

SNOHOMISH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of Checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Use of Checklist for Nonproject Proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project: **Regulations to replace the Snohomish County Urban Centers Demonstration Program**
2. Name of applicant: **Snohomish County, Department of Planning & Development Services**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
David Killingstad, Principal Planner
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Everett, WA 98201
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4. Date checklist prepared: **April 10, 2009**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Snohomish County, Department of Planning & Development Services**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Planning Commission briefing: March 24, 2009
Planning Commission public hearing: April 28, 2009
County Council public hearing: T.B.D.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
N/A
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
N/A
9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.
No

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

N/A

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information of project description.)

Description of Proposal: **An ordinance is proposed to amend Snohomish County Code (SCC) to replace the Urban Centers Demonstration Program with a new set of development regulations. The current program is set to expire November 29, 2009.**

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Unincorporated Snohomish County; primarily in the Southwest UGA

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____ **N/A**
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **N/A**
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland. **N/A**
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe **N/A**
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. **N/A**
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **N/A**
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **N/A**

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial woodsmoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. **N/A**
- b. Are there any off site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any. **N/A**

3. Water

a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **N/A**
- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **N/A**
- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. **N/A**
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **N/A**
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **N/A**
- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **N/A**

b. Ground:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **N/A**
- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals.....; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. **N/A**

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. **N/A**
- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. **N/A**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: **N/A**

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site: **N/A**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eel grass, milfoil, other
- types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? **N/A**

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **N/A**

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **N/A**

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: **N/A**

birds: hawks, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: _____
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: _____
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: _____

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **N/A**
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **N/A**
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **N/A**

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What **kinds** of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. **N/A**
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **N/A**

7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **N/A**
 - 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **N/A**
 - 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: **N/A**
- b. Noise **N/A**
 - 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, aircraft, other)? **N/A**
 - 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. **N/A**
 - 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **N/A**

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? **N/A**
- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. **N/A**
- c. Describe any structures on the site. **N/A**
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? **N/A**
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **N/A**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **N/A**
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? **N/A**
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify. **N/A**
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? **N/A**
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? **N/A**
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: **N/A**
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: **N/A**

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle or low-income housing. **N/A**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **N/A**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: **N/A**

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? **N/A**
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **N/A**

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? **N/A**
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? **N/A**
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? **N/A**
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: **N/A**

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? **N/A**
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. **N/A**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **N/A**

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to this site? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. **N/A**
- c. Proposed measure to reduce or control impacts, if any: **N/A**

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. **N/A**
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? **N/A**
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? **N/A**
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? if so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **N/A**
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. **N/A**
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: **N/A**

15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. **N/A**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. **N/A**

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other. **N/A**
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. **N/A**

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Craig R. Ladiser, SEPA Official
Director of Planning and Development Services

Date Submitted: April 16, 2009

OPTIONAL

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent of the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposal could cause any increase in these types of discharges or emissions. The proposal would create new regulations allowing mixed use development in Urban Centers designated in Snohomish County's GMA Comprehensive Plan. An increase in the density and intensity of development at these locations could increase additional discharge to water, increasing noise and emissions to air quality.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?
The proposal could impact animals, fish, plants, or marine life through and increase in density for areas designated urban centers on the future land use map in the comprehensive plan.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish or marine life are:
Snohomish County's critical area regulations would mitigate any impacts on plants, animals, fish or marine life.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? **The proposal would not likely deplete energy or natural resources. The concentration of density may reduce energy demands.**

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: **None required.**

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands? **The proposal could affect environmentally sensitive areas with the allowed increase in density and intensity.**

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: **Snohomish County's critical area regulations would mitigate any impacts on environmentally sensitive areas. Low impact development techniques are an optional development tool that could be used to mitigate impacts.**

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans? **The proposed amendments will not likely impact shoreline use. The proposed regulations are consistent with adopted comprehensive plan policies.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: **None required. Should an urban center be designated in a shoreline location it will be required to comply with the shoreline master program.**

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities? **The proposal is intended to reduce demands on the transportation system by increasing density to facilitate use of high capacity transit choices. The concentration of density is intended to make the delivery of public services and utilities more cost efficient.**

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: **None are necessary.**

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The proposal does not conflict with any law or requirements to protect the environment.