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**COMMUNITY PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Creating Solutions for Our Future

Joshua Cummings, Director

SEPA DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

Date of Issuance
August 30, 2019

Comment Deadline
September 16, 2019 (14 days)

**Proponent/
Lead Agency**

Thurston County Community Planning and Economic Development Department
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Building #1
Olympia, WA 98502
Contact: Kaitlynn Nelson, (360) 867-2087

Description of Proposal

This is an update to the 2019-2040 Thurston County Comprehensive Plan that includes changes to Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, appendices, and associated map updates.

For further information please see Thurston County's Comprehensive Plan Update web page at:

<https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/planning/Pages/comp-plan-update.aspx>

Because the proposed code amendments are not associated with a specific development proposal, they are being reviewed as a **Non-project Action**, in accordance with the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). All specific proposals will be required to apply for project specific permits and meet all current regulations at the time of application.

Project No.

2019102519

Location of Proposal

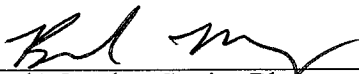
Thurston County, countywide

**Threshold
Determination**

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact upon the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review by the Lead Agency of a completed Environmental Checklist and other information on file with the Lead Agency. This information is available to the public at <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/planning/Pages/comp-plan-public-hearing.aspx> or upon request.

Appeal Deadline September 23, 2019 (7 days from the end of the comment period)

Responsible Official Joshua Cummings, Director



Brad Murphy, Senior Planner

This Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issue or until the appeal period has passed, if applicable. No permits may be issued, and the applicant shall not begin work until after the comment and any appeal periods have expired and any other necessary permits are issued. If conditions are added, deleted, or modified during the 14 day review period, a modified DNS will be issued. Otherwise, this DNS will become final after the expiration of the comment deadline and appeal period, if applicable.

Appeals

Threshold determinations may be appealed pursuant to TCC 17.09.160 if: (1) a written notice of appeal, meeting the requirements of TCC 17.09.160(D), and the appropriate appeal fee is received by the Thurston County Community Planning and Economic Development Department within seven (7) calendar days of the last day of the comment period on the threshold determination and; (2) the person filing the appeal is an aggrieved party and submitted written comments prior to the comment deadline, per the requirements of TCC 17.09.160(B).

NOTE: The issuance of this Determination of Nonsignificance does not constitute project approval. The applicant must comply with all applicable requirements of Thurston County Departments and/or the Hearing Examiner prior to receiving permits.

cc: Department of Ecology
Thurston Co Roads & Transportation Service
Roads Development Review
Washington Department of Transportation
City of Tenino
City of Yelm
Holly Gilbert, TRPC
City of Tumwater
Port of Olympia
Squaxin Island Tribe
Nisqually Tribe
The Olympian
US Army Corp of Engineers
John Hutchings, County Commissioner
Tye Menser, County Commissioner

Thurston Co Environmental Health Dept
Department of Fish & Wildlife
Washington Dept of Commerce
Town of Rainier
Town of Bucoda
City of Lacey
Christina Chaput, Senior Planner
City of Olympia
Chehalis Tribe
Thurston Co Water and Waste Management
Brad Murphy, Senior Planner
Ramiro Chavez, County Manager
Olympic Region Clean Air Agency
Gary Edwards, County Commissioners

SEPA 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.

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Thurston County Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, 2019

2. Name of applicant:

Thurston County

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

**Kaitlynn Nelson
Associate Planner
Thurston County
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, WA
360-867-2087**

4. Date checklist prepared:

June 4, 2019

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**Thurston County Community, Planning, and Economic Development Department –
Proponent & Lead Agency**

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

The Planning Commission Hearing date is scheduled for July 10, 2019 and plan for adoption by the Board of County Commissioners is by late 2020.

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

Amendments are made to the Comprehensive Plan annually, but the plan is periodically reviewed and updated every 8 years. The next update cycle is meant to be completed by 2024. The plan is meant to guide for 20 year periods (till 2040). The plan is implemented through the Development Code which is regularly updated to reflect the Comprehensive Plan, and is not limited to the timelines previously mentioned. Other plans not addressed at this time include those like the Joint City/County Plans and the subarea plans. Each of these actions will be subject to independent SEPA review and threshold determinations.

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

- **Final EIS, Thurston County Comprehensive Plan (1994), and supplements.**
- **Critical Areas Ordinance (2012)**

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

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

Approval by the Board of County Commissioners, Adoption through Ordinance and Resolution, after a recommendation from the Planning Commission. The Washington

Department of Commerce coordinates state agency review during a required 60 day review period.

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.)

Thurston County is updating the Comprehensive Plan to guide planning till 2040. The 2019 update includes updates to Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, appendices, and associated map updates. Chapter 11, Health, is being reviewed on a separate track. The Shoreline Master Program is being updated concurrently, but under a separate SEPA review.

More specifically, changes include minor formatting, phrasing, and updating data; updates to maps (inventory, clarification, error corrections); a new zoning designation (Major Educational Institution) to implement an existing land use designation in Chapter 2; new goals and policies within Chapters 3 (Natural Resources), 8 (Economic Development) and 10 (Archaeological & Historic Resources); and provided new language in Chapter 9 (Environment) on climate change, natural hazards, and water availability.

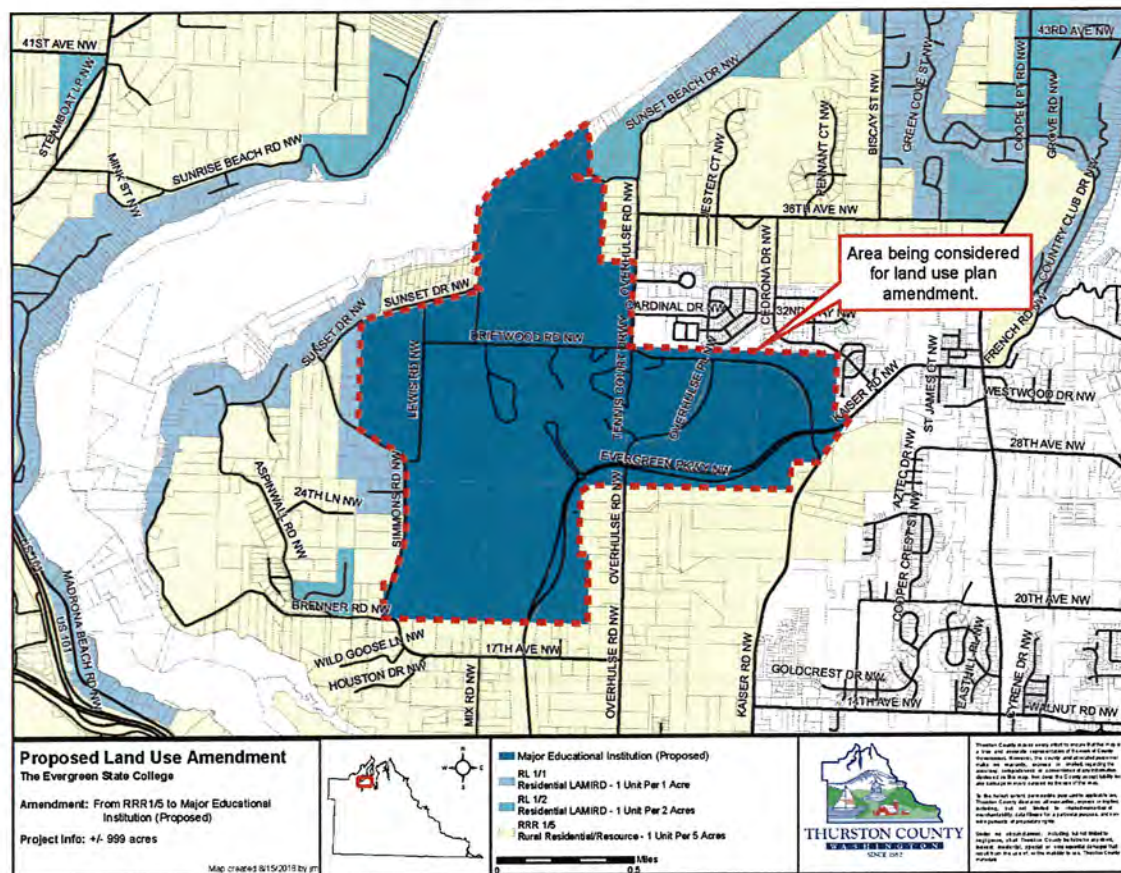
Additionally, Thurston County is proposing a land use amendment for The Evergreen State College (applicant). The proposal requires amendments to the existing Institutional land use category within Chapter 2 of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan, and would amend the Future Land Use Map in the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan. The proposal creates a new Institutional zoning district in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20) - Major Educational Institution (MEI) - and rezone the property from RRR 1/5 to that new zoning district. The proposal also includes amendments to associated sections (TCC 20.54, 20.03, 20.37).

The Evergreen State College site is located in rural Thurston County, to the northwest of the Olympia Urban Growth Area. The proposed new zoning designation, Major Educational Institution, applies to roughly ±999 acres across three parcels (12806410100, 12806410000, and 12807221100), which contain The Evergreen State College campus. The zoning considerations previously included several options for things like building height, setbacks, and minimum acreage. The current proposal includes some of the more protective restrictions, including a minimum of 40 acres, compared to a minimum of 20 acres for other uses; a reduction of building height within 150' of a residential use or residential zoned property; and a building setback of 80' on side setbacks abutting residential uses and 100' for rear setbacks.

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.

Thurston County is situated at the southern end of Puget Sound. This includes land forms varying from coastal lowlands in the north county, to cascade foothills in the southeast. Generally, the county is a region of prairies and rolling lowlands, broken by minor hills and a few peaks which rise to elevations of about 2,600 feet. There are over 90 miles of Puget Sound coastline, three major river basins, and over 100 lakes and ponds in Thurston County. The county contains a total area of 737 square miles, or 471,713 acres. Approximately 688 square miles (440,545 acres), or 93 percent of the total area, lies in unincorporated Thurston County. The remaining seven percent is divided among the seven incorporated cities and towns of Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Bucoda, Rainier, Tenino, and Yelm.

The Major Educational Institution Zoning Designation proposal is located at 2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW, Olympia, WA 98505, in the Northwest corner of Thurston County.



B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

As a nonproject action, this section has been excluded from consideration, and there is instead a Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D).

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site: (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

N/A

Varies throughout the county

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

N/A

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.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

2. **Air** [\[help\]](#)

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.

N/A

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

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

N/A

3. **Water** [\[help\]](#)

a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

N/A

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

N/A

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.

N/A

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

N/A

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.

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.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

4. **Plants** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: N/A

- 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? N/A

- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. N/A

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

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

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. **N/A**

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

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

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

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **N/A**

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

6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

N/A

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

N/A

- 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:

N/A

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
N/A

- 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.

N/A

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.

N/A

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

N/A

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

N/A

b. Noise

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

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. **N/A**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **N/A**

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

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. **N/A**

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 as a result 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? **N/A**

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: **N/A**

c. Describe any structures on the site. **N/A**

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

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

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

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? N/A
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.
N/A
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? N/A
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
N/A
- 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:
N/A
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
N/A

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
N/A
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
N/A
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
N/A

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- 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
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
N/A
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
N/A

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

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

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?

N/A

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

N/A

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

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 [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

N/A

- 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?

N/A

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

N/A

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

N/A

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

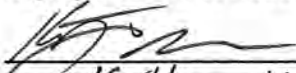
- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,
other _____ N/A

- d. 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. N/A

C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

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

Signature: 
Name of signer: Karlynn Nelson
Position and Agency/Organization: Associate Planner, Thurston County
Date Submitted: June 4th, 2019

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The new goals and policies provided for Chapter 8, Economic Development, support business development and protection of valuable industries that may have negative environmental impacts. This includes things like protecting processing uses for agriculture and forestry; the formation of an Economic Development District and Maker Spaces; encouraging agritourism and support of the Bountiful Byway; and consideration of expanding Commercial Zones.

These goals and policies could lead to codes or programs that increase traffic, construction, and manufacturing/industrial uses. This increased development could cause things like emissions to air and production of hazardous substances or noise. Future development proposals will be subject to SEPA requirements individually and would include a development permit review of any proposed impacts.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are necessary for construction and handling of hazardous materials; transportation improvements are updated with the Capital Improvement Program; and plans are necessary for uses like forestry and agriculture. Permits are required and County Code must be followed. Public process is a requirement for proposals like expanding zoning areas. A SEPA determination may be required for project actions and further nonproject actions not covered in this checklist.

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

In directly, development planned for in the Comprehensive Plan would allow development that may remove or alter plants and vegetation, disturb soils and add stormwater runoff through increased impervious surfaces and impact habitat and animals through land clearing, infrastructure and building construction. Agriculture and Forestry is supported through the Comprehensive Plan, which may convert land for applicable agricultural uses and forestry practices which will require harvesting of trees. New language on water availability supports the creation of watershed plans, with the intention of improving fish habitat. Future nonproject plans and development proposals will be subject to SEPA requirements and would include a development permit review of any proposed impacts.

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

The current Thurston County code includes, plans, policies and regulations to protect and preserve habitat including the critical area ordinance and shoreline master program. Individual forestry practices projects are required to have a plan, as well as obtain a permit from the county or the Department of Natural Resources. Construction activities must obtain a permit through the County, and codes are in place to review for critical areas and species.

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

No part of the proposal has been identified to deplete energy. Natural resources may include mining, forestry, and agriculture, which is supported by the Comprehensive Plan, and in turn could impact natural resource inventory.

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

Development plans are required through state and county codes to harvest natural resources through sustainable harvesting practices.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The proposal has included new language in Chapter 9, Environment, to reference additional information, policies, and action plans on climate change, natural hazards, and water availability. The goals of these policies and action plans are to improve environmentally sensitive areas through a compound of projects that would directly impact environmentally sensitive areas. Future nonproject plans and development proposals will be subject to SEPA requirements and would include a development permit review of any proposed impacts.

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

Best Management Practices (BMPs), Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, the Shoreline Master Plan, Title 14 Building and Construction code and other development permit requirements.

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?

No part of the proposal has been identified to significantly affect land and shoreline use, and does not appear to be incompatible with existing plans.

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

Best Management Practices (BMPs), the Critical Areas Ordinance, the Shoreline Master Plan, and other development permit requirements.

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

Thurston County is projected to increase in population by 40% between 2018 and 2040. Most county roads maintain an acceptable level of services through the planning period which is supported by planned expanded transit services and bike and pedestrian trails networks. As mentioned previously, the proposal provides new language on supporting economic development. These uses could increase transportation needs to focused areas. Additionally, there would be an increased demand for water, stormwater facilities, telecommunications, solid waste, fire protection, law enforcement, schools, and court services with the increased population. Development proposals are reviewed for their

water and stormwater impacts. School districts, fire districts and authorities and utility districts, are responsible for preparing capital plans to ensure sufficient operations.

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

Implementing the Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Plan, and the Capital Improvement Plan, as well as completing the ongoing Water Availability planning in conjunction with other municipalities, would allow for Thurston County to accommodate new growth and provide established levels of service for the necessary facilities. Chapter 2, Land Use, includes an update to the County growth projections and planning for a larger population could involve increasing capacity for transportation or public services and utilities. Demands for these facilities are planned for in the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan over the planning period.

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

None - The proposed changes were developed within local, state, and federal laws for the protection of the environment. All future development would also be required to meet all local, state and federal regulations as they apply.