

Elliott Bay Connections

Quick Facts

June 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

What are the opening hours?

- [Centennial Park](#) (Port of Seattle) is open from dawn to dusk.
- [Myrtle Edwards Park](#) (City of Seattle, Seattle Parks and Recreation) is open from dawn to dusk.
- The greenway is open 24/7.

Where is the closest parking?

- Centennial Park has a free parking lot next to the Pier 86 Grain Terminal.
- There are designated free parking spots with the Expedia Group P1 Parking Garage.
- Pay parking is available in the PACCAR Pavilion garage at the Olympic Sculpture Park daily from 6 AM to 11 PM.
- Street parking is available on Elliott Avenue and other surface streets subject to Seattle's on-street parking rules.
- Additional parking is available at the Bell Street Pier (Pier 66), Pike Place Market, and other downtown locations.

Where are the new restrooms?

There are five all gender restrooms located in the haʔtali building. The restrooms include accessible facilities as well as changing tables for both children and adults. Signage throughout the park provides directions and distance to these restrooms. The restrooms are open during park opening hours and are staffed by an attendant.

Free public restrooms are also available in the PACCAR Pavillion in the Olympic Sculpture Park and are open daily from 9 AM to 4 PM.

Are there food and drinks available for purchase in these parks?

Yes, Café Hagen is planned to open on June 8 in the haʔtali building in Centennial Park. Maps and signage throughout the parks show location and distance to Café Hagen and haʔtali. Café Hagen has tables and chairs for its patrons.

How were the Tribes consulted and involved in the project?

The Suquamish and Muckleshoot Indian Tribes were consulted prior to and during the Elliott Bay Connections project and provided statements of support.

The Suquamish Culture Committee chose the name haʔtali (Lushootseed for "the good place") for the new amenities building.

Valerie Segrest (Muckleshoot) was a member of the EBC team who initiated the idea for the 13 Moons Story Walk and suggested plantings representative of Indigenous food systems. Valerie collaborated with the Muckleshoot Language Committee on research for the names and descriptions of the moon.

What is the status of the Elliott Bay Fishing Pier at Pier 86?

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Port of Seattle have been working to replace the pier and restore public fishing access. The fishing pier has been closed for safety reasons since 2016.

The updated design for the new Pier incorporates feedback received during two public input periods as well as input from area Native American tribes, the City of Seattle and other partner agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The final design of the new pier has been completed, but construction of the new pier has not yet been funded by the State of Washington. WDFW hopes to have additional updates to share in 2027.

How much of the EBC project was funded by private donations?

All costs for community engagement, planning, design, plantings, and construction to create the new greenway and restore and revitalize Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks were underwritten by private donors. Taxpayers did not bear any of these expenses.

Who are the donors?

The donors to Elliott Bay Connections include Melinda French Gates, MacKenzie Scott, the Expedia Group and the Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation.

PARKS AND GREENWAY FEATURES

What are the improvements to the parks?

The EBC project modernized park facilities to be more sustainable, resilient, and accessible for people of all abilities, and thoughtfully incorporated public feedback on park improvements and uses.

The many new features in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks include:

- Abundant native plantings, pollinator meadows and reseeded lawns
- Newly planted trees, providing shade canopy and hardiness as native species
- A new public amenities building with restrooms, food and beverages
- New children's exploration area
- Expanded beach coves with improved accessibility and enhanced habitat
- Repaired and enhanced pedestrian paths
- New seating and picnic tables replacing obsolete park furniture
- New comprehensive wayfinding system with maps and signage
- Renovated and repaved bike trail with lighting, bike racks, bike repair stations
- Accessibility improvements throughout

Who chose the name ha?hali for the building? What does it mean?

The Suquamish Tribe Culture Committee was invited to name the new amenities building. The Committee, facilitated by Colleen Echohawk, visited the park site under construction and looked at the designs for the building by Alfred Waugh, First Nation architect. The Committee chose the name ha?hali which means "the good place" in Lushootseed.

How have the beach coves in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks changed?

The beach coves are larger, more accessible, and include healthier nearshore habitats for fish and shorebirds.

Improvements include:

- Expansion of the northern beach cove from 22,000 to 42,000 square feet.

- A gentle slope and accessible paths connecting the park to the beach
- New seating and a new Children's Exploration Area next to the coves make the beaches much more inviting to all.

What is the Children's Exploration Area?

Located near the beach coves in Myrtle Edwards Park and the W Thomas St Pedestrian and Bicycle Overpass entrance, the new Children's Exploration Area is a sequence of small, interconnected spaces, surrounded by native plantings and places to sit.

- Children can dig in the sand, build cairns and forts, or play at the stone "watercourse" table.
- In the Circle of the 13 Moons, children and caregivers can sit for learning and storytelling.
- In the climbing areas, kids can hop, balance, and climb on "bog stilts," log steppers," and the "log jam."
- Children can play with water in the accessible water course.

Where is the greenway? What does it feature?

The greenway runs three quarters of a mile from Waterfront Park (Pier 62) to the Olympic Sculpture Park (Pier 70) on the east side of Alaskan Way.

It features:

- A new accessible [multi-use trail](#) designed for people of all ages and abilities walking, biking and rolling
- Newly planted landscape beds with native and street-hardy trees, 15,000 shrubs and perennials line the trail
- Maps and directional signs
- Additional lighting and benches for resting

PLANTS, PLANT ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

How many new plants are in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks? How many plant species? How many native plant species are there?

Approximately 74,000 new plants have been planted in the parks, not counting trees or the seeding of lawns. There are almost 200 species of plants throughout the parks; more than 95% of these species are native.

What are the lawns and meadows in the parks?

In addition to the 74,000 new plants, many acres in the parks have been newly seeded to create lawns and meadows. Most of these areas create habitats for bees and other pollinators while also providing places for parkgoers to enjoy.

How many trees are in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks and the new greenway now?

There are now more than 1,200 trees. The EBC project added 340 trees to the existing canopy of 860 mature trees. The new tree species were selected for shade, urban durability, and climate resilience.

Why are there fences in the parks and along the greenway?

Rope and post fences have been installed around most of the planting areas in the parks and on the greenway to protect plants and trees from feet, paws, and wheels. These fences are typically called "establishment" fences because they protect plants while they become established. Many of the fences also have mesh to protect the plants from hungry bunnies.

Signs remind park users to stay out of the planting areas to help these plants grow. The EBC team will be working to ensure that these new landscapes are well cared for and established, so that people can enjoy these plants and trees for decades to come.

How long will these establishment fences remain in place?

The new young plants will take several seasons to grow, so the fencing will be in place for several seasons. Updates will be posted on ElliottBayConnections.org about the status of plantings, lawns, and fences.

Who will take care of the landscapes, and maintain the parks and greenway?

During the first year, plants, trees and park amenities are still covered by warranties, just like many other purchases. The EBC team, with the DSA as implementation partner, will provide daily landscape care and maintenance, monitor conditions and warranty coverage, help identify issues and coordinate with the City and Port to keep the parks welcoming and well cared for. Uplift Northwest will provide daily cleaning and custodial care. Northwest Landscape Services provide establishment landscape care.

After the first year, the DSA will continue to serve as the implementation partner for stewardship and collaborate closely with the City of Seattle and the Port of Seattle to ensure that these parks and greenway are well cared for, well maintained and safe for all visitors.

During the first five years, private philanthropy is underwriting the full cost of caring for the plantings, maintaining these public spaces and ensuring that the new landscapes are established.

SAFETY AND PARK RULES

How is public safety being managed in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Park and on the greenway?

The City of Seattle and the Port of Seattle are responsible for public safety and emergency responses in these public spaces. Creating safe, welcoming parks and public spaces is a shared responsibility. As in other Seattle parks and public spaces, public safety in these parks is managed through a comprehensive strategy of regular maintenance, rapid repair and graffiti removal, routine, visible presence of custodial and maintenance staff, Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation Park Rangers, with seasonal overnight security as needed.

During the initial year after opening, the EBC team, with the DSA as implementation partner, will manage daily care and maintenance, monitor site conditions, help identify issues and coordinate with the City and Port to keep the parks welcoming, well cared for and secure. Uplift NW provides daily custodial services.

How do I report issues?

If you're experiencing an emergency or witnessing criminal activity, please dial 911.

To report a non-emergency issue or obtain information about care and maintenance, send an email to info@elliottbayconnections.org or dial [\(206\) 462-1275](tel:2064621275).

For other reports or requests for information, contact

- Myrtle Edwards Park, City of Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
 - Phone [\(206\) 684-4075](tel:2066844075); Email pks_info@seattle.gov
- Centennial Park, Port of Seattle
 - Phone [\(206\) 787-3350](tel:2067873350) Message [Contact Us | Port of Seattle](#)
- Greenway, City of Seattle Department of Transportation | Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
 - Phone [\(206\) 684-7623](tel:2066847623); Email walkandbike@seattle.gov

Are scooters permitted on the pedestrian paths?

Electrified scooters are not permitted on pedestrian paths but allowed on the greenway and bike trail.

Is camping allowed?

Camping is not allowed in Myrtle Edwards or Centennial Parks or on the greenway.

Can I fish at the beach coves?

Elliott Bay falls under the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife jurisdiction for [fishing and shellfish regulations](#).

Can I launch my kayak/canoe/SUP from the beaches?

A non-motorized vessel such as a kayak, canoe or SUP can be launched from the beach coves. Participants should observe Washington State water safety regulations.

Can I swim?

Swimming is not permitted. Contact SPR or the Port of Seattle for further information.

Where can I hang my hammock?

Please respect the signs and fences and don't enter the planting beds to hang your hammock. Also please be aware that the new trees are not strong enough for hammocks! Enjoy one of the new chairs instead. They have been placed to maximize visitors' enjoyment of the mountain and water views.

Are dogs allowed on the greenway?

Yes, leashed dogs are welcome on the greenway. Trash and recycling receptacles are available along the route, and several include dog waste bag dispensers. Please pick up after dogs and dispose of dog waste appropriately. Please keep dogs out of planting beds and don't let them pee on the greenway's plants and trees.

Are dogs allowed to swim at the beaches?

There are no off-leash areas in Myrtle Edwards and Centennial Parks.

Are there dog waste bags and other dog-friendly features?

Yes, there are dog waste bags both in the parks and on the greenway. Please use the receptacles to dispose of dog poop. There is water for dogs available at [hali](#) in Centennial Park.