



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Draft Public Participation Plan

Boeing Developmental Center

9725 East Marginal Way South, Tukwila, Washington

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Cleanup Site ID: 5059

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Publication and Contact Information

This plan is available on the Department of Ecology's website at:
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Public Participation Plan

Boeing Developmental Center

Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program
Northwest Region
Washington State Department of Ecology
Bellevue, Washington

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Public Involvement in Contamination Cleanup

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) developed this public participation plan (plan) with The Boeing Company (Boeing), the party responsible for cleanup costs. The purpose of the plan is to promote meaningful community involvement during cleanup.

The plan describes ways Ecology will inform the public about contamination investigations and cleanup options throughout the cleanup process. Ecology encourages the public to learn about and get involved in decision-making opportunities. This plan identifies how and when the public can get involved during different stages of the investigation and cleanup of contamination.

This plan is for Boeing Developmental Center (site) cleanup activities in Tukwila, Washington.

Site contacts

To be included in the site record, comments about the cleanup process must be submitted during comment periods. Questions and informal comments or information about the site's history are welcome anytime.

Ecology

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Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, non-profits, and other groups interested in the site. For contaminated sites, these funds can be used to hire an expert to help interpret technical information and conduct activities to enhance the public's understanding and participation in the cleanup.

For more information about public participation grants, please contact Lynn Gooding at 360-407-6062 or lgo0461@ecy.wa.gov. Or visit the [Public Participation Grant website](#).¹

Washington's Cleanup Laws

Ecology uses the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and related regulations for cleanup. This plan is required under MTCA, a law that passed in 1989. MTCA provides guidelines for contaminated site cleanup in Washington State and sets standards to ensure the cleanup protects human health and the environment.

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

MTCA began as a grassroots citizen's initiative in 1988, and started the process of cleaning up contaminated sites in Washington. Under MTCA, a current or past property owner or operator may be held responsible for cleaning up contamination on, or coming from, their property to standards that are safe for human health and the environment.

Ecology oversees cleanups in the state and issues [regulations and guidance](#)² governing those cleanups. Ecology investigates reports of property contamination, and if the contamination is a significant threat to human health or the environment, the contaminated property is placed on the Hazardous Sites List, and the cleanup process begins.

Public participation is an important part of cleanup under MTCA. Participation needs are assessed at each cleanup site according to the level of public interest and the degree of risk posed by the contamination. Individuals who live near the site, community groups, businesses, government and interested parties can get involved by commenting on the cleanup process.

¹ ecology.wa.gov/ppgrants

² <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/publications/9406.pdf>

Under MTCA, the cleanup process generally includes five phases. Each phase includes an opportunity for the public to review and comment on cleanup documents.

Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process

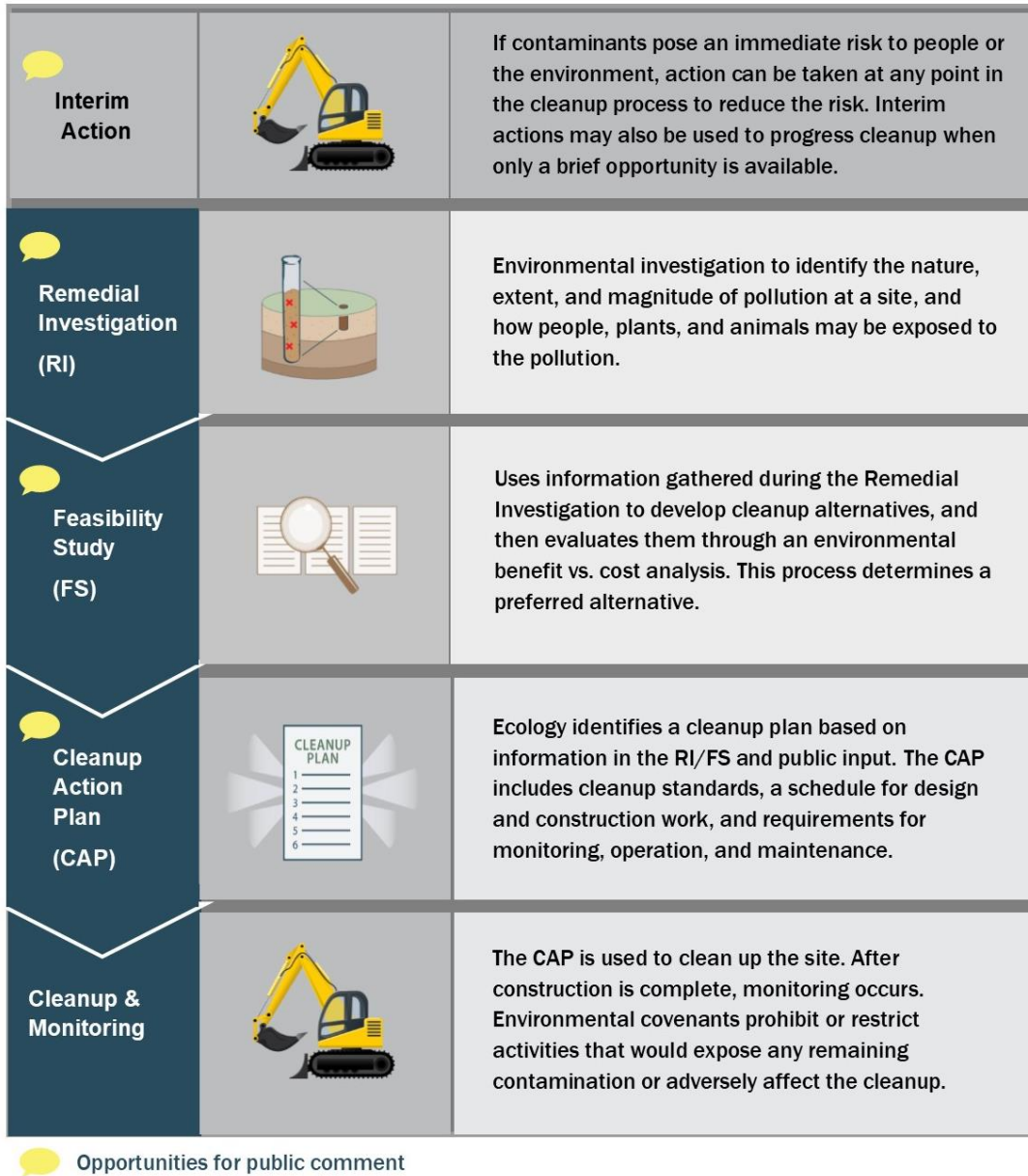


Figure 1. Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process

State Environmental Policy Act

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) is followed during review and development of cleanup plans.

Site History

Land use

Boeing has been operating at this site since 1956. Boeing Developmental Center is a large complex facility with activities changing over time, including aerospace research and development and manufacturing of airplanes and missiles.

The current Boeing site had been occupied by a variety of commercial businesses, including:

- A welding supply company, Washington Compressed Gas Company
- A stockyard and meat-packing plant, Associated Packing Company
- A sawmill, Prankratz Lumber Company
- A winery, American Winegrower's Association
- A construction yard and commercial parking lot, Pamco Construction Company
- A propane distributor, Pro Gas
- A commercial trucking operation (Dallas-Mavis), Kenworth Truck Company, Terminal 128 Corporation, Issacson Steel
- An auto-wrecking yard
- A warehouse of modular home components
- A grocery store
- A gasoline station
- A tavern
- A granary

How the site became contaminated

Boeing used chemicals to manufacture airplanes and missiles. They also generated dangerous wastes from manufacturing processes such as electroplating, chemical milling, conversion coating, cleaning parts, and photographic processing. As a result of past operations, chemicals contaminated soil and groundwater at the site.

Contamination

Historic land use and industrial practices at the site contaminated soil and groundwater with:

- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHs: diesel, gasoline, oil).
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs: tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, vinyl chloride, benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, etc.).
- Semi-volatile organic compounds (naphthalene).
- Metals (arsenic, copper, cadmium).
- PCBs.

Cleanup plans

We are overseeing Boeing's cleanup at several different locations under our Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). Boeing is currently conducting groundwater remediation under the VCP. We are now proposing to oversee the cleanup under a new legal agreement called an Agreed Order.

This site is part of our efforts to prevent contamination from getting into the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) Superfund Site. Boeing will investigate soil and groundwater to find out if contamination on the property is contributing to contamination in the river. If the contamination source(s) is identified, Boeing will clean up the source(s) to stop further contamination of the LDW river sediment.

The 5-mile stretch of the Duwamish River that flows north into Elliot Bay was added to the Superfund National Priorities List by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2001. The Boeing Developmental Center is located at the beginning of this 5-mile stretch. The sediments (mud) in the river contain various contaminants due to decades of industrial activity and runoff from urban areas. EPA is leading efforts to clean up the river sediments. Ecology is leading efforts to control sources of contamination from the surrounding land. The long-term goal is to minimize recontamination of the river sediment and restore water quality in the river.

The Boeing Development Center will be cleaned up as part of our Source Control Strategy – controlling sources of pollution to the river. Contaminants in the soil and groundwater near the river pose a risk to human health and the environment. They can get into the river through storm runoff and other pathways. Our Water Quality Program staff investigates and monitors stormwater runoff under a separate legal agreement (Agreed Order.) For more information, visit our [Source Control page](#).³

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-sites/Toxic-cleanup-sites/Lower-Duwamish-Waterway/Source-control>

Area community

Community Descriptions

The site is located in an industrialized part of Tukwila. The site is across the river from the industrial area of South Park and 1 mile south of the Georgetown neighborhood. These communities are active about cleanups related to the LDW. The information below is from the [EPA Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site Community Involvement Plan \(PDF\)](#).⁴

Table 1. South Park Neighborhood

Location	The South Park neighborhood is located in South Seattle on the west bank of the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW).
History	South Park was incorporated as the Town of South Park in 1902 and became part of the City of Seattle in 1907. South Park began as a small farming town of Italian and Japanese farmers who supplied fresh produce to Seattle's Pike Place Market. After the Duwamish River was straightened, industry developed along the banks of the river. The change in the Duwamish River greatly altered the nature of South Park.
Population	Approximately 4,264 people live in South Park.
Industries	Today, there is a mix of retail and service businesses along 14 th Avenue South. Data from the Seattle Office of Economic Development lists the primary types of work in South park as wholesale trade, transportation and utilities, construction/resources, manufacturing, and services. ⁵
Foreign Born	Approximately 25% of South Park's residents were born outside of the US. ⁶
Community	South Park is one of the most diverse neighborhoods in King County. EPA's Community Involvement Plan notes the community includes many Latinos and Native Americans, as well as Asians, South Pacific Islanders and Russian-speaking groups. 83% of the children at South Park's Concord Elementary School, qualify for free/reduced price lunch.

⁴ <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100033896.pdf>

⁵ <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/DocViewer.ashx?did=4540>

Table 2. Georgetown

Location	The Georgetown neighborhood is located in South Seattle on the east side of the LDW and across the river from South Park.
History	Georgetown is Seattle’s oldest neighborhood. Settled by Luther Collins and the Collins Party in 1851, it was home to one of the first groups of non-Native Seattle settlers. It was incorporated as the City of Georgetown from 1904-1910, and was later annexed by the City of Seattle.
Population	Approximately 1,079 people live in Georgetown. ⁷
Industries	The Georgetown neighborhood is home to large employers, such as the King County International Airport, and the Boeing Company. Boeing was established on the banks of the LDW in 1910. The largest local employers are in the arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.
Foreign Born	Approximately 13% of Georgetown’s residents were born outside of the US. ⁸
Community	The poverty level in Georgetown is 17%, which is slightly higher than in Seattle overall.
Community Assets	The community of Georgetown hosts local events such as art walks, and an annual Arts and Garden Tour. The neighborhood is home to historic buildings such as the Old Georgetown City Hall, and the Georgetown Steam Plant. South Seattle College’s revitalized Georgetown Campus offers a variety of professional, technical, and 4-year options. The neighborhood is also home to The Georgetown Community Council which meets once a month and is a member of the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition.

The Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition

The Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC) is a “community advisory group” to EPA. DRCC represents nearby communities’ interests in the cleanup work along the LDW.

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau

DRCC is an alliance of community, environmental, tribal, and small business groups concerned about pollution and cleanup in the Lower Duwamish Waterway. The coalition members include:

- Duwamish Tribe, a non-federally recognized tribe whose historical homeland includes the Duwamish valley
- Community Coalition for Environmental Justice
- I'M A PAL Foundation
- Environmental Coalition of South Seattle
- Georgetown Community Council
- Puget Soundkeeper Alliance
- South Park Neighborhood Association
- Washington Toxics Coalition
- Waste Action Project

Ecology has given DRCC a public participation grant Ecology when available. They receive technical assistance grants from EPA to review Lower Duwamish Superfund cleanup studies and plans. DRCC works to ensure that Ecology is aware of coalition members' concerns.

Public Participation Activities

Members of the public may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information at any time. People do not need to wait for a formal public comment period to contact us.

However, to be included in the formal site record, comments about the site investigation, cleanup alternatives, or cleanups must be submitted during formal comment periods. In addition, we invite the public to review site documents before they become final. This is the most direct and influential way to learn more about the site and be involved in the cleanup's decision-making.

How we share information with the community

During specific stages of the cleanup, we mail notices about public comment periods to addresses surrounding the site. The size of the mailing list area will vary depending on the type of contamination. However, addresses within a quarter-mile of the site are always included, as well as known interested organizations and individuals. These notices provide general site information and instructions for submitting comments. Notices are also used to share the times and locations of public meetings or hearings and how to request a meeting or hearing.

We may also develop documents outside of comment periods to keep the community updated on the site's status. These informational documents will be available online and at document

repositories. We mail printed copies to the local community if we feel the message justifies the cost and resources.

Comment period notices and other site news may be posted in various locations throughout the community (for example, local businesses, schools, libraries, Georgetown Gazette).

Non-English speakers

Ecology will reach out to cultural community organizations as part of our outreach and provide information in other languages following federal guidance. Outreach for this site may include information in the following languages as needed: Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian, Ukrainian, Chinese, Japanese, Cambodian, Tagalog, and other Pacific Islander languages. We strive to make our public participation efforts as inclusive as possible. We welcome your input about how to best reach the local community.

Tribal communication

The Muckleshoot Tribe, a federally recognized tribe, relies on resources that could be affected by the contamination. Ecology will make sure that the Tribe is engaged with any decision-making process for this site and has ample opportunity to be involved throughout the process on a government-to-government basis. We will also engage with the Duwamish Tribe.

Postal mailing list

We maintain a mailing list that includes addresses within a 1/4 mile of the site and relevant, community groups, local, state, and federal government contacts. We may also use our Lower Duwamish River cleanup mailing list. These people receive public comment notices when draft documents are available for comment. We will add additional individuals, organizations, and other interested parties to the mailing list as requested. If you would like to be on the mailing list for this site, please contact Thea Levkovitz at 425-649-7286 or Thea.Levkovitz@ecy.wa.gov.

Site Register

Public comment periods, events, and other cleanup notices are published in Ecology's [Site Register](#).⁹ To receive the *Site Register* by email, please contact Sarah Kellington at 360-407-7466, sarah.kellington@ecy.wa.gov, or subscribe to the [Site Register listserv](#).¹⁰

⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Site-Register-lists-and-data>

¹⁰ <http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?A0=SITEREGISTER>

Newspaper display ads or legal notices

We announce public comment periods and events in ads or notices published in the Seattle Times. We will also publish notice on our [Public Input & Events Listing](#).¹¹

Email lists

We maintain an email list for the Lower Duwamish to update interested persons about this site. If you would like to be on the email list for this site, [please sign up here](#).¹²

Ecology's website and social media platforms

We maintain a website for the [Boeing Developmental Center](#) site.¹³ The website provides site information, and you may download cleanup documents.

We may also share information about this and other cleanup sites through [news releases, our ECOconnect blog, and social media](#).¹⁴

Document repositories

During public comment periods, we will put copies of documents at the following locations:

Seattle Public Library, South Park Branch (at Cloverdale St.)
8604 Eight Ave S.
Seattle, WA 98108
206-615-1688

Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Ave S.E.
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

To schedule an appointment with Ecology Northwest Regional Office, please contact Sally Perkins at 425-649-7190. Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

¹¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing>

¹² <http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?A0=DUWAMISH-RIVER-UPDATES>

¹³ <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=5059>

¹⁴ ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News

Signs around the cleanup site

We may also install signs around the cleanup site displaying information about project status, traffic impacts, and health risks.

How to share information with us

State law (MTCA) requires at least a 30-day public comment period for draft cleanup documents and 14-day comment periods for SEPA documents. SEPA documents are often available for review at the same time as other cleanup documents. Comment periods may be longer than 30 days.

We may also identify public concerns and cleanup goals by meeting with and asking for information from interested community members and organizations. To collaborate with us about this site, please contact Thea Levkovitz at 425-649-7286 or Thea.Levkovitz@ecy.wa.gov.

Public comment periods

Formal 30-day comment periods allow interested members of the public to comment on draft documents, legal agreements, and proposed cleanup actions. If there is enough interest, Ecology can extend the public comment period. When Ecology oversees SEPA determinations, we hold comment periods for at least two weeks.

After a comment period, we publish the input we received and respond to comments and questions. If the comments result in significant changes to the cleanup documents, then the documents are revised and re-issued for public review. If the comments do not result in significant changes, the documents become final after the comment period.

Public events

We hold public meetings, workshops, open houses, and public hearings depending on community interest. If we have not scheduled a meeting, we will hold one if 10 people request it. When enough people have requested a meeting, this may cause us to extend a public comment period so the meeting occurs during it.

Events are held at locations close to the site that meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Public meetings, workshops, open houses, and hearings are always announced in advance using a variety of methods.

Plan Amendments

Ecology developed this plan following MTCA regulations (WAC 173-340-600). We review it as the cleanup progresses and amend it as necessary. You may suggest amendments to Thea Levkovitz at 425-649-7286 or Thea.Levkovitz@ecy.wa.gov.

This plan includes information for the public regarding opportunities for public involvement and comment. The outreach activities discussed in this section reflect Ecology's current plans for keeping the public informed and providing ways for those interested in the site to share their concerns and questions with us.

If you feel the planned outreach activities described in this plan are insufficient, or should be modified, we will work to find solutions. New outreach activities or outreach tools resulting from public comment can be used right away, with or without updating this plan.

Appendices

Appendix A. Location map and site map

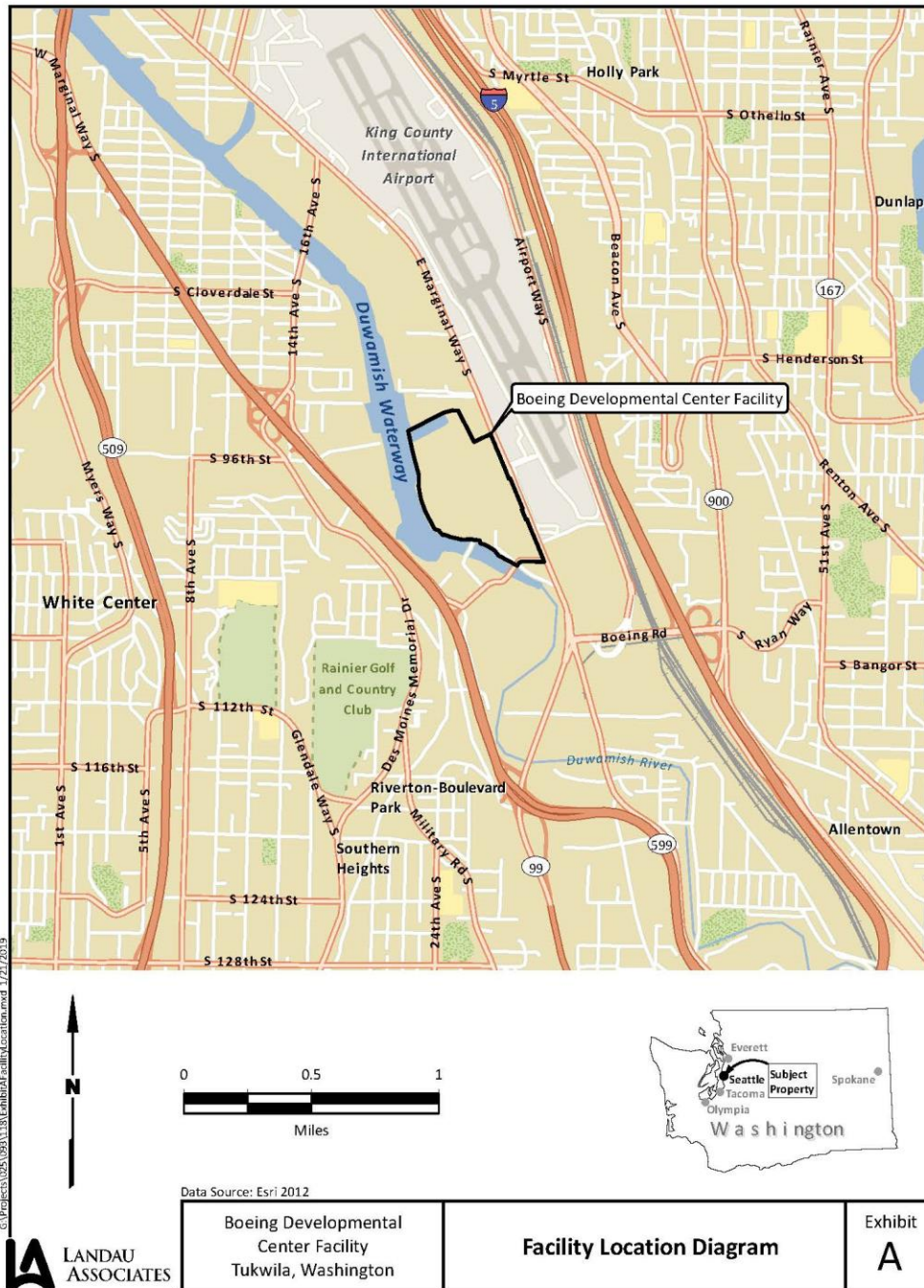


Figure A1. Boeing Developmental Center location map



Figure A2. Site Map of Boeing Developmental Center