



CITY OF ABERDEEN
Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review
Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

Description of Proposal: The City of Aberdeen hired a consultant, AHBL, to prepare an update to the City of Aberdeen's Shoreline Master Program (SMP). The city previously conducted a SEPA Review in 2016 during a Comprehensive Update to the SMP.

As part of the required review of the SMP, the City of Aberdeen has prepared draft SMP amendments to be consistent with state law, local plans, regulations and other changed local circumstances. Proposed amendments to the SMP are limited to changes to the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and related rules and some limited modifications to reflect changes to local circumstances.

Proponent: City of Aberdeen
c/o Lisa Scott, Community Development Director
City of Aberdeen
200 East Market Street
Aberdeen, Washington 98520

Location: The SMP applies city-wide and regulates development in the Shoreline Jurisdiction.

Lead Agency: City of Aberdeen

Findings: The City of Aberdeen, acting as lead agency pursuant to WAC Chapter 197-1-926 has determined that this proposal does not represent a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. This decision is based upon a review of the completed environmental checklist and draft changes to the SMP.

The application, attachments and public notices for this request can be viewed online at <https://ci-aberdeen-wa.smartgovcommunity.com/ApplicationPublic/ApplicationHome>. The application no. is 2023-0440. An EIS is not required for this proposal pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 43.21C.030.

This DNS is issued under the authority of AMC Chapter 14.04.090, WAC 197-11-340 and RCW Chapter 43.21C.135; Written comments to the City on this determination shall be sent to the below responsible official on or before April 25, 2023.

Responsible Official: Lisa Scott
Position/title: Community Development Director
Address: Community Development Department
200 East Market Street
Aberdeen, Washington 98520-5242
Phone: (360) 537-3238
Email: lscott@aberdeenwa.gov
Date: April 10, 2023



ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

for

**CITY OF ABERDEEN
SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM
2023 Periodic Review**

January 31, 2023

Prepared For:

**Lisa Scott
Community Development Director
City of Aberdeen
200 East Market Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520**

Prepared By:

**Nicole Stickney, AICP
Senior Planning Project Manager
AHBL, Inc.**

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.

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A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
City of Aberdeen, Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review
2. Name of applicant:
City of Aberdeen
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
Lisa Scott
Community Development Director
City of Aberdeen
200 East Market Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520
Phone: (360) 537-3238
Email: lscott@aberdeenwa.gov
4. Date checklist prepared:
January 31, 2023
5. Agency requesting checklist:
City of Aberdeen
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
The City of Aberdeen's Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review is anticipated to be adopted by the City Council by June 2023.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
Does not apply.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
The City previously conducted SEPA Review in 2016 during a Comprehensive Update. During that update, a Shoreline Analysis Report, Shoreline Restoration Plan, and a Cumulative Impacts Analysis were prepared.
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.
The City and the Washington State Department of Ecology must approve any changes and adopt the SMP prior to any of the proposed changes becoming

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effective. Notice of the pending adoption and notice of final adoption will be provided to the Washington State Department of Commerce (60-day notice requirement).

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The City proposes to amend its SMP consistent with Shoreline Management Act (SMA) requirements to review, and, if necessary, revise its SMP at least once every eight years. The amendments are intended to ensure consistency between the City's SMP and laws and guidelines that may have changed since the City last updated its SMP.

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.

City of Aberdeen (Grays Harbor County, Washington)

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

Part B is omitted - No discussion of the individual Environmental Elements is required.

C. SIGNATURE

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

Signature: 

Name of Signee: **Nicole Stickney, AICP**

Position and Agency/Organization: **Consultant on Behalf of the City of Aberdeen / Senior Planning Project Manager, AHBL, Inc.**

Date Submitted: **January 31, 2023**

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(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 Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review is not anticipated to increase discharge to water or air, or produce or release toxic or hazardous substances, or create noise impacts. If there is likely to be an increase in discharges to water or air, or produce or release toxic or hazardous substances because of the projects that occur after the adoption of the Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review, the appropriate mitigation will occur through the SEPA Environmental Review process and Shoreline Master Program regulations for the proposed improvements.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

No measures are proposed at this time.

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

The adoption of the Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review will result in an improvement to the protection of plants, animals, fish, and marine life within the City's shoreline jurisdiction as new development and redevelopment occurs.

Individual projects could have impacts to plant, animals, fish, or marine life. Any impacts that may result from these projects will be mitigated adequately through the SEPA Environmental Review process and Shoreline Master Program regulations for the specific project.

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

No measures are proposed at this time.

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

The Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review will not have any impact on energy or natural resources. Individual projects could have minimal impacts to energy or natural resources. Any impacts that may result from these projects will be mitigated adequately through the SEPA Environmental Review process and Shoreline Master Program regulations for the specific project.

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

No measures are proposed at this time.

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?

No impacts are anticipated to environmentally sensitive areas because of the Shoreline Master Program Update 2016. If there are any environmentally sensitive areas located near proposed projects, the appropriate mitigation will occur through the SEPA Environmental Review process and Shoreline Master Program regulations for the proposed improvements.

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

No measures are proposed at this time.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The Shoreline Master Program 2023 Periodic Review will result in improved protections for the environment and guide future land and shoreline use in the shoreline jurisdiction.

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

None.

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

No impacts are anticipated to transportation or public services and utilities because of the Shoreline Master Program Update 2023 Periodic Review. If there are any impacts to transportation or public services and utilities, the appropriate mitigation will occur through the SEPA Environmental Review process and Shoreline Master Program regulations for the proposed improvements.

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

No measures are proposed at this time.

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

The Shoreline Master Program Update 2023 Periodic Review is expected to align with local, state, and federal laws and requirements for the protection of the environment.