNS AND MEADOWS.....	9
GREENWAY PLANTINGS.....	9
PARK LANDSCAPE AND PLANTINGS.....	9
TREES.....	11
HELPING PLANTS AND TREES GROW.....	12
RESILIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.....	13
PARKS AND GREENWAY MAINTENANCE.....	14
ROLE OF TRIBES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE EBC PROJECT.....	15
13 MOONS.....	15
EBC PROJECT.....	16
DONORS.....	16
SCHEDULE AND BUDGET.....	16
PUBLIC AGENCIES.....	17
FISHING PIER.....	18
RULES, USE AND SAFETY.....	18
GREENWAY RULES AND USE.....	19
PARK RULES AND USE.....	20
DOG GUIDELINES.....	21

ACCESS AND HOURS

What public transit options are available to get to the greenway and the parks?

- Many transit options connect to downtown Seattle, including King County Metro buses and Sound Transit Link Light Rail.
- Elliott Avenue is served by multiple King County metro routes.
- Park visitors can access Elliott Avenue by the W Thomas St Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass or the Centennial Park Pier 86 entrance connecting to the Helix Bridge.

Where is the closest parking?

- Centennial Park has a free parking lot next to the Pier 86 Grain Terminal.
- There are designated free parking spots with the Expedia Group P1 Parking Garage.
- Pay parking is available in the PACCAR Pavilion garage at the Olympic Sculpture Park daily from 6 AM to 11 PM.
- Street parking is available on Elliott Avenue and other surface streets subject to Seattle's on-street parking rules.
- Additional parking is available at the Bell Street Pier (Pier 66), Pike Place Market, and other downtown locations.

How do I get to Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks from Waterfront Park by foot, bicycle or other nonmotorized means?

Park users can travel on the new greenway from Pier 62, at Virginia Street, north to Clay Street. Cross Alaskan Way at Clay Street and take the bike trail or pedestrian path at the foot of the Olympic Sculpture Park to Myrtle Edwards Park.

Bike commuters and scooter riders can also use the protected bike lane on the western side of Alaskan Way, which runs from Pier 62 to Broad Street.

How do I get to Waterfront Park, Seattle Center, Smith Cove and other places from Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks?

There are multiple ways to access these downtown locations from the parks. A comprehensive new wayfinding system in the parks shows directions and distances to other destinations in Seattle.

What are the opening hours?

- [Centennial Park](#) (Port of Seattle) is open from dawn to dusk.
- [Myrtle Edwards Park](#) (City of Seattle, Seattle Parks and Recreation) is open from dawn to dusk.
- The greenway is open 24/7.

ACCESSIBILITY

Has accessibility improved in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks?

New accessibility improvements throughout Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks include:

- Regraded, realigned, repaired and widened pedestrian paths, along with new signs that meet accessibility guidelines
- Accessible paths to the northern beach cove

- Accessible paths and surface material in the Children's Exploration Area
- New accessible entrance to the Rose Garden in Centennial Park
- Accessible picnic tables and seating areas
- Accessible all-gender restrooms with changing tables for adults as well as children in the haʔali Amenities Building
- Accessible water fountain next to haʔali

Is the greenway accessible?

Yes. The greenway complies with accessibility requirements and is designed for people of all ages and abilities, with space to move at a comfortable pace.

The greenway accommodates a range of non-motorized users, including people using wheelchairs, as well as joggers, cyclists, and skaters. New accessible parking spaces, each with their own ramps, have been added to all the blocks where parking is provided.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How did the EBC project engage the community in planning these new improvements?

After the August 2023 EBC announcement, the EBC project team immediately initiated community engagement prior to the start of design.

Community engagement continued throughout design and construction from 2024 to 2026 and included public surveys, virtual open houses, and presentations to collect resident feedback on proposed greenway and park features. The EBC team also provided regular email updates and met with interested groups of neighbors and advocates. The EBC project team also consulted with the Suquamish and Muckleshoot Indian tribes throughout the project.

Where can I find the EBC community engagement materials?

The EBC community engagement [archive, including design presentations, is available online.](#)

What did park users and community members request during community engagement? Were any of these requests not addressed?

As part of overall planning and visioning for the City's Waterfront Seattle project, community members consistently requested more direct access to the water and more green space.

During community engagement specifically about Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks in 2023-2024, park users requested new public restrooms and amenity upgrades, food and beverage services, access to water, recreation opportunities for children and families, more seating, and features to prevent pedestrian and bicycle conflicts.

Park users also requested a dog park. Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks are legally considered shoreline parks, and off-leash areas are not an allowable element within shoreline parks. A dog park could not be included in the design or park improvements.

GREENWAY

Where is the greenway? What does it feature?

The greenway runs three quarters of a mile from Waterfront Park (Pier 62) to the Olympic Sculpture Park (Pier 70) on the east side of Alaskan Way.

It features:

- A new [multi-use trail](#) designed for people of all ages and abilities walking, biking and rolling
- Newly planted landscape beds with native and street-hardy trees, 15,000 shrubs and perennials line the trail
- Maps and directional signs
- Additional lighting and benches for resting

What does it mean that the greenway is a multi-use trail?

A multi-use trail is designed for people of all ages and abilities, including those traveling with children or assisting others. It provides space to walk, bike, and roll comfortably, accommodating different speeds and modes of travel. Wheelchair users, joggers, cyclists, skaters, and people using e-bikes and scooters are welcome.

On Seattle's multi-use trails, people biking or using scooters should ride at a safe speed, yield to pedestrians and give a clear signal—such as a bell or voice—when passing. Observe signs and stay to the right side of the trail unless otherwise indicated.

[More information about Seattle's multi-use trails.](#)

There are two bike paths along Alaskan Way. Which one do I use?

The new greenway complements the Seattle Department of Transportation's [Alaskan Way Safety Project](#), a new two-way protected bike lane on the west side of Alaskan Way

The protected bike lane is intended for bicyclists and scooter riders, not for pedestrians. It offers a direct continuous route separated from vehicle traffic by concrete barriers, with removable bollards near Pier 66 during high-traffic cruise days.

The greenway on the east side of Alaskan Way is a multi-use trail designed for a more relaxed experience. It is ideal for walking, rolling, and slower-paced biking, with a landscaped setting that supports recreation and accessibility for people of all ages and abilities, including children and families.

MYRTLE EDWARDS AND CENTENNIAL PARKS

What are the improvements to the parks?

The EBC project modernized park facilities to be more sustainable, resilient, and accessible for people of all abilities, and thoughtfully incorporated public feedback on park improvements and uses.

The many new features in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks include:

- Abundant native plantings, pollinator meadows and reseeded lawns
- Newly planted trees, providing shade canopy and hardiness as native species
- A new public amenities building with restrooms, food and beverages
- New children's exploration area
- Expanded beach coves with improved accessibility and enhanced habitat

- Repaired and enhanced pedestrian paths
- New seating and picnic tables replacing obsolete park furniture
- New comprehensive wayfinding system with maps and signage
- Renovated and repaved bike trail with lighting, bike racks, bike repair stations
- Accessibility improvements throughout

BEACHES AND SHORELINE

How have the beach coves in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks changed?

The beach coves are larger, more accessible, and include healthier nearshore habitats for fish and shorebirds.

Improvements include:

- Expansion of the northern beach cove from 22,000 to 42,000 square feet.
- A gentle slope and accessible paths connecting the park to the beach
- New seating and a new Children's Exploration Area next to the coves make the beaches much more inviting to all.

How did the work on the beaches improve habitat?

The expansion of the beach between the high-tide line and upland vegetation (backshore), and enhanced riparian habitat in the south beach cove, maximizes resiliency over time. Other improvements to the south beach cove include placed logs and installation of trees and shrubs in upland areas.

The significant expansion, restoration and enhancement of the north beach cove included habitat improvements to intertidal, backshore, and riparian habitats. Driftwood logs are placed along an expanded backshore area throughout the North Beach, providing areas for dune grasses and backshore habitat enhancements.

Close to 200 linear feet of hardened riprap seawall was removed to create a salmon friendly shoreline. Shoreline restoration at the north beach included removing existing rock riprap and placing habitat gravel and beach sand waterward of OHWM (Ordinary High-Water Mark). This restoration created low-gradient slopes and provided a habitat substrate for migrating juvenile salmon.

Did the EBC construction disturb the coastline?

The work to make the beaches more accessible and shore up the rip-rap edge resulted in limited shoreline disturbance. To mitigate the impact of this work, the project added habitat "benches" under the water and stabilizing, habitat-rich dune grasses along the shoreline.

CHILDREN'S EXPLORATION AREA

What is the Children's Exploration Area?

Located near the beach coves in Myrtle Edwards Park and the W Thomas St Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass entrance, the new Children's Exploration Area is a sequence of small, interconnected spaces, surrounded by native plantings and places to sit.

- Children can dig in the sand, build cairns and forts, or play at the stone "watercourse" table.
- In the Circle of the 13 Moons, children and caregivers can sit for learning and storytelling.
- In the climbing areas, kids can hop, balance, and climb on "bog stilts," log steppers," and the "log jam."
- Children can play with water in the accessible water course.

Is this area safe for children?

Yes, the climbing areas have fully certified play equipment and safety surfacing.

Is the children's exploration area accessible?

Yes, the area is accessible, including accessible safety surfacing in the play equipment area.

What ages is the Children's Exploration Area designed for?

The Children's Exploration Area welcomes children under the age of 11 and their caregivers. The hopping and climbing play equipment was designed for children between the ages of 5 and 11. Seating is provided for both children and adults, and there is also space for strollers near the play areas.

FOOD & DRINK

Are there food and drinks available for purchase in these parks?

Yes, Café Hagen is opening in the haʔtali building in Centennial Park in early June 2026. Maps and signage throughout the parks show location and distance to Café Hagen and haʔtali. Café Hagen has tables and chairs for its patrons.

Food and drink were the public's number one request for park improvements during community engagement for the EBC project.

What are Café Hagen's planned hours?

Once open, Café Hagen's planned business hours are from 8 AM to 4 PM, 7 days per week. [Check out the Café Hagen website](#) for more information.

Can I bring my own food and drink? Can we have a picnic?

Yes, park visitors can bring their own food and drink. Free picnic tables at haʔtali are available for all parkgoers and include grills, a sink and shelter. Other picnic tables are located throughout the parks. Picnics are welcome on lawns that are open for public use, as well as on the boulders, seating and beach areas in the parks.

Is there a water fountain?

Yes, there is a free water fountain and water bottle refiling station next to the haʔtali building in Centennial Park.

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

Where are the new restrooms?

There are five all gender restrooms located in the ha?ali building. The restrooms include accessible facilities as well as changing tables for both children and adults. Signage throughout the park provides directions and distance to these restrooms. The restrooms are open during park opening hours and are staffed by an attendant.

Free public restrooms are also available in the PACCAR Pavillion in the Olympic Sculpture Park and are open daily from 9 AM to 4 PM.

BIKE TRAIL AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS IN THE PARKS

Are scooters permitted on the pedestrian paths?

Electrified scooters are not permitted on pedestrian paths.

Where do people drop their Lime bikes and scooters in the parks?

The parks have areas for micromobility parking next to the bike trail. Micromobility suppliers continue to coordinate with the City and Port of Seattle on locations to stage shared scooters and bikes.

Are there bike racks and fixing stations?

Yes, there are bike racks and fixing stations next to the bike trail in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks. The greenway does not have such facilities.

Why is there a shoulder next to the pedestrian path?

The shoulder is designed for joggers and runners, providing a softer surface and wider space to pass pedestrians and others.

Is the renovated bike trail part of the Elliott Bay Trail?

The main waterfront trail route along Elliott Bay follows the shoreline of Elliott Bay for five miles from S Royal Brougham Way near the stadiums to Smith Cove Park in Magnolia and includes the bike trail in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks.

TRAIL LIGHTING

Is the bike trail lighting LED or solar?

The new light fixtures on the bike trail are LED.

Why is there lighting only on the bike trail, not the pedestrian path?

The new LED lighting on the bike trail helps create a safer way of passage for bicyclists, particularly during early evenings in the winter.

Will lighting increase light pollution or impact wildlife?

The new trail lighting will not increase light pollution. The bike trail is located far enough from the shoreline that its lights will not impact fish or other marine creatures. There is no lighting on the pedestrian paths because of their proximity to the shoreline.

OTHER PARK FEATURES

Are there new places to sit?

Yes! There are many new places to sit throughout the parks, including dozens of picnic tables, benches, relaxed chairs, and platform seats/bleachers. Many chairs are placed so that individuals in wheelchairs can sit comfortably next to friends and family.

This new seating is all made from Douglas fir sourced from forests in the Pacific Northwest. Chairs and benches are located in places to enjoy sunset, water, garden and mountain views. Picnic tables can be found in several locations. **ha?łali** has picnic tables as well as tables and chairs at Café Hagen. There are accessible picnic tables near the Children's Exploration Area in Myrtle Edwards Park and the Rose Garden in Centennial Park.

In addition to the new wood furniture, the parks also offer many stone seats as well as logs and boulders chosen so that they are comfortable for sitting (and for good views).

Is there still fitness equipment?

Yes, there is new modern fitness equipment in the same location as the equipment that was previously installed.

Are the boulders in the parks new?

The many new stone boulders, slabs, riprap, and cobbles throughout the landscape and shoreline in the parks and greenway come from western Washington or coastal British Columbia. These have been newly placed in the landscapes and beaches as part of the EBC project.

Where are the logs from?

Most of the logs in the parks and greenway are driftwood from the Puget Sound, collected by the Army Corps of Engineers and provided by the Port Seattle from their stockpile on the Duwamish River.

What materials were used to construct ha?łali?

The building is constructed out of yellow and red cedar from the Pacific Northwest.

PUBLIC ART

Do Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks have any public art?

Adjacent, Against, Upon by Michael Heizer is in Myrtle Edwards Park under the stewardship of the [Seattle Office of Arts and Culture](#).

Undercurrents by Laura Haddad and Tom Drugan is also in Myrtle Edwards Park and was commissioned by [4Culture](#).

The EBC team worked with both artists and representatives from the City and County to support the artists' intent with cleaning, maintenance and new plaques.

Were any new artworks or light projections commissioned as part of the project?

The EBC project did not commission any new permanent artwork in either of the parks or the greenway.

The EBC project explored the feasibility of light projections on the Pier 86 Grain Terminal, drawing on the successful community-led light projection project experience from 2018. There are no formal plans at the current time to commission light projections.

NEW PLANTINGS, LAWNS AND MEADOWS

GREENWAY PLANTINGS

What are the new plants? Are they native species?

There are more than 15,000 new plants and shrubs along the greenway.

New planting beds feature native and street-hardy trees, shrubs, and perennials. The greenway planting design draws inspiration from the area's historic landscapes and transitions gradually along the length of the trail. Approximately 40 different species of plants that are both native and adaptive to the Pacific Northwest include Foothill Sedge, Camas, Yarrow, Douglas Aster, Oregon Iris, Sword Fern, White Sage, Pacific Mist Manzanita and many others.

The design emphasizes native and climate-adapted plants, creating an urban experience that reflects the character of the Pacific Northwest landscape. The choice of plants along the southern stretch of the greenway references the historic ravine that once linked the uplands to a beach near Bell Street as well as the new plantings in Waterfront Park. Moving north, the landscape transitions to a coastal wooded shrubland, and finally to a backshore dune environment featuring driftwood logs and oyster shell mulch—echoing the site's historic shoreline.

PARK LANDSCAPE AND PLANTINGS

How many acres are the combined parks in total?

Together, Myrtle Edwards Park and Centennial Park cover 16 acres. Prior to the new plantings and improvements just completed, sod lawns totaled 11 acres, three quarters of an acre of plantings, with 3.5 acres of asphalt and concrete, and approximately three quarters of an acre of beach.

With approximately 74,000 plants and shrubs (most native species), new pollinator meadows and lawns, and expanded beach areas, Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks now include more natural landscapes. Plantings, meadows and lawns total 14.7 acres.

The renovated bike trail and the new network of pedestrian paths total approximately 4.2 acres, including a widened shoulder for runners and informal paths going through the landscape, made of asphalt, concrete and crushed stone and gravel. The beach coves are larger, totaling 1.3 acres compared to three quarters of an acre before the renovations.

How many new plants are in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks? How many plant species? How many native plant species are there?

Approximately 74,000 new plants have been planted in the parks, not counting trees or the seeding of lawns. There are almost 200 species of plants throughout the parks; more than 95% of these species are native.

These new plants are found among the four types of native habitats throughout the parks:

- Dunegrass plantings at the beaches
- Shoreline buffer plantings with shrubs and trees
- Pollinator meadows and lawns with native grasses and perennial species
- Forest understory plantings with evergreen and flowering shrubs and small trees.

Some of the new plant species are:

- Dune Grass, Willow, Sweet Gale, Sea Thrift planted in beach areas
- Sand Fescue, Puget Gumweed, Coastal Mugwort planted on shoreline
- Yarrow, Self-Heal, Checker mallow, Tough Leaf Iris, and a host of native grasses (perennial) planted in lawns and meadows
- Baby Blue Eyes, Blue Thimble Flower, Large-Flowered Collomia, Meadowfoam (annual) planted in lawns and meadows
- Sword Fern, Salal, Oregon grape, Fringecup, Red Flowering Currant planted in the forest understory

Are there any plants that represent Indigenous food systems?

Yes, there are many new plants that have played a role in Indigenous food systems.

In the parks, the Coast Salish lunar calendar is told through the story of the 13 Moons displayed on boulders with text, illustration of the moons and surrounding plantings. For example, salmonberry is planted near the Moon of the Salmonberry and salal near the Time to Gather Salal Berries. These plants were selected by Valerie Segrest, working in collaboration with the EBC design team. [Find more information about the 13 Moons on the EBC website.](#)

What are the lawns and meadows in the parks?

In addition to the 74,000 new plants, many acres in the parks have been newly seeded to create lawns and meadows. Most of these areas create habitats for bees and other pollinators while also providing places for parkgoers to enjoy.

Have the lawns been replanted?

All the lawns have been freshly seeded and are growing in.

What is a pollinator lawn?

Most of the newly planted and restored lawns in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks are now pollinator lawns. A pollinator lawn features a mix of native grasses and low-growing, resilient flowering plants (like clover and creeping thyme) that are beneficial to native bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects. These “pollinator” lawns look and feel like a traditional turfgrass lawn. They will be mowed regularly as a place to picnic and play. The

native species that make up the pollinator lawns can take a little longer to grow than non-native turf grass.

When the parks re-open on June 4, 2026, some of these lawns will still be growing and will be protected by temporary fences. Park users can help support pollinator habitat by keeping feet, paws and wheels out of the lawn areas behind fences. All of the lawns will open during the summer. The Elliott Bay Connections website will provide updates on lawn opening.

What is a pollinator meadow?

A pollinator meadow is an area planted with a diverse mix of tall, native grasses and perennial wildflowers that bloom in succession and are allowed to set seed and go dormant. Rather than functioning as a mowed lawn, a pollinator meadow provides food, shelter, and nesting sites for bees, butterflies, birds, and other beneficial insects.

The pollinator meadows in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks are growing from seeds with a mix of slow and fast-growing annuals and perennials. Some areas will look lush and colorful; some will look sparse, but they are all working hard underground to grow strong roots. Unlike pollinator lawns, these meadows will not be mowed frequently to create better habitat for bees and other creatures.

These meadows, like the new plants and shrubs, are protected by post and rope establishment fencing. It takes a couple of seasons for a newly seeded meadow to grow. Please help the meadows grow by keeping feet, paws, and wheels on paths.

TREES

How many trees are in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks and the new greenway now?

There are now more than 1,200 trees. The EBC project added 340 trees to the existing canopy of 860 mature trees.

What species of trees were planted in the parks? What trees are native species?

The new tree species are almost all natives and were selected to provide native coastal character in the parks.

The native species of new trees in the parks include Shore Pine, Dogwood, Black Gum, Hackberry, Garry Oak, Red Oak, Cascara, Willow, Grand Fir, Noble Fir, Douglas-fir, Madrone, Sitka Spruce, Serviceberry, Hazelnut, Vine Maple, Alder, Incense Cedar, Red Cedar, Limber Pine, Quaking Aspen.

Several non-native large deciduous trees species were also planted to provide shade in lawns and high-use park spaces including Black Gum, Red Oak, Hungarian Oak, and Hackberry species. Limber Pine and Austrian Pine are the only coniferous, non-native species used for screening along the east edge of the parks. These trees screen the railroad and are highly tolerant of urban conditions.

How many trees are now on the greenway and what species are they?

The greenway has 121 trees, including 52 new trees. The new tree species were selected

for shade, urban durability, and climate resilience. The species include Starlight and Aurora dogwood, Persian parrotia, Snowcloud serviceberry, Frontier elm, Gumdrop tupelo and Austrian pine. The expanded planting areas and improved growing conditions also support the long-term health of both new and existing trees, which provide shade, enhance the urban environment, and deliver important ecological benefits.

Were any trees removed? Did the tree removals comply with Seattle's tree policy?

Approximately 100 trees were removed during the EBC project due to illness, death or safety so the total net number of new trees is approximately 240.

At the outset of the EBC project, the existing, mature trees were carefully evaluated by a certified arborist. Preservation was prioritized wherever possible. Each tree removed was replaced with no fewer than three new trees. The Seattle tree policy calls for a 3:1 replacement ratio on public property when mature trees are removed.

HELPING PLANTS AND TREES GROW

Why are there fences in the parks and along the greenway?

Rope and post fences have been installed around most of the planting areas in the parks and on the greenway to protect plants and trees from feet, paws, and wheels. These fences are typically called "establishment" fences because they protect plants while they become established. Many of the fences also have mesh to protect the plants from hungry bunnies.

Signs remind park users to stay out of the planting areas to help these plants grow. The EBC team will be working to ensure that these new landscapes are well cared for and established, so that people can enjoy these plants and trees for decades to come.

How long will these establishment fences remain in place?

The new young plants will take several seasons to grow, so the fencing will be in place for several seasons. Updates will be posted [on the website](#) about the status of plantings, lawns, and fences.

Why are the plants so small?

Because of the focus on creating a naturalistic landscape with native species, the EBC team needed plants custom grown from seeds. Many nurseries don't typically stock native species in the quantities needed for these park landscapes. These young plants are small because smaller plants adapt better, and it is necessary to use smaller plants when planting in and around the root systems of trees. Young plants need time to establish their roots and reach their full height. Some of these native species require several seasons to reach maturity.

What are those kites that look like hawks?

These are not art pieces or toys! These kites are called "bird deterrent" kites, and they are in the parks to deter crows from snacking on the lawn and meadow seed, as well as young plants.

Why are there signs addressed to bunnies?

Visitors may notice mesh installed on the fences as well as mesh “hats” or “cages” protecting individual plants. There are also some signs addressed to visiting bunnies throughout the parks. This fencing has been installed to protect the young plants so they can grow to full maturity.

Will plants be replaced if they don't thrive, or die?

Yes, the EBC team working to care for the plants, trees, and landscapes will be carefully monitoring all the plantings. In addition to taking many care measures, they may occasionally need to replace a plant or tree.

Why are there fences around the lawns? When can we use the lawns?

Almost all of the lawns in the park were planted from seed, using a hearty mix of lawn species that should thrive in the Northwest. Some of these lawns need more time to grow. Park users can help the lawns by staying on the paths and keeping feet, paws and wheels off the lawns and meadows.

All lawns will be fully open during the summer. Updates will be posted [on the website](#) about the status of plantings, lawns, and fences.

Will there be other scheduled maintenance closures for lawns and other areas?

Going forward, as needed, some lawn areas may be occasionally fenced to support grass establishment, seasonal maintenance, irrigation repairs or recovery from heavy use. Closures will be limited in area and duration whenever possible to ensure that people can maximize their enjoyment of the parks while the landscapes are able to thrive.

RESILIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

How did the EBC project address resiliency and sea level rise?

The design of the northern beach cove addressed previously degraded and eroding shoreline conditions, maximized resiliency, and designed for sea level rise. The EBC design team used 50-year projections for sea level rise to integrate resiliency into the future of the 50-year design life of park improvements. Parkgoers will notice a new modest berm just west of the sculpture *Adjacent, Against, Upon* (Michael Heizer) which is another resiliency measure integrated in the landscape.

Did the EBC project have any impact on wildlife in Elliott Bay?

The improvements to the parks have an overall positive impact on wildlife in and near Elliott Bay, but construction can be disruptive to sensitive fish and wildlife. During construction, the EBC project carefully protected the shoreline environment by ensuring protective measures were in place to prevent soil and debris runoff and completing all shoreline construction work outside of reproduction season for near-shore fish populations.

Are the parks certified as Salmon-Safe?

Yes, both parks are certified Salmon-Safe, meaning the project has adopted strict practices in design and maintenance to restore habitat, reduce water usage, manage stormwater runoff, and eliminate the use of synthetic fertilizers, herbicides and other chemicals.

What kind of environmental review was conducted for the EBC project?

The EBC project team submitted a SEPA Checklist and associated environmental studies to the City of Seattle as part of the permitting process for the Project. The City of Seattle determined that the EBC project does not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and issued a Determination of Non-significance on January 23, 2025.

PARKS AND GREENWAY MAINTENANCE

Who will fund the care for the landscapes while they are being established?

The donors will provide funding to support stewardship, with concurrence by the City and Port of Seattle on sustainability and standards of care.

During the first five years, private philanthropy is underwriting the full cost of caring for the plantings, maintaining these public spaces and ensuring that the new landscapes are established.

Who will take care of the landscapes, and maintain the parks and greenway?

During the first year, plants, trees and park amenities are still covered by warranties, just like many other purchases.

During this first year period, the EBC team, with the DSA as implementation partner, will provide daily landscape care and maintenance, monitor conditions and warranty coverage, help identify issues and coordinate with the City and Port to keep the parks welcoming and well cared for. Uplift Northwest will provide daily cleaning and custodial care. Northwest Landscape Services provide establishment landscape care.

After the first year, the DSA will continue to serve as the implementation partner for stewardship and collaborate closely with the City of Seattle and the Port of Seattle to ensure that these parks and greenway are well cared for, well maintained and safe for all visitors.

How will the parks remain beautiful and well maintained?

Initial private philanthropic support for stewardship will ensure that the plantings and parks remain beautiful and well maintained. The DSA, as implementation partner, will collaborate with public agency partners to make sure that high levels of care are maintained consistent with established standards.

ROLE OF TRIBES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE EBC PROJECT

How were the Tribes consulted and involved in the project?

The Suquamish and Muckleshoot Indian Tribes were consulted prior to and during the Elliott Bay Connections project and provided statements of support.

The Suquamish Culture Committee chose the name haʔtali (Lushootseed for “the good place”) for the new amenities building.

Valerie Segrest (Muckleshoot) was a member of the EBC team who initiated the idea for the 13 Moons Story Walk and suggested plantings representative of Indigenous food systems. Valerie collaborated with the Muckleshoot Language Committee on research for the names and descriptions of the moon.

What Indigenous people worked on the EBC project team? What were their roles?

- Alfred Waugh (Chipewyan), founder and principal of Formline Architecture + Urbanism, designed haʔtali, the new amenities building.
- Colleen Echohawk (Pawnee) led community and Tribal engagement for the EBC project.
- Valerie Segrest (Muckleshoot) selected plants and conceived the idea to include the 13 Moons Story Walk.
- Anabel Baker (Samish) created the art for the 13 Moons.

Who chose the name haʔtali for the building? What does it mean?

The Suquamish Tribe Culture Committee was invited to name the new amenities building. The Committee, facilitated by Colleen Echohawk, visited the park site under construction and looked at the designs for the building by Alfred Waugh, First Nation architect. The Committee chose the name haʔtali which means “the good place” in Lushootseed.

What happened to the totem pole that used to be in Centennial Park?

Due to the age and condition of the totem pole, the Port of Seattle relocated the totem pole from Centennial Park after consultation and approval from the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

Tlingit and Haida formally recommended that the Port take the totem pole down, store it safely indoors, and prepare it for its return to Southeast Alaska, where it will ultimately be brought back to its Tribal home in Juneau. The totem pole was taken down in early March 2026 and was transported to secure indoor storage at Terminal 46. During this interim period, it will be carefully preserved under Port stewardship to ensure its respectful care.

13 MOONS

What is the origin of the 13 Moons story?

The Coast Salish lunar calendar follows the natural rhythms of the land and water. Each of the [13 Moons](#) signals changes in weather, plant growth, animal migrations, and traditional food harvests.

Who wrote the descriptions of the 13 Moons?

Valerie Segrest (Muckleshoot) and the Muckleshoot Language Committee collaborated on the research for the names and text describing the moons.

Who created the illustrations for the 13 Moons?

Anabel Baker (Samish) created the art in Central Coast Salish style.

Where are the 13 Moons boulders from?

The boulders for the 13 Moons are from a quarry in Washington State.

EBC PROJECT

DONORS

How much of the EBC project was funded by private donations?

All costs for community engagement, planning, design, plantings, and construction to create the new greenway and restore and revitalize Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks were underwritten by private donors. Taxpayers did not bear any of these expenses.

Who are the donors?

The donors to Elliott Bay Connections include Melinda French Gates, MacKenzie Scott, the Expedia Group and the Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation.

Were the donors involved in the design?

The EBC project team presented the design at several milestones to the public and made a presentation to the Seattle Design Commission. The EBC project donors were not involved in the design process.

Is there any private support being provided to support the care of the new plants and landscapes and help maintain the greenway and parks?

Yes, the donors will provide funding to support stewardship, with concurrence by the City and Port of Seattle on sustainability and standards of care. During the first five years, private philanthropy is underwriting the full cost of caring for plants, trees and shrubs, maintaining these public spaces and ensuring that the new landscapes are established.

SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

Is the EBC project on schedule? How long did it take to do the work?

At the Elliott Bay Connections announcement in August 2023, all the public and private partners signed up to open the new greenway and reopen Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks by June 2026, ahead of the first match of the FIFA World Cup in Seattle.

Construction on the greenway was completed in 13 months from the first removal of trolley tracks in February 2025 to the public opening on April 21, 2026.

Construction and planting in the parks started in March 2025 with the demolition of cinderblock buildings and was completed in 15 months, with the parks reopening on June 4, 2026. Plantings and lawns are protected by fences to support the full establishment of the landscapes.

What was the construction budget? What was the final cost?

At the 2023 announcement, the construction budget was \$45 million, entirely funded by private philanthropy. As of the parks' re-opening, the final cost for construction will be approximately \$56 million.

The cost increase was due to a few factors, including:

- Complex underground utilities and infrastructure
- A better understanding of park features desired from the community engagement and design phases
- Preparation for storm surge
- Commitment to a natural landscape of native plants, shrubs, trees, meadows and lawns

The full budget was underwritten by private philanthropy.

PUBLIC AGENCIES

What is the Port of Seattle's role in the EBC project?

The Port of Seattle owns Centennial Park, including the new amenities building. Port staff have been involved in the EBC project since its inception, participating in community engagement, conducting design reviews and preparing for the establishment of the plantings and maintenance of the park at reopening.

What is the City of Seattle's role in the EBC project?

The City of Seattle has been involved in the EBC project since its inception.

As a public space, the greenway is owned by the City of Seattle. The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) reviewed and approved the greenway design and construction, and will continue to manage signals, crossings, and the functioning of this corridor as part of Seattle's overall street network.

As a public park, Myrtle Edwards Park is owned by the City of Seattle. The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (SPR) reviewed and approved the park design and construction, including all plantings.

Both SDOT and SPR have collaborated in planning and preparation for establishment and care of the new plantings on the greenway and in the park and overall maintenance of the greenway and Myrtle Edwards Park during the first years after opening.

Other departments participated in the issuance of permits and all necessary reviews for the EBC project.

What is the Downtown Seattle Association (DSA) role in the EBC project?

DSA has been the implementation partner for the EBC project since its inception. As the implementation partner, the DSA plays a lead role working with the EBC team on the initial care and establishment of all plantings and landscape, as well as the overall operations and

maintenance of these new public spaces. DSA has a track record of partnership and stewardship for public spaces in Seattle.

Who was on the Elliott Bay Connections project team?

[See the list of many of the Pacific Northwest firms involved](#) in design, community engagement, project management, and construction on the website.

The EBC project achieved more than 21% Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) participation.

What other agencies were involved in the EBC project?

The EBC team worked closely with King County to ensure that the combined sewer overflow (CSO) treatment facility in Myrtle Edwards Park would not be impacted by construction or park usage, and with the Port of Seattle and the Louis Dreyfus Corp to ensure that the Terminal 86 Grain Facility would not be impacted by construction or park usage.

The EBC team also worked closely with BNSF Railway throughout the design and construction of the new greenway.

FISHING PIER

What is the status of the Elliott Bay Fishing Pier at Pier 86?

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Port of Seattle have been working to replace the pier and restore public fishing access. The fishing pier has been closed for safety reasons since 2016.

The updated design for the new Pier incorporates feedback received during two public input periods as well as input from area Native American tribes, the City of Seattle and other partner agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The final design of the new pier has been completed, but construction of the new pier has not yet been funded by the State of Washington. WDFW hopes to have additional updates to share in 2027.

RULES, USE AND SAFETY

What are the overall rules and regulations?

- View the [Port of Seattle's rules for parks and public spaces](#), including Centennial Park.
- View the [Seattle Parks and Recreation \(SPR\) rules and regulations](#), including Myrtle Edwards Park.
- View [Seattle Department Of Transportation information on multi-use trails](#).

Is camping allowed?

Camping is not allowed in Myrtle Edwards or Centennial Parks or on the greenway.

How is public safety being managed in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Park and on the greenway?

The City of Seattle and the Port of Seattle are responsible for public safety and emergency responses in these public spaces. Creating safe, welcoming parks and public spaces is a

shared responsibility. As in other Seattle parks and public spaces, public safety in these parks is managed through a comprehensive strategy of regular maintenance, rapid repair and graffiti removal, routine, visible presence of custodial and maintenance staff, Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation Park Rangers.

During the initial year after opening, the EBC team, with the DSA as implementation partner, will manage daily care and maintenance, monitor site conditions, help identify issues and coordinate with the City and Port to keep the parks welcoming, well cared for and secure. Uplift NW provides daily custodial services.

How do I report a safety issue?

If you're experiencing an emergency or witnessing criminal activity, please dial 911.

How do I report other issues?

To report a non-emergency issue or obtain information about care and maintenance, send an email to info@elliottbayconnections.org or dial [\(206\) 462-1275](tel:(206)462-1275).

For other reports or requests for information, contact

- Myrtle Edwards Park, City of Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
 - Phone [\(206\) 684-4075](tel:(206)684-4075); Email pks_info@seattle.gov
- Centennial Park, Port of Seattle
 - Phone [\(206\) 787-3350](tel:(206)787-3350) Message [Contact Us | Port of Seattle](#)
- Greenway, City of Seattle Department of Transportation | Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
 - Phone [\(206\) 684-7623](tel:(206)684-7623); Email walkandbike@seattle.gov

GREENWAY RULES AND USE

Are e-bikes and scooters allowed on the greenway?

In Seattle, e-bikes and electric scooters are permitted on multi-use trails, including the new greenway. Bicyclists and scooter riders must yield to pedestrians and ride at a safe speed. Posted signs along the trail provide guidance on safe speeds and trail etiquette. Explore [more information about Seattle's Multi-Use Trails Program](#) and helpful tips on trail etiquette.

Where do people leave their Lime bikes and e-bikes?

The greenway has two areas for micromobility parking, at Lenora Street and Blanchard Street. Micromobility suppliers continue to coordinate with SDOT and the Port of Seattle on locations to stage shared scooters and bikes.

What happens when there is a cruise ship in the port?

On sailing days, the protected bike lane of the [Alaskan Way Safety Project](#) on the west side of Alaskan Way will be closed in front of Pier 66 from Blanchard St to Wall St. People biking who normally use the protected bike lane will detour to the greenway between Blanchard St and Wall St on the east side of Alaskan Way. Special bike crossing lights are installed at these intersections to guide people biking to and from the multi-use trail.

Why does the multi-use trail end at Clay Street instead of Broad Street? Can I walk in the planting area between Clay and Broad?

The multi-use trail ends at Clay Street to provide a clear and safe transition to the Olympic Sculpture Park and parks and trails to the north. The greenway includes a planting bed between Clay and Broad Street planted with native plants, shrubs and trees. Pedestrians, cyclists and other users should cross to the west side of Alaskan Way to continue going north. Coming from the North, greenway users can cross at Clay Street to enjoy the greenway from Clay Street to Waterfront Park.

Is the greenway part of the Elliott Bay Trail?

The main waterfront trail route along Elliott Bay follows the shoreline of Elliott Bay for five miles from South Royal Brougham Way near the stadiums to Smith Cove Park in Magnolia and includes this new greenway.

PARK RULES AND USE

Can I fish at the beach coves?

Elliott Bay falls under the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife jurisdiction for [fishing and shellfish regulations](#).

Can I launch my kayak/canoe/SUP from the beaches?

A non-motorized vessel such as a kayak, canoe or SUP can be launched from the beach coves. Participants should observe Washington State water safety regulations.

Can I swim?

Swimming is not permitted. Contact SPR or the Port of Seattle for further information.

Where can I hang my hammock?

Please respect the signs and fences and don't enter the planting beds to hang your hammock. Also please be aware that the new trees are not strong enough for hammocks! Enjoy one of the new chairs instead. They have been placed to maximize visitors' enjoyment of the mountain and water views.

Can I reserve one of the picnic tables in Myrtle Edwards or Centennial Parks?

The picnic tables are first come, first served.

Can I hold a public or private event at Myrtle Edwards Park?

- If you would like to host a public event, contact SPR for information about [public event permits in Myrtle Edwards Park](#).
- If you would like to host a ceremony, party, or private event, contact SPR for information about [private event requests for Myrtle Edwards Park](#).

Can I hold a public or private event at Centennial Park, including the ha?tali building or any of its facilities?

Contact the Port of Seattle about [public or private event requests for Centennial Park or ha?tali building's facilities](#).

Can I order food or catering in advance from Café Hagen?

[Contact Café Hagen](#) for information about food and catering.

Is there any programming planned for either of the parks?

The parks have been revitalized as incredibly special natural landscapes, with native plantings and many places to enjoy the spectacular views, as well as walking, bicycling, running or rolling, on the pedestrian paths and bike trail. The Port of Seattle is responsible for permits for private and public events in Centennial Park. The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (SPR) is responsible for permits for private and public events in Myrtle Edwards Park.

Can I volunteer in these parks?

During this first year, while the restored landscapes and amenities are in start-up mode, the parks don't have volunteer programs.

To find out if there are future volunteer opportunities, please contact:

- [Myrtle Edwards Park](#), Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR), [\(206\) 684-4075](#); Email: pks_info@seattle.gov
- [Centennial Park](#), Port of Seattle, [\(206\) 787-3350](#), [Contact Us | Port of Seattle](#)

DOG GUIDELINES

Why isn't there a dog park?

A shoreline park is permitted in this zone, but a general park is not permitted. An off-leash area is not listed as an element allowed within a shoreline park. A dog park/off leash area was not included in the final design and renovation of the parks.

Are dogs allowed on the greenway?

Yes, leashed dogs are welcome on the greenway. Trash and recycling receptacles are available along the route, and several include dog waste bag dispensers. Please pick up after dogs and dispose of dog waste appropriately. Please keep dogs out of planting beds and don't let them pee on the greenway's plants and trees.

Are dogs allowed to swim at the beaches?

There are no off-leash areas in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks.

Where can my dog pee?

Dogs, please don't pee on the new plants and trees!

Rope and post fencing and signage have been installed throughout the parks and greenway planting beds to remind people to keep paws, feet and wheels out of the planted areas. Temporary fences are up around certain lawn areas until later in the summer, so grass and lawns have time to grow.

Are there dog waste bags and other dog-friendly features?

Yes, there are dog waste bags both in the parks and on the greenway. Please use the receptacles to dispose of dog poop. There is water for dogs available at **ha?łali** in Centennial Park.