

PART ELEVEN - FORMS

WAC 197-11-965 Environmental checklist.

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.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to our proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply". Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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.

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).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

- 1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Construction & Post-Construction Stormwater Regulations

- 2. Name of applicant:
City of West Richland
- 3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
Roscoe C. Slade III, P.E.
Public Works Director
3801 W. Van Giesen
West Richland, WA. 99353

Phone: (509) 967-5434

4. Date checklist prepared:
February 19, 2010
5. Agency requesting checklist:
CITY OF WEST RICHLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
The ordinance is scheduled to be adopted in May 2010.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
The City will implement a construction site and post-construction stormwater runoff control program by February 11, 2011. The program will include procedures for plan review, site inspections, recordkeeping and enforcement.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
Not applicable.
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 are known.
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
This ordinance is part of a program to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements under the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit issued to the City of West Richland on January 17, 2007 by the Department of Ecology.
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 on project description.)
The ordinance is an amendment to the West Richland Municipal Code to establish Construction and Post-Construction Stormwater development regulations for stormwater management for land-disturbing activities greater than one acre and regulations for the ongoing maintenance and operation of stormwater facilities.
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.
The ordinance will be applicable to all properties within the city limits of West Richland, WA.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

- 1.
- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____.
The city limits of West Richland includes flat areas, rolling hills and steep slopes exceeding 15%
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
Slopes vary from 0% to over 45%.

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 soils in the area are predominantly loamy fine sand and fine sandy loam.

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.

Not applicable.

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

No.

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.

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.

Not applicable.

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:

Not applicable.

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.

Portions of West Richland are bordered to the north and northwest by the Yakima River.

AGENCY USE ONLY

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

No.

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.

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

Yes, there is a floodplain area in the city. The Yakima River flood zone runs along the northern portion of the city near Fallon Drive.

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.

No.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

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.

No.

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.

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

The purpose of the ordinance is to manage stormwater to reduce impacts from surface water run-off associated with land-disturbing activities.

4. **Plants**

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other ornamental trees typical of commercial and residential landscaping.
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other ornamental trees typical of commercial and residential landscaping.
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation sage brush, native range land vegetation.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?
Not applicable.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site?
None known,

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:
Not applicable.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or area known to be on or near the site:

- birds: hawk, 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.
None.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
Salmon spawn in the Yakima River.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
Not applicable.

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.
None.

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:
Not applicable.

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.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
Not applicable.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
The ordinance is the development of regulations intended to reduce the potential for environmental hazards that could result from land-disturbing activities with the construction and or maintenance of stormwater facilities.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
Noise typically associated with residential, commercial, and industrial development is generated throughout the city. Noise does not affect the ordinance.

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.
None.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
Not applicable.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
Land uses in the city include varying densities and intensities of residential, commercial, agricultural, recreational, and industrial activities as well as public and quasi-public facilities and services.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.
Agricultural uses are located in several areas throughout the city. There are areas that are vacant or in a different land use that were previously used for agricultural purposes.

c. Describe any structures on the site.
The ordinance is applicable with the entire city for property to be developed or redeveloped. Existing developed land includes a variety of structures for residential, commercial, agricultural, recreational, and industrial activities as well as public and quasi-public facilities and services.

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

No.

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

The ordinance would be applicable to all zoning districts.

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

The ordinance would be applicable within the city limits.

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

The Yakima River shoreline is designated urban with the majority of the shoreline not developed.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Yes, the shoreline along the Yakima River and various wetlands has been designated as an environmentally sensitive areas.

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

The City's population as of April 2009 per OFM was 11,670.

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

None.

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

Not applicable.

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

The ordinance under consideration would not alter the land use designations contained in the Comprehensive Plan. The ordinance under review is consistent with and addresses the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

9. Housing

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

None.

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

None.

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

Not applicable.

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

11. Light and Glare

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

Not applicable.

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?

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

12. Recreation

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

The city contains numerous parks, greenbelts, athletic fields, and trails located throughout the City. The Richland School District maintains athletic fields and other recreation facilities for formal and informal recreation and sporting events. The privately owned West Richland Golf Course located on Fallon Drive.

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

No.

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

Not applicable.

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 the site? If so, generally describe.

None known.

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

None known.

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

Not applicable.

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.

A variety of local, private and state streets and highways access the community and properties affected by this ordinance.

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

Yes. Public transit service provided by Ben Franklin Transit.

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

Not applicable.

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).

No.

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.

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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.

Not applicable.

16. **Utilities**


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

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.

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: 

Date Submitted: 2/23/10

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project 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 the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from 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 ordinance will establish standards for the construction, maintenance and monitoring of stormwater management facilities to reduce the potential discharge of pollutants into the City's stormwater system and receiving water body. It is not anticipated that the ordinance would result in any increased discharge to water or air.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

The proposed ordinance is intended to reduce potential discharges to water and air by requiring best management practices during construction activities and continued maintenance and monitoring of stormwater systems and site controls after construction is complete.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

It is anticipated that the proposed ordinance would improve water quality by reducing or eliminating pollutant discharge to surface waters and thereby improving the environment for West Richland's citizens, fish and animals.

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

The proposed ordinance includes best management practices that will control erosion and provide water quality treatment to protect plants, fish and animals.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The proposed ordinance would not use energy. The proposed ordinance would protect natural resources by reducing or eliminating the discharge of pollutants.

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

The proposed ordinance is intended to protect and conserve natural resources by reducing the discharge of pollutants to surface water.

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 proposed ordinance will benefit environmentally sensitive areas, habitats, wetlands, and floodplain by reducing the discharge of pollutants from development activities and stormwater systems to surface water.

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

On a short-term basis, the proposed ordinance includes a list of best management practices to reduce erosion and the transportation of pollutants during land-disturbing activities. On a long-term basis, the proposed ordinance includes requirements for water quality treatment for stormwater, monitoring the performance of stormwater systems, and best management practices for the on-going maintenance of stormwater systems.

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 ordinance would not affect land or shoreline uses except to require that temporary and permanent erosion control measures be implemented and stormwater management systems be constructed and maintained for all development.

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

The proposed ordinance is intended to reduce or avoid impacts from development on the shoreline areas.

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

The construction of new stormwater facilities and the extension of public stormwater facilities will increase the demands on the city staff including the stormwater utility for project review, inspections and monitoring.

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

Service charges for stormwater utility customers and applicants will be adjusted to provide funding needed for review, inspections and monitoring of systems.

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

The proposed ordinance is consistent with the requirements of the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II program administered by the State Department of Ecology under the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit program.