

**DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE**

Description: **Hutchinson Playground Renovation Project** – Seattle Parks and Recreation is proposing to renovate the approximately 4.5-acre Hutchinson Playground. The proposed work includes renovating the play area renovation for ages two and up, resurfacing sport courts, basketball court reconstruction, playfield repair, enhanced natural areas, and pathway, entrance, and other related improvements to meet accessibility standards and improve safety. Anticipated improvements to the existing building include interior accessibility improvements, seismic and energy upgrades and renovation of restrooms if funding becomes available. Approximately 3,300 cubic yards of excavation is proposed to complete the project.

Proponent: **Seattle Parks and Recreation**

Location: **Hutchinson Playground, 5801 South Pilgrim Street, Seattle, WA, 98118**

Lead agency: **Seattle Parks and Recreation**

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. 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.

- ☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.
- ☒ This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of publication (July 5, 2024).

Written comments must be submitted by July 19, 2024.

Responsible official: Andy Sheffer  
Position/title: Deputy Superintendent, Planning & Capital Development Branch, Seattle Parks and Recreation  
e-mail: [andy.sheffer@seattle.gov](mailto:andy.sheffer@seattle.gov)  
Address: 300 Elliott Avenue West, Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98119

Date: 06/28/2024 Signature: 

**Please contact:** David Graves, Strategic Advisor, Seattle Parks and Recreation if you have questions or written comments about this determination.

**Phone:** (206) 684-7048; **e-mail:** [david.graves@seattle.gov](mailto:david.graves@seattle.gov).

You may appeal this determination to **Office of the Hearing Examiner** at **PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124-4729** or 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4000, Seattle, WA 98104 no later than **5:00 pm** on **July 26, 2024** by **Appeal Letter** and **\$85.00 fee**. You should be prepared to make specific factual objection(s). Contact the Seattle Examiner to read or ask about the procedures for SEPA appeals.

City of Seattle

ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF  
SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Proposal Name: **Hutchinson Playground Renovation Project**

Address of Proposal: **Hutchinson Playground, 5801 South Pilgrim Street, Seattle, WA,  
98118**

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Seattle Parks and Recreation is proposing to renovate the approximately 4.5-acre Hutchinson Playground. The proposed work includes renovating the play area renovation for ages two and up, resurfacing sport courts, basketball court reconstruction, playfield repair, enhanced natural areas, and pathway, entrance, and other related improvements to meet accessibility standards and improve safety. Anticipated improvements to the existing building include interior accessibility improvements, seismic and energy upgrades and renovation of restrooms if funding becomes available. Approximately 3,300 cubic yards of excavation is proposed to complete the project.

**SEPA DETERMINATION: Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

**BACKGROUND DATA**

The 4.5-acre Hutchinson Playground was developed in 1911 in the Rainier Beach neighborhood of Southeast Seattle. The playground encompasses the east half of the block between South Norfolk and South Pilgrim Streets, on the west side of 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. To the west of the park are single-family homes; to the east is Emerson Elementary School and across 59<sup>th</sup> are single-family residences. Fifty-ninth Avenue stops at the school and does not continue north to connect with Pilgrim Street. Emerson Elementary connects directly to the playground and Emerson students use the playground for recess. The playground includes a shelter house building with restrooms and meeting space, two basketball courts which can also be for parking, children's play area, two tennis courts and a large grass playfield with two baseball/softball diamonds that is also used for soccer, football, ultimate frisbee and other informal uses. There is on-street parking available surrounding the playground.

There are identified Environmentally Critical Areas (ECAs) located on the site, as shown on the City's GIS database. Steep Slope ECAs are indicated around the east and south perimeter of the sites as it slopes up to the street rights-of-way and a small area on the west perimeter of the site. There are no other ECAs on or adjacent to the site.

## **PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION**

As indicated in the Checklist, this project will completely redo the existing Hutchinson Playground. Specific improvements include:

- New play areas for different age groups and abilities.
- Removal and reinstallation of paving and natural grass surfaces across the site.
- A loop path around the playground that will be accessible to people of all ages and abilities.
- Site lighting.
- Accessible ramp at the southeast to complement existing stair access.
- Multi-use courts for tennis, pickleball, futsal soccer and basketball.
- A reconfigured plaza around the shelter house building.
- A renovated shelter house for community gatherings and events and renovated restrooms within the shelter house.

Note that some of the proposed site improvements are dependent on the available funding and potential grant awards. The scope of the construction work includes earthwork, porous asphalt and concrete pavement, wet and dry utilities including lighting, playground installation, planting and irrigation. Site excavation, fill, and grading is sitewide to remove existing paving and lawn and install new paving areas, footings for furnishings, play area safety surfacing with aggregate subbase, new plantings, and new lawn throughout the site. Excavation associated with the proposed construction activities is estimated to be approximately 3,300 cubic yards.

Expected construction activities include demolition of existing site elements, machine excavation and grading, excavation for poured in place footings, installation of prefabricated concrete components, assembly and installation of site furnishings and play equipment and installation of porous asphalt and concrete paving and lawn. All applicable BMP's for construction site management will be implemented during construction.

## **ANALYSIS – SEPA**

Initial disclosure of potential impacts from this project was made in the applicant's environmental checklist, dated June 11, 2024. The basis for this analysis and decision is formed from information in the checklist, project plans, the lead agency's familiarity with the site and experience with review of similar projects.

The SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 23.05.665) discusses the relationship between the City's code/policies and environmental review. The Overview Policy states, in part, "[w]here City regulations have been adopted to address an environmental impact; it shall be presumed that such regulations are adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation". The Policies also discuss in SMC 23.05.665 D1-7, that in certain circumstances it may be appropriate to deny or mitigate a project based on adverse environmental impacts. This may be specified otherwise in the policies for specific elements of the environment found in SMC 25.05.675. In consideration of these policies, a more detailed discussion of some of the potential impacts is appropriate.

### **Short Term Impacts**

The following temporary or construction-related impacts are expected: hydrocarbon emissions from construction vehicles and equipment; increased dust caused by construction activities;

potential soil erosion and disturbance to subsurface soils during site work; increased noise and traffic from construction equipment and personnel.

Several adopted codes and/or ordinances provide mitigation for some of the identified impacts. The Stormwater, Grading and Drainage Control Code requires that soil erosion control techniques be initiated for the duration of construction. Erosion will be prevented by implementation of a required Temporary Erosion Control and Sedimentation Plan. Best Management Practices, such as mulching and seeding will be implemented at the site to minimize erosion during construction. Puget Sound Clean Air Agency regulations require control of fugitive dust to protect air quality. The Building Code provides for construction measures and life safety issues. The Noise Ordinance regulates the time and amount of construction noise that is permitted in the city. Compliance with these codes and/or ordinances will lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

The impacts associated with the construction are expected to be minor and of relatively short duration. Compliance with the above applicable codes and ordinances will reduce or eliminate most adverse short-term impacts to the environment. However, impacts from construction traffic and construction noise on the surrounding neighborhood and adjacent Emerson Elementary School and impacts to recreation during the closure and reconstruction of the playground warrant further discussion.

### ***Construction Traffic***

The site is close to arterial streets which provide convenient truck access consistent with the requirements of the Street Use Ordinance. As noted above, materials will need to be excavated, removed and/or imported and graded across the site. There will be limited construction traffic beyond materials, equipment and construction workers entering and leaving the site. The site is one block from South Roxbury Street, a collector arterial which provides access to the surrounding arterial network. Given the proximity of City arterials, construction access and materials hauling can be accommodated consistent with City requirements and with little or no impacts to the surrounding neighborhood. As such, traffic impacts associated with the project construction are not anticipated to be significant and thus no conditioning is necessary or warranted.

### ***Noise***

Construction activities will be confined to weekdays. Hours of construction are limited by the Seattle Noise Ordinance, SMC ch. 25.08, to 7:00 a.m. and ten 10:00 p.m. on weekdays (SMC 25.08.425). The reality of the local construction industry is that contractors typically work from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the likelihood that any construction activities will occur up to 10 p.m. is slight. The Noise Ordinance also regulates the loudness (dB) of construction activities, measured fifty (50) feet from the subject activity or device. The City has dedicated noise inspectors to monitor construction activities and respond to construction complaints. SPR is coordinating with Seattle Public Schools to ensure that construction impacts can be minimized; site excavation and grading is limited to the drier months of the year and portions of the work will be done during the summer when school is not in session. Compliance with the City's Noise Ordinance and coordination with the school and the school district will prevent any significant adverse short-term noise impacts and thus no further conditioning is necessary or warranted.

### ***Recreation***

The whole playground will be closed during the construction, which will impact the availability of recreational opportunities in the neighborhood. There are other parks and playgrounds in the neighborhood including Be'er Sheva Park, Lakeridge Playground and Kubota Gardens. The public will be directed to nearby recreation facilities for recreational opportunities during construction. While the elementary school does use the playground for recess, there are areas on the school property that the students can use while the playground is closed for construction. Since there are other recreational resources in the neighborhood, no significant adverse temporary open space/recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation is warranted or necessary.

Compliance with applicable codes, ordinances and regulations will be adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation.

### **Long Term Impacts**

#### ***Recreation***

The improved amenities and connections around the playground will provide upgraded and enhanced recreational amenities in the neighborhood which currently don't exist. The proposed improvements won't permanently displace any organized or informal recreational opportunities at the playground. No significant long-term adverse recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation is warranted or necessary.

#### ***Traffic & Parking***

Once construction is completed, the site will continue serve the immediate neighborhood but may also draw users from other neighborhoods. The site is well served by public transit and there is on-street parking adjacent to the playground to accommodate people that drive to use the new amenities at the playground. No significant adverse traffic and/or parking impacts associated with the improvements to an already developed playfield are anticipated and thus no mitigation is warranted or necessary.


Upon completion of the project, no long term adverse environmental impacts are anticipated and thus no conditioning is necessary or warranted.

## DECISION

This decision was made after the responsible official, on behalf of the lead agency, reviewed a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the responsible department. This constitutes the Threshold Determination and final decision on application of SEPA's substantive authority and mitigation provisions. The intent of this declaration is to satisfy the requirement of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21.C), including the requirement to inform the public of agency decisions pursuant to SEPA.

- ☒ 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(2)(C).
- ☐ 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(2)(C).

Signature:



David Graves, AICP, Strategic Advisor  
Planning & Capital Development Branch  
Seattle Parks and Recreation

Date: June 26, 2024

# SEPA<sup>1</sup> Environmental Checklist

---

## 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 studies 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.

## Instructions for lead agencies

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. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance>

## A. Background

[Find help answering background questions<sup>2</sup>](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background)

**1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

Hutchinson Playground Renovation

**2. Name of applicant:**

Seattle Parks and Recreation

Attn: Morteza Behrooz, Sr. CPC

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

300 Elliott Avenue West, Suite 100

Seattle, WA 98119

C: 206-612-8780

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

06/11/2024

Project is currently at preferred Schematic Design Phase and is anticipating design development by Q3 2024.

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Seattle Parks and Recreation

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

Planning	Q1 2023
Design	Q2 2024
Construction	Q1 2026
Close-Out	Q4 2026

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

Yes. Potential renovation for the shelter house restroom if funding becomes available.

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

Geotechnical Engineering – Q2 2024

Landslide-prone / steep slope areas (40%) are identified south and east of site adjacent to South Norfolk St. and 59<sup>th</sup> Ave S and west of existing tennis court.

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background>



There is a wetland located on adjacent property to the northwest. No ground disturbance will occur near there.

- 9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

No.

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

Building Permit

Grading & Stormwater Permit

- 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.)**

Complete park renovation of approximately 4.5 acres including play area renovation for ages two and up, resurfaced sport courts, basketball court reconstruction, playfield repair, enhanced natural areas, and pathway, entrance, and other related improvements to meet accessibility standards and improve safety. Anticipated improvements to existing building include interior accessibility improvements, seismic and energy upgrades, renovation of restrooms if funding becomes available.

- 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.**

5801 S Pilgrim St, Seattle, WA 98118

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

BEG AT SE COR OF NE 1/4 OF NW 1/4 TH W 325.18 FT TH N 649.25 FT TH E 325.64 FT TH S 647.33 FT TO BEG LESS ST PER ORD #88429 & ORD #91306

## B.Environmental Elements

### 1. Earth

[Find help answering earth questions<sup>3</sup>](#)

**a. General description of the site:**

**Circle or highlight one:** **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other: Generally flat however with areas along south and east sides of the park adjacent to the respective streets that are steep; the park sits lower than the adjacent 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and South Norfolk Street. Also, an area west of the existing tennis court slopes at up to about 40%.

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

40%

**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.**

**d. The dominant soil types about 1 to 2 miles from the playground is Pleistocene till and silty sand.**

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

No.

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

Replace existing infield to grass field for soccer field. Remove existing asphalt and replace with one basketball court, accessible route, lawn area, and expanded play area. Construction of accessible route and path. Replace soils and drain lines for drainage improvement at south playfield. Quantities are detailed below. Source of fill will be from approved quarry sources pending on submittal review and approval.

TOTAL AREA: 192,740 SF

DISTURBED AREA: 96,100 SF

NEW CONCRETE FOR VEHICLE: 1,350 SF (NORTH), 1,975 SF (SOUTH)

NEW CONC. FOR PEDESTRIAN: 2,470 SF

NEW ASPHALT: 5,080 SF

PERVIOUS ASPHALT: 5,290 SF

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth>

PERVIOUS PLAYGROUND GRASS: 5,150 SF

NEW LAWN AREA: 1260 SF

NEW PLANTING AREA: 3,280 SF

PLAYFIELD SOIL REPLACEMENT: 33,060 SF (SOUTH FIELD)

PLAYFIELD SOIL REPLACEMENT: 8,600 SF (NORTH FIELD)

RENOVATED PLANTING AREA: 5,400 SF

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

No.

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

Approximately 15%

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

Standard erosion and silt migration control measures during construction.

## 2. Air

[Find help answering air questions](#)<sup>4</sup>

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Construction machinery such as excavators, backhoes and trucks operating during construction.

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

None.

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

None.

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air>

### 3. Water

[Find help answering water questions](#)<sup>5</sup>

#### a. Surface:

[Find help answering surface water questions](#)<sup>6</sup>

1. **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

There is a wetland located on the adjacent property to the northwest. No ground disturbance will occur near there.

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

Yes. Existing basketball court to be reconstructed to new court sports function(s) and existing ball diamond outfield to be repurposed to soccer field.



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.**

N/A

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

No.

<sup>5</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water>

<sup>6</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water>

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

No.

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:**

[Find help answering ground water questions](#)<sup>7</sup>

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.

No.

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.

N/A

**c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):**

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.

Runoff from hard surfaces (pathway, plaza, basketball court) and from grass soft surfaces e.g. ball diamonds and soccer field will drain to on-site storm structures including underdrain, catch basins, and detention drain field underneath new basketball court and discharge to the Seattle combined sewer and drainage system.

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

No.

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

No.

---

<sup>7</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater>

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

Create a stormwater detention drain field underneath a new basketball court to temporarily detain stormwater and gradually release stormwater to the system. Implement construction stormwater control measures (erosion control log, construction access, inlet protection, etc.) during construction period.

## **4. Plants**

[Find help answering plants questions](#)

**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**

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

Remove two volunteer trees along the north fence. Renovate the north street front planting area (5,400 SF). Add a new lawn area (1,260 SF). Add new planting areas with shrubs, trees, and ground cover (3,280 SF).

**c. List threatened and 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.**

This project will add more trees, lawn, and planting areas to replace expansive asphalt paving. Proposed landscape plan will follow Seattle Parks Planting Design guidelines with majority of the plants to be native plants.

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

None known.

## 5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions](#)<sup>8</sup>

- 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.**

Examples include:

- **Birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, **other:** Songbirds, pigeons, crows
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, **other:** Squirrels
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, **other:** None.

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

None known.

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

Migratory birds are found in this area of Seattle but mostly at water sources that provide rest for migratory species along the Pacific Flyway. However, the site in this project offers no water for any migratory birds.

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

Increase trees and planting areas.

- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

None known.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)<sup>9</sup>

- 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.**

There is one SCL pole in the middle of the park however the fields are considered unlit. Additional lighting is desirable at the north area but unlikely at this point due to budgetary constraints.

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

No.

---

<sup>8</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals>

<sup>9</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou>

- 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.**

None.

## **7. Environmental health**

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health)<sup>10</sup>

- 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.**

No.

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

None anticipated.

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.**

None anticipated.

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.**

None anticipated.

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

Emergency medical services to the ball fields may be required for sports injuries and would be possible from the north side of the site with access to all fields.

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

### **b. Noise**

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

There are no noises outside ordinary city sounds.

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)?**

Short term typical noise of excavator, loader, truck use during 7 am – 6 pm. No long-term implications associated with the new project.

---

<sup>10</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health>



Long term typical noise from children's play at play area, tennis ball/pickleball play and basketball play, and baseball/soccer ball games.

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

Limit construction noise from 7am to 6pm.

## **8. Land and shoreline use**

[Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)<sup>11</sup>

**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.**

Current use is Park/recreational. The site is surrounded by residential area and adjacent to Emerson Elementary School to the east. The use will not change as a result of implementing this project and will enhance the play area, playfields, and sports court, walkways, plantings, and picnic areas for adjacent elementary school and residents.

**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?**

No.

**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?**

No.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

One SPR owned one story brick and pitched roof building of approximately 1,500 sq.ft.

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

No.

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

Single Family Residential 5000 zone.

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

City-owned Open Space (park).

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

N/A

---

<sup>11</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use>

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

Steep Slope: South and east side of site.

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

None.

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

None.

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

N/A

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

No changes to current land use and plans.

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

N/A

## 9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions](#)<sup>12</sup>

- 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:**

None.

## 10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)<sup>13</sup>

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

N/A

---

<sup>12</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing>

<sup>13</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics>

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

None.

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

N/A

## 11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions](#)<sup>14</sup>

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

None. However, the neighbor and adjacent school desire lighting at the north plaza area adjacent to the play areas and basketball court. The north area is south of the street with school to the east, and more than 100' away from the residential unit to the west.

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

N/A

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

Ambient street lighting.

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

If funding is available for lighting improvement at the north area, pedestrian lighting fixtures with cut-off design will be installed to minimize glare.

## 12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

The site is already used for sports and park recreational use and will continue to be used as such.

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

Limited use disruption during construction is anticipated and relocation to other fields during construction is required. No long-term disruption, however a new soccer field will replace the existing north playfield. South playfield will be maintained as a softball playfield.

---

<sup>14</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare>

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

Project includes a new soccer field to replace the existing north softball playfield per Parks Events and community user feedback. Users will be directed to other nearby facilities during construction.

### 13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)<sup>15</sup>

- 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.**

No.

- 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.**

No.

- 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.**

City Landmark registry and GIS data.

- 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.**

N/A

### 14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions](#)<sup>16</sup>

- 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.**

Pedestrians can access the site from South Pilgrim or South Norfolk Streets from the southwest corner of the site. The adjacent school property has access into the park from the east side of the park. There is no access from the west side. There are no public vehicular access points into the park.

---

<sup>15</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p>

<sup>16</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation>

- 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?**

Yes. Bus Route 7 near the intersection of S Pilgrim St and Waters Ave S serves this area.

- c. 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.

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

No.

- e. 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 nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

Not known. This project will not change the existing uses at the site. It will slightly increase vehicular trips from park users due to enhanced play area, courts, and playfield and associated use.

- f. 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.

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

N/A.

## **15. Public services**

[Find help answering public service questions<sup>17</sup>](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-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.

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

N/A.

---

<sup>17</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services>

## 16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions<sup>18</sup>](#)

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

Electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer.

- b. **Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

No new services are required. Existing services include electrical, water and storm/sanitary sewers. This project will propose to replace the aging water line system. If funding is available for lighting improvement at the north area, several new lighting fixtures will be added.

## C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign<sup>19</sup>](#)

**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.**

X *Morteza Behrooz*

**Type name of signee:** Morteza Behrooz

**Position and agency/organization:** Senior Capital Project Coordinator/OOC CPC Supervisor – Seattle Parks and Recreation

**Date submitted:** 06/25/2024

---

<sup>18</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities>

<sup>19</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>





- \* GRANT ITEM \*
- WEST FIELD TRAIL TO COMPLETE THE LOOP
- \* GRANT ITEM \*
- PICNIC SHELTER
- \* GRANT ITEM \*
- LIGHTING AT NORTH AREA
- \* GRANT ITEM \*
- ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM
- \* GRANT ITEM \*
- ACCESSIBLE CURB RAMP (PARTNER WITH SDOT)