

# Project News

May 2024

## Digester System Improvements

### *Refurbishing the Digesters*

*In early 2025, LOTT Clean Water Alliance will begin a major construction project at the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant (BITP) to refurbish the digester system. The digesters are a critical part of solids management during wastewater treatment. All four digesters were constructed in the early 1980s and system components are corroded and in poor condition.*

### Timeline

Construction will occur in stages over a three-year period. Work must be carefully sequenced to avoid disruption of essential treatment plant operations. Project completion is anticipated in early 2028.

### Location

Construction will occur at the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant in Olympia, just south of A Avenue and east of Franklin Street NE.

### Project Benefits

The Digester System Improvements project will replace the existing digester covers, improve the sludge mixing system, enclose and relocate the waste gas flare, and replace aging piping and system equipment. Project benefits include extending the useful life of this critical system, better energy efficiency, and improved sludge mixing within the digesters, which will result in more complete digestion and increased biogas production.

### Cost and Funding

Construction cost is estimated at \$33 million. The project will be funded by LOTT's capital budget and low interest loans through the Department of Commerce Public Works Board.



*Digester construction area at the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant.*

## Design and Construction Contractors

Parametrix (Puyallup, Washington) is the design engineer. The general contractor is being selected through an alternative procurement process that will be completed in late 2024.

## Anticipated Impacts

Most of the construction work will occur within the plant boundary. However, construction and materials staging will occur on LOTT's adjacent Washington Street property and within the right-of-way of Franklin Street. A large tower crane will be positioned within the treatment plant, and will access materials from Franklin Street.

Closure of Franklin Street between A Avenue and Marine Drive to vehicle and pedestrian traffic will be necessary on weekdays for the duration of construction, anticipated to take approximately three years. Detour routes will be available, and Franklin Street will be reopened to traffic each weekend to allow access to LOTT's Hauled Waste Receiving Station for RVs and other users. As a result of the detours, increased traffic is expected along Marine Drive NE, Washington Street NE, and Thurston Avenue NE.



*Closure of Franklin Street between A Avenue and Marine Drive to vehicle and pedestrian traffic will occur on weekdays during construction.*