



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Planning and Development
D. M. Sugimura, Director

**CITY OF SEATTLE
ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Application Number: 3017463
Applicant Name: Parie Hines for Mark Smith
Address of Proposal: 5269 California Avenue SW

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

Land Use Application to allow a 2 story, 3,386 sq. ft. structure containing retail space (West Seattle Nursery) and one residential apartment unit located on the second floor. Existing single family residence to be removed. Project also includes 18,660 sq. ft. of outdoor sales and storage area.

The following approvals are required:

SEPA Environmental Threshold Determination - (SMC Chapter 25.05)

SEPA DETERMINATION: [] Exempt [X] DNS [] MDNS [] EIS
[] DNS with conditions
[] DNS involving non-exempt grading or demolition or involving another agency with jurisdiction.

SITE AND VICINITY

Site Location: The site is located at the corner of California Avenue SW and SW Brandon Street in the West Seattle neighborhood.

Zoning: Neighborhood Commercial 2 -30 (NC2-30)

Parcel Size: 30,000 square feet.

Existing Use: Residential and Commercial.

Public Comment: The Notice of Application was originally published on May 15, 2014. A Revised Notice of Application was published on August 18, 2014 with the comment period ending August 31, 2014. A second Revised Notice of Application was published on August 28, 2014 with the comment period ending September 10, 2014. No written comments were received during any of the comment periods.

ANALYSIS - SEPA

The proposal is to construct 3,386 sq. ft. of horticultural space with a residential unit expanding an existing horticultural use in a Neighborhood Commercial 2 (NC2-30) zone, thus the application is not exempt from SEPA review. Environmental review resulting in a Threshold Determination is required pursuant to the Seattle State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), WAC 197-11, and the Seattle SEPA Ordinance (Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 25.05) because the proposed project is located in a neighborhood commercial zone and the use exceeds the size threshold.

The initial disclosure of the potential impacts from this project was made in the environmental checklist submitted by the applicant dated April 20, 2014 and annotated by the Land Use Planner. The information in the checklist, pertinent public comment, and the experience of the lead agency with review of similar projects form the basis for this analysis and decision. The Department of Planning and Development has analyzed and annotated the environmental checklist submitted by the project applicant; reviewed the project plans, including site survey, and any additional information in the file. As indicated in the checklist, this action may result in adverse impacts to the environment. However, due to their temporary nature and limited effects, the impacts are not expected to be significant. Codes and development regulations applicable to this proposed project, including the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency regulations, the Noise Control Ordinance, Tree Protection Ordinance, Seattle Building Code, Stormwater Code, and Grading Code will provide sufficient mitigation and no further conditioning or mitigation is warranted pursuant to specific environmental policies or the SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 25.05.665).

The SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 25.05.665) clarifies the relationship between codes, policies, and environmental review. Specific policies for each element of the environment, and certain neighborhood plans and other policies explicitly referenced, may serve as the basis for exercising substantive SEPA authority. The Overview Policy states, in part, *"Where City regulations have been adopted to address an environmental impact, it shall be presumed that such regulations are adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation"* subject to some limitations.

Codes and development regulations applicable to this proposed project will provide sufficient mitigation for short and/or long term impacts. Applicable codes may include the Stormwater Code (SMC 22.800-808), the Grading Code (SMC 22.170), the Street Use Ordinance (SMC Title 15), the Seattle Building Code, and the Noise Control Ordinance (SMC 25.08). Puget Sound Clean Air Agency regulations require control of fugitive dust to protect air quality.

Short-term Impacts

The following temporary or construction-related impacts are expected: temporary soil erosion; decreased air quality due to increased dust and other suspended air particulates during excavation, filling and transport of materials to and from the site; increased noise and vibration

from construction operations and equipment; increased traffic and parking demand from construction personnel traveling to and from the work site; consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources; disruption of utilities serving the area; and conflict with normal pedestrian movement adjacent to the site. Compliance with applicable codes and ordinances will reduce or eliminate most adverse short-term impacts to the environment.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Construction activities including construction worker commutes, truck trips, the operation of construction equipment and machinery, and the manufacture of the construction materials themselves result in increases in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions which adversely impact air quality and contribute to climate change and global warming. While these impacts are adverse, they are not expected to be significant due to the relatively minor contribution of greenhouse gas emissions from this project.

No further conditioning or mitigation is warranted pursuant to specific environmental policies or the SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 25.05.665).

Long Term Impacts

Long term or use-related impacts are also anticipated as a result of this proposal, including: increased surface water runoff due to greater site coverage by impervious surfaces; loss of plant and animal habitat; traffic and transportation impacts. Compliance with applicable codes and ordinances will reduce or eliminate most adverse long-term impacts to the environment.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Operational activities, primarily vehicular trips associated with the project and the projects' energy consumption, are expected to result in increases in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions which adversely impact air quality and contribute to climate change and global warming. While these impacts are adverse, they are not expected to be significant due to the relatively minor contribution of greenhouse gas emissions from this project.

No further conditioning or mitigation is warranted pursuant to specific environmental policies or the SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 25.05.665).

DECISION - SEPA

This decision was made after review by the responsible official on behalf of the lead agency of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the responsible department. This constitutes the Threshold Determination and form. The intent of this declaration is to satisfy the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C), including the requirement to inform the public agency decisions pursuant to SEPA.

- [X] Determination of Non-Significance. This proposal has been determined to not have a significant adverse impact upon the environment. An EIS is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 2c.
- [] Determination of Significance. This proposal has or may have a significant adverse impact upon the environment. An EIS is required under RCW 43.21C.030 2c.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment and complies with ECA regulations. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW [43.21C.030](#) (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

CONDITIONS – SEPA

None required.

Signature: (signature on file) Date: September 18, 2014

Marti Stave, Senior Land Use Planner
Department of Planning and Development