

SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

2011 Festival Street and Pedestrian Plaza Code Amendments

2. Name of applicant:

City of Seattle

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

Barbara Gray

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Angela Steel

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City of Seattle Department of Transportation

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P.O. Box 34996

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4. Date checklist prepared:

January 21, 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

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

The proposed code amendments may be considered by the City Council in the first quarter of 2011.

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.

None.

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 known.

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

The proposed code amendments will require adoption by the City Council. Designation of existing right-of-way as festival streets will be made by the Director of the Seattle Department of Transportation. Future festival street closures will require permits and review as provided for in the proposed code amendments. Designation of existing right-of-way as a Pedestrian Plaza will require approval by City Council through the adoption of an ordinance. If located within a Historical, Landmark, or other Special Review District, approval by the relevant Board may be required.

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

This is a non-project proposal that adds definitions of Festival Street and Pedestrian Plaza to the Seattle Municipal Code Traffic Code (Title 11) and amends Seattle Municipal Code 3.12.030, to authorize the Director of the Seattle Department of Transportation to designate festival streets, recommend designation of pedestrian plazas to City Council, prescribe the uses that may be permitted on designated festival streets and public plazas, and to prohibit some or all vehicular use on them. Final approval for pedestrian plaza designation would be with a City Council approved ordinance as authorized by RCW 35.17 (Section 3.12.030).

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.

This is a non-project proposal amending the Seattle Municipal Code, which pertains to the entire City of Seattle right-of-way.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one):

Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. Seattle's paved public right-of-way consistent of flat, rolling, hilly, and steep slopes.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way

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.

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way and does not involve construction activity.

- e. **Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**
Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.
- f. **Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**
Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.
- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**
Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.
- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**
Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

2. Air

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

There is no construction associated with the proposed code amendments.

The indirect effect of this non-project proposal will not result in an increase of emissions to the air. The non-project proposal is intended to establish non-vehicle activity use of the right-of-way and is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on air quality in the City.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in significant adverse emissions or other impacts to air.

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.**

Several water bodies are near public right-of-way within the City of Seattle.

- 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.**

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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 to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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.**

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

b. Ground Water:

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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.**

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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 to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in significant adverse surface water, groundwater, or storm water runoff impacts.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle 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
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

Most terrestrial vegetation types listed above could be found in the planting strip or other unpaved portions of the public right-of-way in the City of Seattle.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. All festival street and pedestrian plaza sites will be located in a developed, urban environment in paved and landscaped right-of-way. There are no threatened or endangered plant species known to be on or near the sites.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

5. Animals

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

- ✓ birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: Birds that are likely to be found in the area include common urban species such as crows, pigeons, doves, starlings, and house sparrows.
- ✓ mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: Mammals that may be found in the project area would include rats, squirrels, and raccoons.
- ✓ fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: The proposal would not permit uses on the water.

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

Threatened or endangered species are not expected to be found in the vicinity of the public right-of-way.

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

Seattle's public right-of-way is developed and urban in character.

Seattle is within the Pacific Flyway, one of the four principal north-south migration routes for birds (including Canada geese, herons, and other birds) in North America. The Pacific Flyway encompasses the entire Puget Sound Basin.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

Seattle's public right-of-way is developed and urban in character. Designation of proposed festival streets or pedestrian plazas at existing urban location subject to the provisions of this non-project proposal are not expected to result in probable significant adverse impacts to birds, mammals, or fish; birds migration along the Pacific Flyway; or threatened or endangered species.

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.**

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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 to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity. Indirect insignificant adverse effects of this non-project proposal may occur at the individual site level. The approved activities within a festival street or pedestrian plaza site may propose use of one or more energy sources; for example, electric, solar, propane or other fuel source approved by the Seattle Fire Marshal.

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.**

This non-project proposal will not result in probably significant adverse environmental health impacts.

- 1) **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

Emergency medical services, Seattle Police Department, or Seattle Fire Department may respond to requests for service at a potential festival street or pedestrian plaza sites.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse environmental health hazards.

b. Noise

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

Ambient noise typical of urban areas exists in Seattle's public right-of-way.

- 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 site.**

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal may cause additional noise associated with proposed approved festival street or pedestrian plaza activities, including set-up and operation of the activity. These activities may include the use of amplified music between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and would be subject to SMC Chapter 25.08, Noise Control.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse noise impacts. Scheduled activities at designated festival streets or pedestrian plazas must comply with SMC Chapter 25.08, Noise Control. The Director of Transportation may, on a site-specific basis, restrict the hours of operation and set noise-related conditions on a proposed activity within a designated festival street or pedestrian plaza, as a result of SDOT review of the proposal.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way, which is used for the benefit of the traveling public.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way and this proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. City of Seattle's rights-of-way are located in all City zoning designations.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved right-of-way. City of Seattle's rights-of-way are located in all City comprehensive plan designations.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. City of Seattle's rights-of-way are located in all City shoreline master program designations.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. Some of Seattle's rights-of-way are located in environmentally sensitive areas.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way. No change in residence or employment in the right-of-way or abutting property is anticipated.

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

This non-project proposal will not have displacement impacts.

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

This non-project proposal will not have displacement impacts.

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

This non-project proposal is intended to achieve greater compatibility with the existing Comprehensive Plan and the Pedestrian Master Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan and the Pedestrian Master Plan call for transportation improvements, uses, and standards that promote walking in commercial areas. The Transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan includes goals to ensure that transportation decisions, strategies, and investments are coordinated with land use goals and support the urban village strategy and to design and operate streets to promote healthy urban environments while keeping safety, accessibility, and aesthetics in balance.

Closures to motor vehicles, combined with scheduled activity, are expected to enhance and expand pedestrian use of the public right-of-way. The increased pedestrian activity is expected to complement commercial centers by drawing additional business.

The proposal is consistent with the urban village strategy to maintain and enhance retail commercial services throughout the city, especially in areas attractive to pedestrians and transit riders, to support concentrations of residential and employment activity, with special emphasis on serving urban villages. This is also consistent with the Comprehensive Plan goals to preserve and protect the character of single-family residential areas.

9. Housing

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

This non-project proposal will not provide housing units. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

This non-project proposal will not eliminate any housing units. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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 to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal resulting from permitting temporary street closures to vehicles for limited hours is not expected to result in probable or significant impacts to views.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse aesthetic impacts.

11. Light and Glare

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal may result in permittees using electrical lighting for activities during the permitted night-time hours.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse safety hazards or view interference due to light or glare.

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

Ambient light and glare typical of urban areas presently exist in Seattle's paved public right-of-way and will not affect the proposal.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts requiring the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce or control light and glare. The Director of Transportation may, on a site-specific basis, set light-related conditions on a proposed activity within a designated festival street or pedestrian plaza, as a result of SDOT review of the proposal.

12. Recreation

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

There are parks and other designated and informal recreational opportunities within and near Seattle's public right-of-way.

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

This non-project proposal will not displace any existing recreational uses.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts requiring the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation.

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.

There are seven historic districts and over 350 designated landmarks within the City of Seattle. Seattle's rights-of-way lie within historic districts and contain or abut designated landmarks.

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

This non-project proposal applies to all of Seattle's paved public right-of-way and a designated festival street or pedestrian plaza may abut landmarks with historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts requiring the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce impacts to historical and cultural preservation. Proposed right-of-way designations of festival streets or pedestrian plazas located in Historical and Landmark Districts must comply with the Landmark Preservation Ordinance.

14. Transportation

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

This non-project proposal will apply to all of Seattle's public right-of-way. The Director of Transportation shall review proposed festival street designations and recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations to ensure that impacts to traffic are minimized; maintains access for pedestrians; maintains access to business entrances; and conforms to the Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

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

This non-project proposal will apply to all of Seattle's public right-of-way. The Director of Transportation may set priority for a festival street site designation in locations served by public transit.

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

No new parking spaces will be created with the proposed code amendment. Some existing parking spaces may be closed during scheduled festival street activities. The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts to existing parking availability.

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).

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not require new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets.

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

This non-project proposal will not use water, rail, or air transportation. Water, rail, or air transportation may occur in the vicinity of a public right-of-way, however festival street designations or recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations at existing improved urban locations, are not expected in any probable significant adverse impacts to any of the above-listed transportation modes.

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

The indirect effect of this non-project proposal may result in an increase of vehicle trips to and from designated festival streets or pedestrian plazas during scheduled activities. The approximate number of vehicle trips is unknown; however, any increase in vehicle trips associated with the explicitly pedestrian-oriented activities would not result in a probable significant adverse impact on traffic.

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

This non-project proposal will not result in significant adverse transportation impacts. The Director of Transportation shall, when reviewing proposed festival street designations and recommendations for pedestrian plaza designation, use criteria intended to minimize impacts to transportation.

The site designation criteria for festival streets shall be provided in a subsequent Director's Rule. The rule may include, but not limited to, the following site designation criteria: non-arterial streets, streets near transit facilities, and street portions where transit service would not be impacted.

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.**

This non-project proposal is not anticipated to result in an increased need for Seattle Fire Department, Seattle Police Department, SDOT, or Seattle-King County Department of Public Health services.

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

It is anticipated that this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts on public services. Proposed activities that are expected to require increased public services would not be permitted under the conditions of a Street Use Festival Street permit. A Street Use Festival Street permit may be revoked if a nuisance condition exists.

16. Utilities

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

Seattle's paved public right-of-way is extensively developed and is served by all the utilities listed above except for septic systems. Other utilities available include other communications services, cable television, and Internet access.

- 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 immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity. The proposed amendments are not expected to change potential demand for utility services or the specific services to be provided. The indirect effects of this non-project proposal may result in the use of electrical lighting for the proposed permitted community activity. Any potential utility impacts will be addressed on a site-specific basis during the review of the Street Use Festival Street permit. Festival street permittees shall be required to maintain the festival street free of all refuse of any kind generated from the scheduled activity.

C. SIGNATURE

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

Signature: Angela Steel

Date submitted: 3/16/11

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

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 proposed amendments to the Traffic Code (Title 11) and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) Section 3.12.030 would not likely increase discharge to water, emissions to air, or additional release of hazardous substances. The non-project proposal may have an indirect impact of allowing amplified music in designated right of way, but that increased noise will be subject to existing SMC Chapter 25.08, Noise Control, and is not expected to result in any probable significant adverse impacts to noise conditions.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

As discussed above, it is not probable for indirect impacts of this non-project proposal to be significant. Street Use permits can be revoked for failing to comply with the conditions of the permit, such as noise or time restrictions. Any potential impacts from air emissions or noise will be addressed during review of Street Use Festival Street permit applications, and recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations, on a site-and activity-specific basis.

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

The non-project proposal is unlikely to have any effect on plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

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

It is not probable for indirect impacts of this non-project proposal to be significant. Any potential impacts to plants, animals, fish, or marine life will be addressed during review and designation of individual festival streets or recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations.

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

The non-project proposal is unlikely to have any effect on energy or natural resources.

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

The potential for indirect impacts of this non-project proposal are expected to not be significant. Any potential impacts to energy or natural resource use will be addressed during review and designation of individual festival streets or recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally critical 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?

None of the above-listed areas are located within right-of-way where potential festival streets or pedestrian plazas would be located. As a result, the potential for use of environmentally sensitive or protected areas is not significant as approved festival street designations or recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations would only occur on existing paved right-of-way within the City.

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

The indirect effects of this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts to environmentally sensitive areas or other protected areas. If located within a Historical, Landmark, or other Special Review District, approval by the relevant Board may be required.

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?

This non-project proposal is intended to achieve greater compatibility with existing Comprehensive and Pedestrian Master Plans. The Transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan includes goals to ensure that transportation decisions, strategies and investments are coordinated with land use goals and support the urban village strategy and to design and operate streets to promote healthy urban environments while keeping safety, accessibility and aesthetics in balance.

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

The proposal is consistent with the urban village strategy to maintain and enhance retail commercial services throughout the city, especially in areas attractive to pedestrians and transit riders, to support concentrations of residential and employment activity, with special emphasis on serving urban villages. The proposal is also consistent with the Comprehensive Plan goals to preserve and protect the character of single-family residential areas.

The non-project proposal would require the Director of the Department of Transportation to review designations of festival streets and recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations. Because designations will only occur on existing paved public right-of-way, there are no expected significant adverse impacts to shorelines or land use.

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

None of the proposed amendments to the Traffic Code and Section 3.12.030 are expected to result in significant increased adverse impacts to traffic or parking or public services and utilities. While a few of the indirect effects of the non-project proposal could result in increased, short-term parking demand in some areas during festivals, the overall effect to traffic and parking will not result in probable significant adverse impacts. Activities held during temporary closures of festival streets are pedestrian-oriented in nature. Activities resulting in significant demands to transportation, public services, and utilities would not be allowed under the Street Use Festival Street permit conditions.

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

As discussed above, it is anticipated that this non-project proposal will not result in probable significant adverse impacts on transportation, public services, and utilities. Activities resulting in significant demands to transportation, public services, and utilities would not be allowed under the Street Use Festival Street permit conditions.

In addition, the Director of the Department of Transportation is authorized to promulgate rules regarding the implementation of festival street and pedestrian plaza programs. Such rules may detail the site designation process, and the allowable activities within the sites. The Director may use criteria such as proximity to transit amenities, and other such criteria, to minimize any impacts to transportation when designating a festival street or recommending a pedestrian plaza designation.

This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity. Any potential connections to utility services will be addressed during review of Street Use Festival Street permit applications, and recommendations for pedestrian plaza designations, on a site-specific basis. The indirect effects of this non-project proposal may result in permittees using electrical lighting for scheduled activities during the permitted night-time hours. The proposal is not expected to change demand for utility services or cause probable significant adverse impacts on public services.

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

No conflicts are anticipated with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for protection of the environment.

