

Army Corps to fix failing slope along Montlake Cut



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SEATTLE—A portion of the bank along the Montlake Cut is failing, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to re-grade the bank beginning Sept. 23 to protect the public and the navigation channel.

The Army Corps owns an easement on the Montlake Cut part of the Lake Washington Ship Canal and has been monitoring a section of the south bank, west of the Montlake Bridge, for several years. Geologists now believe that winter rains would cause this section to fail, potentially injuring pedestrians and spilling debris into the Ship Canal.

The Corps will stabilize this area by re-grading the bank from a nearly vertical slope to a 2 to 1 slope, eliminating the risk of bank failure. This bank stabilization work will occur along the easement adjacent to homes at 1800, 1812, 1818, 1822, 1826, 1832, 1838, 1840, 1846, and 1852 E. Shelby Street.

The project is scheduled to begin Sept. 23, depending on weather and permission from the City of Seattle for access through West Montlake Park. Construction is likely to last as long as 15 working days, during which time the westernmost section of Montlake Cut's south side trail will be closed.

Representatives from the Corps held an informational meeting July 25 at the Montlake Community Center in Seattle to answer community questions about the planned work.