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GREENEST



Redlining in West Seattle



History of the Neighborhood

In 1907, the West Seattle community voted to join the city of Seattle in order to share the water, electricity, and public safety that they provided.

The neighborhood in the image is called Gatewood which is on top of a hill that overlooks the puget sound. This is in the neighborhood of many public, private, and religious elementary schools so it is a place that a lot of young families are drawn to. Due to the number of big businesses in Seattle now, (Microsoft & Amazon), West Seattle has become more and more popular for employees who want to be close to their jobs but still live in the suburbs.

The cost of living in West Seattle has gone up dramatically and the small homes that were once here have been torn down and new multi-million dollar houses put in their place.

Map





Current Conditions

The Puget Sound, which is right next to West Seattle, creates moderate temperatures with rain most days of the week. There is not much tree cover in West Seattle due to a tightly packed neighborhood and many roads but parks and natural areas have recently been added to the surrounding areas. This may be because of the higher cost of living now or that the city is trying to appeal to the wealthy subset. However, the houses in the Gatewood neighborhood are not nearly as expensive as the houses are as you near the water.



My Plan for the Neighborhood

I plan to create rain gardens along the streets in this neighborhood to stop runoff from going directly to our drains and ocean. As water travels to these drains, it picks up toxins along the streets such as oil and pesticides. Plants have a detoxifying effect so as the water travels through the soil to filter out any harmful substances before they reach water sources.





Credits

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5

