

# Improving your electric reliability



SERVICE PARTNERS



## Downtown Bellingham alley electric system improvements project

June 13, 2023

Dear Puget Sound Energy customer,

In an ongoing effort to deliver safe and reliable energy to downtown Bellingham, PSE will be converting a section of the existing overhead electric wire to underground and upgrading related electric equipment. This work will help with overall safety as well as preserve your electric reliability. We are also working closely with the City of Bellingham and other local utilities so they are able to complete upgrades to their systems at the same time. We're committed to completing our work safely and efficiently, and our crews will do their best to reduce impacts to you and your neighbors. Please see project details below.

### Project details

**Who:** Electric crews from PSE and Potelco and site preparation crews from Power X

**What:** Converting the existing overhead electric wire to underground and upgrading related electric equipment

Work will include the following:

- Installation of underground conduit and underground utility vaults (PSE and Power X)
- Road surface restoration (PSE and AA Asphaltting)
- Installation of underground electric wire and related electric equipment (PSE and Potelco)
- Removal of existing overhead electric wire and infrastructure (PSE and Potelco)

**When:** Work is anticipated to begin on June 19 and is expected to last through December. Below is an estimated schedule for each block:

- June: The alley between Central Ave and Flora St
- July: The alley between W Champion St and W Magnolia St
- August: The alley between Flora St and W Champion St
- September: The alley between W Magnolia St and W Holly St
- October: The alley between W Holly St and W Chestnut St
  - Work hours are typically 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
  - Schedule dates are dependent on receiving final City permits, weather and emergency crew assignments

**Where:** The alley between N Commercial St and Unity St, from Central Ave to W Champion St, and the alley between Commercial St and Cornwall Ave from W Champion St to W Chestnut St, Bellingham (please refer to project map on reverse side for approximate project route)

### What you can expect

- There will likely be noise from trucks and heavy machinery
- Signs and traffic control flaggers will guide vehicles and pedestrians safely through or around the work zone
- Alley and sidewalk access as well as parking will be limited at times during the project. Our crews will do their best to reduce these impacts in and around their work zones. Accesses to businesses will remain open
- There will also be partial road closures with detours posted periodically throughout the project. Additional information will be provided prior to any road closures
- **Some customers will experience a temporary interruption in electric service in the second half of the project.** We'll notify those impacted customers in advance of work requiring a planned power outage and will work closely with businesses to schedule any interruption of service outside of business hours

We are proud to serve in your community and aim to complete this work with as little disruption as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me and reference project number **101117966**. Thank you in advance for your patience as we work to improve your electric reliability.

Sincerely,

Jason Downing, PSE Project Manager  
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