

Tolt Dam Early Warning System Progress

Carnation City Council Meeting
July 20, 2021



Dam safety and weekly test

- No reported issues with weekly tests
- Monitoring siren performance on site





Emergency preparedness

- King County Office of Emergency Management evacuation planning, outreach, and exercise
- Inundation map: kingcounty.gov/dams
- Text alert signup: kingcounty.gov/alert

Project goals

- Replace and improve outdated siren and system components
- Add redundancy, resiliency, and reliability
- Add digital highway message signs and static evacuation route signs
- Listen and respond to community needs and suggestions
 - Add more sirens
 - Add new digital highway message
 - Add new static evacuation route signs



Actions since June 15 Council meeting

- June 30 online community meeting (seattle.gov/utilities/toltsirenproject)
- July 2 meeting with Carnation City Planner and leadership re: siren in River's Edge Park
- Site visits with siren vendor (June 21, June 25, July 7)
- Environmental/permitting:
 - Initial applications submitted to Federal Communications Commission
 - Coordination with King County, WSDOT, City of Carnation, Fire District, School District
- Continuing process to hire siren and microwave vendors
- Reviewing and integrating design comments
- Working toward final design
- Land surveys to support siren design and permitting





Engagement and collaboration

Quarterly community meetings • Monthly Council updates

Design review meetings with Carnation

Siren system replacement

Design Permits Construction

Other project components*

Design Permits Construction

*Digital highway message and static evacuation signs, additional sirens, microwave link and data network improvements



Community feedback and actions

| COMMUNITY INSIGHTS | ACTIONS | LEAD AGENCY |
|--|--|--|
| 1 Additional signage to support evacuation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New digital highway message signs• New static evacuation route signs• Along designated evacuation routes | Seattle Public Utilities |
| 2 Warning system accessibility and reliability | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four new sirens• Verbal messages with multi-language capability• Strobe lights on sirens | Seattle Public Utilities |
| 3 Siren tone and verbal message flexibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tone and verbal message options• Verbal messages with multi-language capability• Test vs emergency options | Seattle Public Utilities |
| 4 System improvements as quickly as possible | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expediting siren replacement | Seattle Public Utilities |
| 5 Emergency preparedness | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evacuation planning• Education and awareness• Partnership with county and city | King County Office of Emergency Management |



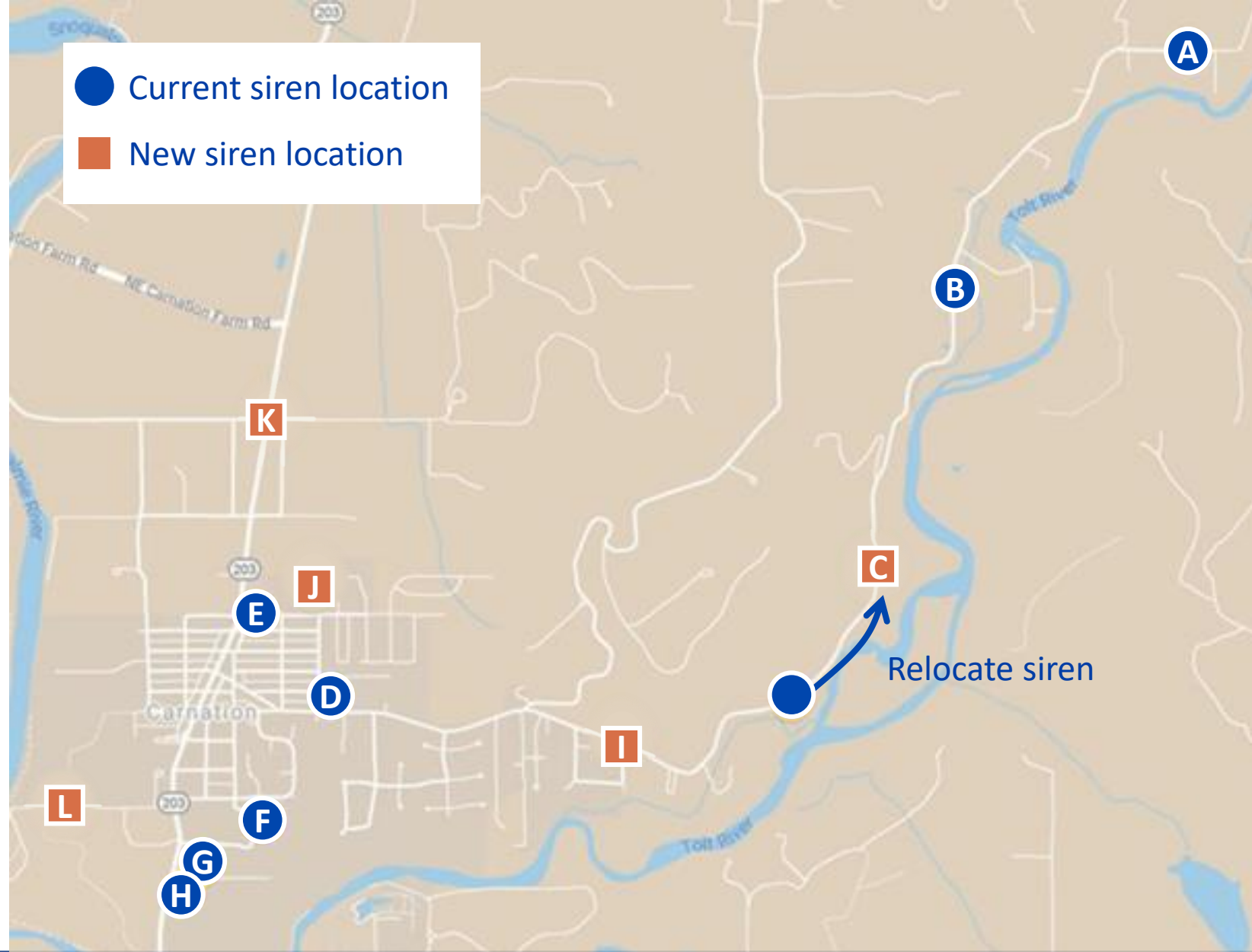


Siren and signage improvements

- Replacing 8 sirens – 4 outdoor and 4 indoor
- Moving one outdoor siren and adding one siren in east Carnation
- Adding later in the project:
 - 2 outdoor and 1 indoor siren
 - 6 digital highway message signs
 - Static evacuation route signs along designated evacuation routes

Siren locations

- A** NE 80th St
- B** Tolt River Rd NE & NE 69th St
- C** Tolt River Rd NE (5000 block)
- D** Entwistle St & Milwaukee St
- E** Carnation Elementary School
- F** Riverview School District Transportation Center
- G** Tolt Middle School
- H** Eastside Fire & Rescue Station 85
- I** River's Edge Park vicinity
- J** Riverview Learning Center
- K** SR 203 & NE 60th St
- L** Tolt-MacDonald Park



Adding two types of signs

Digital highway message sign example

- Tells people to evacuate in a dam break
- Brief, large text for drivers
- Pre-programmable

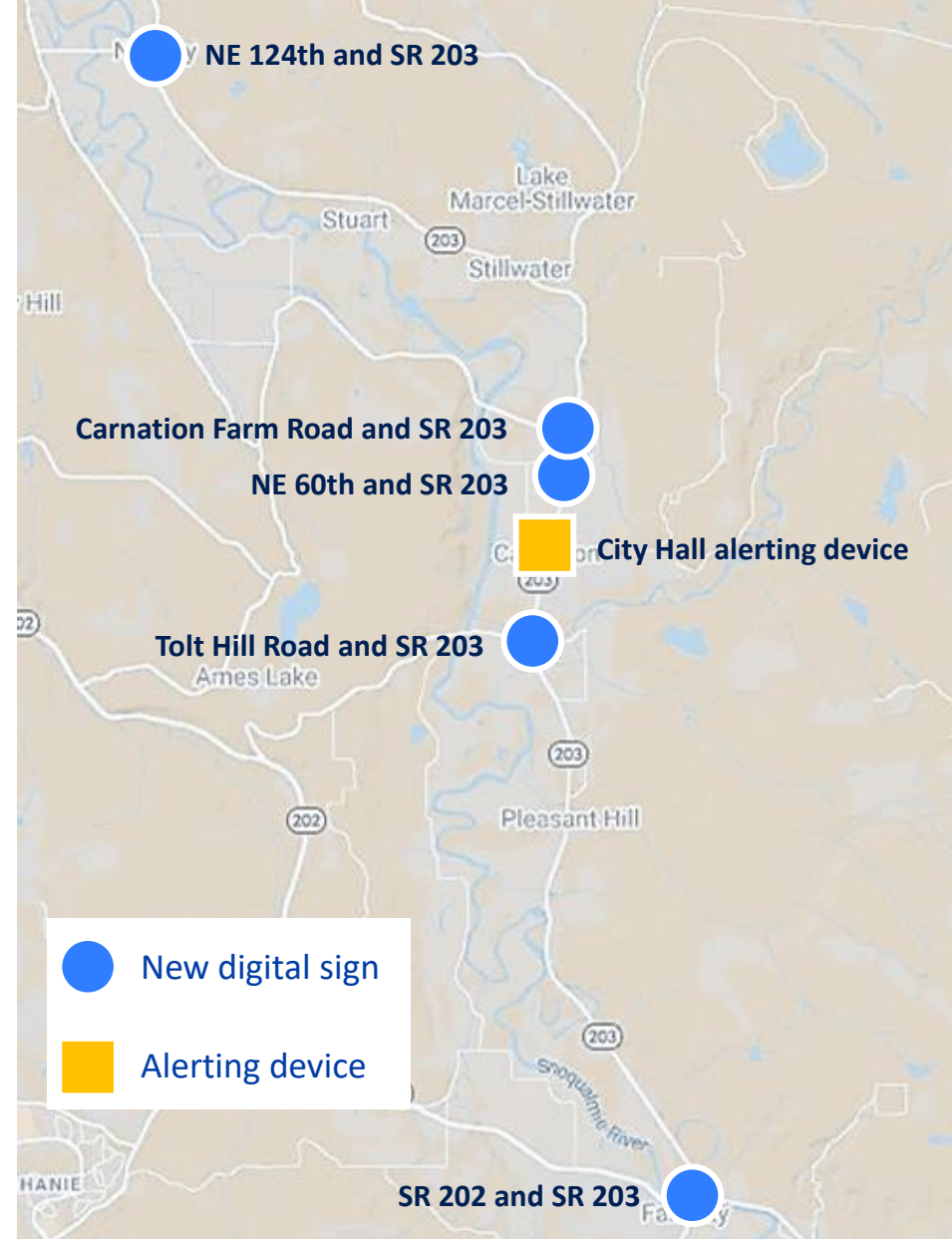


Static evacuation sign example

- Marks evacuation route
- Not digital or programmable



Planned digital highway message sign locations



Next steps

- Continue siren replacement project
 - Integrate design comments
 - Develop final design, with siren and microwave systems vendors
 - NEPA environmental review – critical path for FCC permitting
 - Land use permits with King County, WSDOT, and City of Carnation
- Continue design for other project components
- Next Council update 8/17
- Next community meeting late summer/early fall
- Participate in September 25 annual evacuation drill



Resources

- Project website: seattle.gov/utilities/toltsirenproject
- ALERT King County: kingcounty.gov/alert
- Tolt inundation area map: kingcounty.gov/dams
- Josh Campbell, SPU Project Manager
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Questions?

