

Snohomish County Public Works

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Project number: RC 1545

UPI# 08-0058-1

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.

SUMMARY

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project:
Road Widening and Improvements on North Road
2. Name of applicant:
Snohomish County Public Works Department
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
**Snohomish County Public Works Department
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201**

**Contact: Mary Auld, Environmental Planner
Public Involvement/Environmental Section
388-3488 ext. 4510**
4. Date checklist prepared:
March 1, 2010
5. Agency requesting checklist
Snohomish County Public Works
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
The project is scheduled to be begin construction in 2012.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

**Environmental Review Memo, Snohomish County Public Works
Critical Area Study, Snohomish County Public Works**

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.

The following permits and approvals may be required:

Permit:	Required from:
Critical Area Regulation Compliance	Snohomish County Planning and Development Services
Grading permit	Snohomish County Planning and Development Services
Corps of Engineers Permit	U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	Washington State Department of Ecology

11. Location of proposal:

The proposed improvements will be to North Road between 164th Street SW and Filbert Road (SR 524). The project area is located in southwest Snohomish County, between the cities of Lynnwood on the west and Mill Creek and Bothell on the east. The project lies east of SR 5, west of SR 527, South of 164th ST SW and north of SR 524 (Filbert Rd). North Road is located in Section 12, 13 Township 27N Range 4E, W.M.

12. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site.

The proposal is to widen North Road to provide improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers. The improvements include continuous center turn lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the road. Curbs, gutters and enclosed storm drainage will be included for the length of the project. Planter areas will be provided between the roadway and sidewalks where possible. Stormwater treatment for flow control and water quality will be improved to comply with current standards. Roadway illumination will also be part of the project. Retaining walls

would be constructed where needed. Some portions of the road will be raised and curves will be modified to improve sight distance.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (shown in *bold* type): *flat*, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.

The area around North Road is generally flat to rolling.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?)

Side slopes in some locations are as steep at 12 to 14 percent.

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.

The soil is mapped by the Soil Conservation Service as Alderwood-Urban land complex, 2-15 percent slope and Alderwood gravelly sandy loam. Alderwood soil is moderately deep over a hardpan and moderately well drained. It is formed in glacial till. Depth to hardpan ranges from 20 to 40 inches. Urban land consists of areas that are covered by streets, building, parking lots and other structures.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The fill material will be gravel barrow and compacted in place. All structural fill would be placed in accordance with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) standards.

Approximately 37,300 cubic yards of material would be excavated to prepare the site for widening the road and constructing the detention ponds. The amount of fill required is approximately 33,400 cubic yards. The fill will be from an approved source as supplied by the contractor.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Yes, erosion could occur during clearing and grading activities for the road widening. There may be temporary stockpiling of excavated soils during construction. However, these activities would not result in significant adverse erosion related impacts because Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used for temporary erosion and pollution control. Stormwater runoff generated on the construction site will be directed to existing systems or temporary sediment basins.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction? For example asphalt or buildings.

The existing impervious surface area with the project boundary is approximately 512,500 square feet. After widening of the road, the impervious surface within the project area will be approximately 692,200 square feet.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

No significant adverse impacts are anticipated. Stormwater detention and water quality treatment are required for this project. No adverse impacts are anticipated. All necessary Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used throughout the project during construction to prevent erosion. These BMPs would be in place around stockpiles of excavated fill and would prevent sediments from entering surface water and storm drainage systems. In addition there would be seeding and planting of bare soil areas after establishment of final grades.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Some dust and equipment exhaust will be emitted during construction. No long term emissions will result from this project.

b. Are there any off site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.

Construction of this project will not exceed applicable state and federal air quality standards.

3. Water

a. Surface Water

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.

There are no creeks or streams in the immediate vicinity of the project. There are four wetlands in the project area.

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.

Yes. There are portions of wetlands or wetland buffers that will be impacted by road fill.

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.

The project would require approximately 550 cubic yards of fill to be placed in the wetlands to accommodate the roadway widening. Fill would be obtained from an approved gravel borrow sites meeting Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) specifications.

Measures to reduce wetland fill impacts will be evaluated during the design process. The project will provide compensatory mitigation for unavoidable wetland fill impacts in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No surface water withdrawals or diversions are planned.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No. There are no streams in the project area.

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.

None.

b. Groundwater

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to groundwater? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

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.

None.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water)

1) Describe the source of runoff (including stormwater) 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.

The source of runoff will be from rainfall onto the project site. The proposed on-site drainage system will be a series of catch basins and storm pipe designed to collect runoff from the project area and direct it to the necessary stormwater treatment and detention facilities where required or directly to the downstream conveyance systems.

There are six separate Threshold Discharge Areas (TDAs) associated with this project. To the greatest extent feasible, runoff from each of the project site TDAs will be directed to their respective natural points of discharge. Bypass systems will also be in place to convey any upstream off-site flows that enter the project site. These flows will also be directed to their respective natural points of discharge. Four of the TDAs will release runoff into the downstream systems which eventually discharge into Martha Creek. Two of the TDAs will release runoff into the downstream systems which eventually discharge into North Creek. The existing on-site storm drainage system will be utilized to the greatest extent feasible.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

There would be no waste materials on the site to enter ground or surface waters. Best management practices (BMPs) will be used to prevent erosion during construction.

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

Limits of clearing and grading will be posted prior to any site disturbance. During construction, surface water runoff would be controlled by erosion-control Best Management Practices (BMPs). Temporary measures including, but not limited to, silt fences and other measures will be employed to control and minimize runoff and impacts to water quality. All cleared areas will be seeded, covered with mulch or otherwise stabilized in accordance with BMP's.

4. Plants

a. Check types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous trees: **Red alder, Big leaf maple**
- evergreen trees: **Douglas fir, Western redcedar**
- shrubs: **Vine maple**
- grasses: **grasses, lawns**
- pasture
- wet soil plants:
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation: **Himalayan blackberry, non-native invasive weeds, ornamental trees and shrubs**

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Native and ornamental plants along the roadway will be removed for construction. Vegetation within the County right-of-way will be removed. There are several large evergreen trees such as Douglas Fir and Western red-cedar that will be removed from the project area.

c. List threatened or endangered plant species known to be on or near the site.

None are known.

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

Landscaped planter strips will be used where feasible. Native trees and shrubs will be used to compensate for unavoidable clearing impacts in wetland and buffer areas.

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 (shown in *bold* type):

birds: hawks, heron, eagle, *songbirds*, other: owls, ducks, woodpeckers

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: *opossum*, *raccoon*, coyote, *small rodents*,

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered wildlife species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

The site is within the Pacific Flyway used by migratory water fowl. Snohomish County lies within the Pacific Flyway. Migratory waterfowl can be observed in the greater Snohomish County area, particularly near large bodies of open water.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Project construction would occur primarily during the summer months when rainfall is minimal. This will minimize erosion and prevent sedimentation of surface waters that could adversely affect downstream fish. Bare soil areas would be revegetated and planted after site grades have been established. Wetland mitigation areas will be designed to enhance habitat. Mitigation areas will be planted with native trees and shrubs.

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.

Minor amounts of fuel would be used by construction equipment during site clearing and grading activities.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

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.

No potentially hazardous materials have been identified at or in proximity to the road widening. Fuel spills and other construction-equipment fluids could potentially occur during construction.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

An Environmental Site Assessment will be prepared prior to construction to address any potential soil contamination or other hazardous materials in the project area. If any hazardous materials are discovered during project construction, they would be handled and disposed of according to adopted Washington State and local codes governing their disposal. Vehicle fueling and handling of other potential contaminants would occur away from the wetlands.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, aircraft, other)?

None.

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.

c. Construction noise

Construction noises may be generated and increased on a short-term basis by heavy equipment. These noise levels are likely to exceed existing background noise levels associated with the surrounding residential properties.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Noise levels will not exceed applicable state and national standards. Construction will normally be limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Construction equipment will meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and other applicable noise standards.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The project site is existing road right-of-way. Adjacent uses include single-family residential, multi-family residential and vacant property. Churches, a cemetery and a high school are also adjacent to North Road.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are homes, apartment buildings and other structures adjacent to the road.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

Some single family residences may be removed to accommodate the widening of the road and the construction of the stormwater detention system.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

Approximately four residences may be removed for construction of this project.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

The current zoning designation along North Road are:

- **Commercial Business (CB),**
- **Low Density Multiple Residential (LDMR),**
- **Planned Residential Development (PRD)-LDMR,**
- **Planned Residential Development 9600 (PRD-9600),**
- **Residential-9600 (R-9600),**
- **Residential-7200 (R-7200),**
- **Neighborhood Business (NB),**
- **Multiple Residential (MR)**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The current comprehensive plan designation along North Road are:

- **Urban Low Density Residential (ULDR),**
- **Urban Medium Density Residential (UMDR) 4-6 dwelling units/acre,**
- **Urban High Density Residential (UHDR),**
- **Urban Commercial (UCOM),**
- **Urban Village (UVILL),**
- **Public/Institutional Use (Lynnwood High School)**

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.

Four wetlands have been identified in the project area.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

The project would be located primarily within existing Snohomish County right-of-way. Acquisition of a linear strips of land will be required from approximately 110 property owners along North Road to accommodate the wider roadway.

Approximately four single-family homes may be eliminated for this project. These properties would be needed to accommodate widening of the road, the change of alignment and construction of stormwater detention ponds. These acquisitions could displace approximately ten people.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

Acquisition of right-of-way will be required for this project. A complete and detailed set of right-of-way plans will be developed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and county regulations. Chapter 8.25 and 8.26 of the Revised Code of Washington would govern right-of-way acquisition proceedings. These laws ensure fair and equitable treatment of those displaced.

In addition, right-of-way purchases would be in accordance with Civil Rights Act Title VI legislation and the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 as amended (42 U.S.C.). These laws would provide payment for reasonable and necessary costs to relocate persons displaced by the project and ensure prompt and fair relocation payments and requires agency review of aggrieved parties.

Acquisition proceedings include appraisal, determination of just compensation, presentation of an offer and compensating the individual. Acquisition proceedings within the project vicinity would not be initiated until the environmental review process has been completed.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

The project is consistent with the Transportation Element of the adopted Snohomish County Growth Management Act Comprehensive Plan.

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.

Approximately four single-family homes may be eliminated for this project. These properties would be needed to accommodate widening of the road, the change of

alignment and construction of stormwater detention ponds. These properties are generally middle income.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

A complete and detailed right-of-way plan will be developed will be in accordance with applicable federal, state, and county regulations. Chapter 8.25 and 8.26 of the Revised Code of Washington would govern right-of-way acquisition proceedings. These laws ensure fair and equitable treatment of those displaced. Also see 8(k) above.

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?

No structures are proposed. Additional luminaires (street lighting) will be installed and are typically 35 feet tall. The existing power poles (typically 60 to 70 feet tall) will be replaced as part of the project.

b. What view in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

North Road will look different following this construction. Currently along North Road there are narrow shoulders and intermittent sidewalks. The project will widen the road and there will be new sidewalks and a center turn lane along the entire length. Some trees and other vegetation will be removed to accommodate the wider road.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Trees and vegetation will be retained where possible. Planter strips will be constructed where feasible.

11. Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None proposed.

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The County-managed Interurban Trail is to the west of the project area, parallel to Interstate 5. The closest access point to the trail is at SW 164th Street and Meadow Road. Martha Lake Park is approximately ¼ mile west of the North Road on SW 164th Street.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

None.

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.

This site was screened by Public Works for proximity to known archeological and cultural sites. There are no known recorded sites located where potential ground disturbance activities are anticipated.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

The Floral Hills Funeral Home and Cemetery is adjacent to North Road at its southern end. The cemetery was established in 1958 and the funeral home, Purdy and Walters, followed in the early 1960s.

c. Proposed measure to reduce or control impacts, if any:

Although no known archaeological sites are in close proximity to the project, there is still a possibility that cultural resources could be present. If, during construction, cultural resources are found, a systematic collection of artifacts will be made before proceeding with the work and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation will be contacted. If artifacts are uncovered within the project area, work in that area will be stopped and a professional archaeologist will be brought in to examine them.

A portion of the cemetery is adjacent to North Road. Some impacts to this area of the cemetery may occur. Impacts may include grading and removal of vegetation. Public Works will coordinate with the cemetery to reduce impacts to the greatest extent possible.

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.

The project site consists of local access roads that intersect North Road. North Road is designated as a collector arterial, SR 524 (Filbert Road) a minor arterial and 164th Street SW a principle arterial.

b. Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The nearest transit stop is located at 164th Street at the north end of the project. No transit service is provided on North Road or SR 524 (Filbert Road) at the south end.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

There are no designated parking spaces on North Road. The west side of the road is a designated walkway and the east side of the road has a series of narrow shoulders and ditches which prevent parking along most of the road. North of 168th there are several blocks where curbs have been constructed by developments anticipating a future three-lane roadway. In the interim the curb lane is used as parking. When the widening is completed, no on-street parking will be available on North Road.

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)

Other than the work already described for North Road, the work on abutting sides streets will be limited to transitions to restore connectivity required by the widening.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

The project would not generate additional vehicular trips.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

The roadway design will be consistent with adopted WSDOT Local Agency Guidelines.

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.

No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None proposed.

16. Utilities

a. Utilities currently available at the site:

Utilities within the project limits include Public Utility District (PUD) (power), Verizon (telecom), Comcast (cable), Blackrock Cable, Puget Sound Energy (gas), Williams Gas, and Alderwood Water and Waste Water (water/sewer).

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.

Utility relocations will be part of the work within the project limits. All construction will be designed to minimize disruptions and relocation of the utilities. Detailed information will be requested from each utility provider during the design phase.

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: _____
Mary Auld, Senior Planner

Date Submitted: _____