

# **ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

Spokane County 2046  
Population Target

## **SPOKANE ENVIRONMENTAL ORDINANCE SECTION 11.10.230**

Updated March 2023

# SPOKANE ENVIRONMENTAL ORDINANCE

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

### WAC 197-11-11-960 AND SECTION 11.10.230

#### **Purpose of checklist**

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

#### **Instructions for applicants**

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional study reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process, as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal, and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

#### **Use of checklist for nonproject proposals**

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

## A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**Spokane County Population Target for 2046**

2. Name of applicant:

*Spokane County*

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

*1026 W. Broadway Ave, Spokane, WA 99250*

4. Date checklist prepared:

*1-8-24*

5. Agency requesting checklist:

*Spokane County Building and Planning Department*

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

*The estimated BOC adoption date is February 6, 2024*

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

*Non-project action*

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

*None as it is a non-project action*

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.

*None as it is a non-project action*

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

*None as it is a non-project action*





*None as it is a non-project action*

- iii. What protective measure will be taken to insure that leaks or spills of any chemicals stored or used on site will not be allowed to percolate to groundwater. This includes measures to keep chemicals out of disposal systems.

*None as it is a non-project action*

- iv. Will any chemicals be stored, handled, or used on the site in a location where a spill or leak will drain to surface, groundwater, or to a stormwater disposal system discharging to surface or groundwater?

*None as it is a non-project action*

**b. Stormwater**

- i. What are the depths on the site to groundwater and to bedrock (if known)?

*None as it is a non-project action*

- ii. Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts.

~~Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts.~~ **No.**

**B. Environmental Elements**

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**1. Earth**

- a. General description of the site:

*No site is involved as it is a non-project action*

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

*Not applicable*

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

*Not applicable*

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- 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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

*Not applicable*

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

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*Not applicable*

- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

*Not applicable*

- f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

*Not applicable*

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

*Not applicable*

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

*Not applicable.*

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## 2. Air

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

## 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, or wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

*This is a non-project action*

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent (within 200 feet) to the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

*This is a non-project action*

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.

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

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site plan.

*Not applicable, this is a non-project action*

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.

*This is a non-project action*

**b. Ground Water:**

1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

*This is a non-project action*

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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.

*This is a non-project action*

**c. Water Runoff**

- a) 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.

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

- c) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

*This is a non-project action*

- d) Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.

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## 4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

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

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

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

*Not applicable*

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

*Not applicable*

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

*Not applicable*

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

*Not applicable*

## 5. Animals

a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action that is not site-specific*

Examples include:

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

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

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*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

c. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

*This is a non-project action*

d. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

*This is a non-project action*

## **6. Energy and Natural Resources**

1. 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.

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

3. 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.

*This is a non-project action*

## **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 because of this proposal? If so, describe.

*This is a non-project action*

1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

*This is a non-project action*

2. Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

*This is a non-project action*

3. Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

*This is a non-project action*

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4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

*This is a non-project action*

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

*This is a non-project action*

**b. Noise**

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

*This is a non-project action*

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)?

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

**8. Land and Shoreline Use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

*This is a non-project action that is not site-specific*

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

*This is a non-project action*

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

*This is a non-project action*

c. Describe any structures on the site.

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*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

*This is a non-project action*

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*This is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.

*None, because this is a non-project action*

## 9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

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*None, because this is a non-project action*

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

## 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?

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

## 11. Light and Glare

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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## 12. Recreation

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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

*None, because this is a non-project action*

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any.

*None, because this is a non-project action*

## 13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

*Not applicable*

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

*None, because this is a non-project action*

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

*None, because this is a non-project action*

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## 14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

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

*None*

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

*No*

- e. Will the project or proposal 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 or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

*Note: to assist in review and if known, indicate vehicle trips during PM peak, AM peak, and Weekday (24 hours.)*

*Not applicable because this is a non-project action*

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

*No*

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.

*None*

## **15. Public Services**

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

*No, because this is a non-project action*

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

None

**16. Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

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.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

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**C. Signature**

I, the undersigned, swear under penalty of perjury that the above responses are made truthfully and to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that should there be any willful misrepresentation of willful lack of full disclosure on my part, the agency must withdraw any determination of Nonsignificance that it might issue in reliance upon this checklist.

Date: 1-08-24 Signature: Robert W. Brook

Please print or Type:

Proponent: Spokane County Building and Planinning Dept.

Address: 1026 W. Broadway Ave., Spokane, WA 99260

Phone: 509-477-1500

Person completing form (if different from proponent): \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**FOR STAFF USE ONLY**

Staff member(s) reviewing checklist: Tate D. Andre

Based on this staff review of the environmental checklist and other pertinent information, the staff concludes that:

A. There is no probable significant adverse impacts and recommends a Determination of Nonsignificance.

B. Probable significant adverse environmental impacts do exist for the current proposal and recommends a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance with conditions.

C. There are probable significant adverse environmental impacts and recommends a Determination of Significance.

## D. Supplemental Sheet for Non-project Actions

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section for project actions.

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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 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?

*This is a proposed county-wide population growth target for 2046 to be used for planning purposes. The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate discharges and emissions in the future.*

- Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?  
*The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on plants and animals*

- Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?  
*The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on energy and natural resources.*

- Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

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 population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on environmentally sensitive areas.*

- Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

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 population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on shorelines*

- Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

*The proposal itself would not increase demand, but the population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on transportation, public services, and utilities.*

- Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

*None at this stage of the planning effort*

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

*It is not believed that adopting a county-wide population target will conflict with any laws. It is believed that it is a step toward the County's compliance with State GMA statutes and the required 2026 periodic update of the County's Comprehensive Plan.*



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