



**Seattle**  
Department of  
Transportation

# **Director's Rule for Streets Illustrated: Seattle's Right-of-Way Improvements Manual**

**Seattle, Washington**

**SEPA Checklist**

Prepared June 28, 2017

## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

### A. BACKGROUND

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

Director's Rule for Streets Illustrated: Seattle's Right-of-Way Improvements Manual (the Manual)

**2. Name of applicant:**

City of Seattle

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

Susan McLaughlin  
(206) 733-9649

City of Seattle Department of Transportation  
700 5th Ave, Suite 2300  
P.O. Box 34996

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

June 28, 2017

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

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

The Director's Rule is anticipated to be effective in August 2017.

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

Annual updates that are procedural and not substantive will be made to the Manual to keep the information current and ensure consistency with public agency standards and practices.

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

The following information has been prepared in relation to this project:

- Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan, Determination of Non-significance (February 2017)
- Seattle Freight Master Plan, Determination of Non-significance (August 2016)
- Seattle Comprehensive Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement (May 2016)

- Seattle Bicycle Master Plan, Determination of Non-significance (December 2013)
- Seattle Transit Master Plan, Determination of Non-significance (February 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.**

No.

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

The Director's Rule requires adoption by the SDOT Director. There are no projects directly related to this non-project proposal. SDOT issues permits for use of the right-of-way and would review future project proposals using the Manual. The Manual provides guidance on environmental review and approvals and the Preliminary Assessment Report process for City Departments to provide comments and requirements. Permit requirements from SDOT and other City Departments and agencies will be determined during review of individual projects.

**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.)**

This Director's Rule supersedes the Seattle Right-of-Way Improvements Manual Director's Rule 7-2012 that initially created the online resource that documents how the City manages physical improvements in the right-of-way and provides requirements, procedures, standards, and guidelines for physical changes. The new rule updates and revises the Manual to incorporate roadway typologies and other updates to streetscape and roadway standards. New street types described in Section A.12 below are intended to better reflect adjacent land uses and provide standards for right-of-way elements, such as context-appropriate pedestrian realm widths, lane widths, and bike facilities. The Manual is a resource for City staff, partner agencies, property owners, developers, and architects involved with the design, permitting, and construction in the right-of-way.

The Manual considers and attempts to balance the access and mobility needs of all users of the street right-of-way including pedestrians, bicyclists, automobiles, transit, and freight. The Manual also includes tools on how to activate and enhance public space, which will serve as a tool to advocacy groups and neighborhoods throughout the city. Procedures and design standards were developed keeping in mind the critical balance between safety, the preservation and maintenance of roadway infrastructure and utility services, context sensitive design, and preserving the environment.

Design guidance is not mandatory, but reflects best-practices and has the most favorable alignment with City plans, priorities, and community input. Knowing that all projects have site-specific opportunities and constraints, the Manual articulates the City's design standards for street right-of-way improvements and describes a deviation process to achieve flexibility when practical.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

This is a non-project proposal that would apply within right-of-way throughout the city. The Manual includes street type classifications, which define how a street should function to support the movement of people, goods, and services versus access to property. Street types include the following:

- Downtown
- Downtown Neighborhood
- Downtown Neighborhood Access
- Urban Village Main
- Urban Village Neighborhood
- Urban Village Neighborhood Access
- Urban Center Connector
- Neighborhood Corridor
- Industrial Access
- Minor Industrial Access
- Neighborhood Yield
- Commercial Alley

Types are not additional classifications, but provide a more specific definition of the design elements that support the street's function and its adjacent land use.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site: [Check the applicable boxes]**

- Flat       Rolling       Hilly       Steep Slopes       Mountainous  
 Other: (identify)

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

This is a non-project proposal that would apply within right-of-way throughout the city. Topography varies from flat to rolling hills, including steep slopes in some areas.

**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.**

Seattle has a variety of soil types, mostly glacial in nature. There is no prime farmland within the city's boundaries. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

There are indications and a history of unstable soils in certain locations within the city. These locations have been designated by the City as Environmentally Critical Areas (ECAs) and are subject to development restrictions. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Potential earth impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals and design considerations for grading to minimize impacts to users of the right-of-way and adjacent properties.

**2. Air**

**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.**

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

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

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

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

Potential air quality impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for air quality.

**3. Water**

**a. Surface:**

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

Seattle contains numerous creeks, streams, and other water bodies near right-of-way, including the Duwamish Waterway, Ship Canal, Lake Union, Lake Washington, and Puget Sound. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

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

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

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

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

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

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

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

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

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

activity.

**b. Ground:**

- 1) Will ground water 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.**

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

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals . . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

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

**c. Water runoff (including 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.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Potential water impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. All individual construction

projects in the right-of-way must comply with the Seattle Stormwater Code.

The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for surface and groundwater. It provides design considerations for storm drains and street drainage and concepts for Low Impact Development strategies including bioretention facilities and permeable pavements.

#### 4. Plants

**a. Types of vegetation found on the site:** *[Check the applicable boxes]*

- |  |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deciduous trees:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Alder      | <input type="checkbox"/> Maple     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aspen   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (identify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evergreen trees:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fir        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cedar     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (identify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shrubs                             |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grass                              |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture                                       |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crop or grain                                 |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wet soil plants:                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Cattail    | <input type="checkbox"/> Buttercup | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulrush | <input type="checkbox"/> Skunk cabbage     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (identify)                             |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water plants:                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> water lily | <input type="checkbox"/> eelgrass  | <input type="checkbox"/> milfoil | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (identify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of vegetation: (identify)         |                                     |                                    |                                  |  |

There are a wide variety of vegetation types found in the public right-of-way. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

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

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

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

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

Potential impacts to plants from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for plants.

The Manual provides design considerations for street trees within the right-of-way. Individual projects may include plans for areas of the streetscape that are reserved for green stormwater drainage structures or trees. Projects would be subject to standards that include planting certain plants and tree species, some of which are native. The City of



Seattle Stormwater Manual requires removal of native plants to be minimized during land disturbing activities.

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

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

**5. Animals**

**a. Birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: [Check the applicable boxes]**

**Birds:**       Hawk       Heron       Eagle       Songbirds  
 Other: (identify)

**Mammals:**     Deer       Bear       Elk       Beaver  
 Other:(identify) Rodents, including mice, rats, squirrels, and raccoons are common urban species.

**Fish:**       Bass       Salmon       Trout       Herring  
 Shellfish     Other: (identify)

There are a wide variety of animals found in the public right-of-way. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

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

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

The City of Seattle is within the Pacific Flyway. The Pacific Flyway encompasses the entire Puget Sound Basin. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

Potential impacts to animals from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for animals.

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

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

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

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

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

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

- c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

Potential energy impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual encourages the use of multi-modal transportation options, which may result in a reduction in energy use on roadways.

## 7. Environmental health

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

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

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

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

- 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.**

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

**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.**

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

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

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

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

Potential environmental health impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for hazardous materials analysis during environmental review and approvals and containment during construction and maintenance.

**b. Noise**

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

Many types of noise exist throughout Seattle, including noise from traffic, rail, maritime, air freight, and operation of equipment. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity.

**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.**

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

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

Potential noise impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for noise. Individual projects must comply with the Noise Code (Seattle Municipal Code 25.08).

**8. Land and shoreline use**

**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.**

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

- b. Has the 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 non-forest 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.**

Seattle contains many different structures throughout the public-right of-way. Street furniture in the right-of-way include information kiosks, utility poles, traffic lights and signs, transit shelters, and other objects and pieces of equipment. Not applicable to this non-project proposal.

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

Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity. The Manual provides design considerations for City-owned and private structures within the right-of-way.

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

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

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

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

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

Shorelines of the city include saltwater shorelines, Salmon Bay, Lake Union, the Ship Canal, Lake Washington, Green Lake, and the Duwamish River. Seattle shoreline districts have designations that include urban industrial, urban residential, and urban general among others. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

The City has designated ECAs located throughout the city. These areas are considered environmentally sensitive and include landslide-prone, liquefaction-prone and flood-prone areas, wetlands, riparian corridors, steep slopes, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, and abandoned landfills. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This non-project proposal does not involve construction activity.

**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:**  
No measures are proposed.

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

Potential land use impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for land use.

The Manual is consistent and compatible with the Comprehensive Plan (Seattle 2035) and the Land Use Code. SDOT has renamed and designed new street types in accordance with the land use designations in the Comprehensive Plan. It is also informed by Goal TG2 in the Transportation Element, "Allocate space on Seattle's streets to safely and efficiently connect people and goods to their destinations while creating inviting spaces within the right-of-ways." The Manual summarizes the Land Use Code requirements (Title 23 of the Seattle Municipal Code) for street and alley improvements and presents specific criteria for design and installation within the right-of-way.

**m. Proposed measures to ensure that the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**  
No measures are proposed.

**9. Housing**

**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:**

No measures are proposed.

## 10. Aesthetics

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

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

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

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

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

Potential aesthetics impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides aesthetic urban design considerations for adaptive design, public space, green streets, and street concept plans within the right-of-way.

## 11. Light and glare

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Potential light and glare impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides design considerations for street and pedestrian lighting to improve, safeguard, facilitate, and encourage vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

**12. Recreation**

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

Seattle has many designated and informal recreational opportunities within its boundaries. Seattle Parks and Recreation manages over 400 parks and open areas totaling over 6,200 acres. SDOT maintains about 40 miles of shared-use trails throughout the city, and is building out a network of Neighborhood Greenways. Additionally, the sidewalk network throughout Seattle is used by many for recreational purposes, in addition to transportation purposes. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

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

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

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

Potential recreation impacts of individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides sections on pavements to parks and interim design strategies and programming of public space, which includes parklets, play streets, and shoreline street ends. It also provides bike design standards for Neighborhood Greenways and trail/shared use path crossings.

**13. Historic and cultural preservation**

**a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites located on or near the project site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**

Seattle has many places and objects listed on national, state, or local preservation registers. There are eight historic districts and over 450 designated landmarks within the city. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use of 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.**

Seattle has several landmarks and evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, and cultural importance within its boundaries. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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 Archaeology and Historic Preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

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

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance of resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

Potential historic and cultural preservation impacts of individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. Projects may be required to consult or seek approval from the State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, City Preservation/Historic District Boards, Landmarks Boards, and other applicable agencies. The Manual provides guidance for environment review and approvals for historic and cultural preservation.

#### **14. Transportation**

- 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.**

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

- 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?**

Public transit serves areas throughout Seattle. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.



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

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

- 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).**

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

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

No.

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

Not applicable.

- 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.**

No.

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

Potential transportation impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for right-of-way approvals and construction and maintenance requirements for traffic control.

The Manual provides new design standards for bike, freight, and transit facilities in accordance with master plans. New bike design standards for SDOT also provides guidance for developers and other City Departments. The new street type Industrial Access, is primarily intended to serve the major and minor truck network and are dimensioned accordingly in terms of elements such as lane widths and loading needs. The new street type, Urban Center Connector, graphically depicts side- and center-running platforms for bus rapid transit systems. Design and dimension standards are also provided for transit elements such as platform design and stop amenities.

## 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.**

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

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

Potential public service impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides design considerations for right-of-way near fire stations suggested as Seattle Fire Department access streets. It also provides guidance for traffic calming to improve safety and livability.

## 16. Utilities

- a. **Utilities currently available at the site, if any:** *[Check the applicable boxes]*

- |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electricity    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural gas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refuse service |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanitary sewer | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic system          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (identify)     |  |   |   |  |

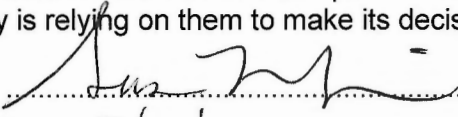
Public and private utilities are available throughout the city. Not applicable to this non-project proposal. This proposal does not involve construction activity.

- 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.**

Potential utility impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. The Manual provides guidance for right-of-way approvals and construction and maintenance requirements for utilities. It also provides design considerations for utilities in the right-of-way including street lighting, storm drains and sewers, water mains, easements, and utility relocation.

**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:  .....

Date Submitted: 7/11/17 .....

## **D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT 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?**

During construction of individual projects there may be minimal exhaust emissions from construction equipment. Construction activities may produce or release toxic or hazardous substances, such as mechanical fluids from construction equipment, and could temporarily generate noise. Projects developed within existing paved right-of-way would not generate any additional runoff to that already existing. The Manual would encourage the use of multi-modal transportation options, which may result in a reduction in emissions, noise, and nonpoint source pollution from runoff on roadways.

#### **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

As part of permitting and approval, SDOT and other City Departments will evaluate the need and types of mitigation appropriate for any anticipated adverse impacts and best management practices (BMPs) to reduce and control any potential discharges to water, emissions to air, release of hazardous substances, and generation of noise. Projects will be subject to the City Sidewalk and Street Use Code, Stormwater Code, Noise Code, Regulations for Environmental Critical Areas, and Environmental Policies and Procedures.

The Manual provides guidance on environmental review and approvals and construction and maintenance requirements to minimize potential impacts projects may have on water quality, air quality, hazardous materials, and noise.

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

Projects would primarily involve modifications within paved right-of-way, as opposed to natural or undeveloped sites. As a result, projects are not likely to have effects on animals, fish or marine life.

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

SDOT and other City Departments will evaluate the presence of and impacts to plants, animals, fish, and marine life during the environmental review for individual projects. Projects will be subject to the City Sidewalk and Street Use Code, Stormwater Code, Tree Protection Code, Regulations for Environmental Critical Areas, and Environmental Policies and Procedures. The Manual provides guidance on environmental review and approvals and construction and maintenance requirements to minimize potential impacts to plants and animals.

Individuals projects may include plans for areas of the streetscape that are reserved for green stormwater drainage structures or trees. Projects would be subject to standards that include planting certain plants and tree species, some of which are native. The City of Seattle Stormwater Manual requires removal of native plants to be minimized during land disturbing activities.

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

Projects would typically require fuels and electricity use during construction phases to operate equipment and periodically thereafter for routine maintenance and repair activities. The Manual encourages the use of multi-modal transportation options, which may result in a reduction in energy use on roadways.

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

SDOT and other City Departments will evaluate any impacts to energy or natural resources during the environmental review for individual projects.

**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?**

Projects would primarily involve modifications within paved right-of-way, as opposed to natural or undeveloped sites or adjacent structures. As a result, projects are not likely to have effects on environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.

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

SDOT and other City Departments will evaluate any impacts to sensitive or protected areas during the environmental review for individual projects. Projects will be subject to the City Sidewalk and Street Use Code, Parks Code, Regulations for Environmental Critical Areas, Historic and Landmarks Preservation, and Environmental Policies and Procedures.

The Manual provides guidance on environmental review and approvals and construction and maintenance requirements to minimize potential impacts to environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for government protection.

**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?**

Projects would primarily involve modifications within paved right-of-way and are not anticipated to induce land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans.

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

City Departments will evaluate any impacts to land or shoreline uses during the environmental review for individual projects. Projects will be subject to the City Sidewalk and Street Use and Land Use Code.

The Manual is consistent and compatible with the Comprehensive Plan (Seattle 2035) and the Land Use Code. SDOT has renamed and designed new street types in accordance with the land use designations in the Comprehensive Plan. It is also informed by Goal TG2 in the Transportation Element, "Allocate space on Seattle's streets to safely and efficiently connect people and goods to their destinations while creating inviting spaces within the right-of-ways." The Manual summarizes the Land Use Code requirements (Title 23 of the Seattle Municipal Code) for street and alley improvements and presents specific criteria for design and installation.

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

The Manual encourages use of multi-modal transportation options, which may result in a reduction in single occupancy vehicles on roadways. The Manual sets design standards and offers design guidance to ensure that future projects are designed for multi-modal needs. It will not increase the demand on transportation or public services. Any new requirements for utilities are anticipated to be within the capacity of existing providers.

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

The manual has new street type design standards, including travel lane widths, which have been developed to balance safety and multi-modal needs. The Manual's lane width standards range from 10'-12' and are consistent with state and federal standards, as outlined below:

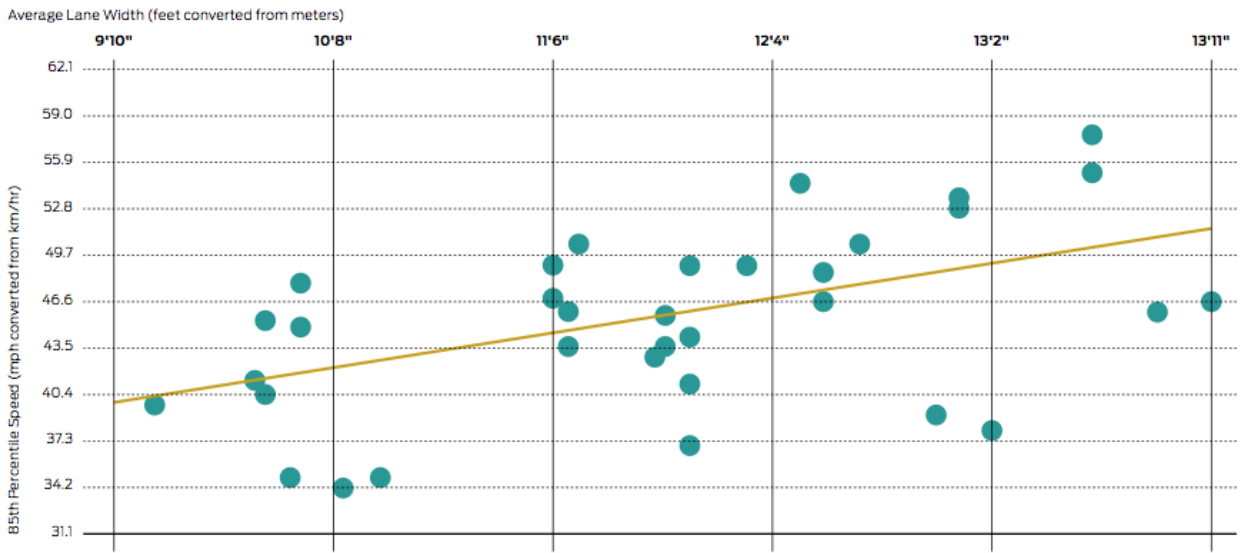
Street Type	Street Classification	Streets Illustrated	Federal Highway Functional Classification	City and County Design Standards
Downtown	Principal arterials in Downtown	10' travel lanes (one way), 11' travel lanes (bi-directional) and transit lanes	11-12'	11-12'
Downtown Neighborhood	Collector/Minor arterials in Downtown	11' travel/transit lanes	10-12' (Major Collector) 10-11' (Minor Collector)	10-12'
Urban Village Main	Principal arterials within Urban Centers/Hub Urban Villages/Residential Urban Villages	11' travel/transit lanes	11-12'	11-12'

<b>Street Type</b>	<b>Street Classification</b>	<b>Streets Illustrated</b>	<b>Federal Highway Functional Classification</b>	<b>City and County Design Standards</b>
Urban Village Neighborhood	Collector/minor arterials within Urban Centers/Hub Urban Villages/Residential Urban Villages	11' travel lanes	10-12' (Major Collector) 10-11' (Minor Collector)	10-12'
Urban Center Connector	Minor/principal arterials that are Major Truck Streets or identified as High Capacity Transit/Frequent Transit Network in the Transit Master Plan	11' travel/transit lanes	11-12'	11-12'
Neighborhood Corridor	Collector/minor/principal arterials outside Urban Villages/Centers and not Urban Center Connector	10'-11' travel lanes, 10' turn lane	10-12' (Major Collector) 10-11' (Minor Collector) 11-12'	10-12'
Industrial Access	Collector/minor/principal arterials in Manufacturing/Industrial Centers	11' inside travel lanes, 12' outside travel lane	10-12' (Major Collector) 10-12' (Minor Collector) 11-12'	10-12'

The Manual's travel lane standards are designed for all users and are scaled by street type. The Manual sets the standard design vehicle as an SU-30 with a 42' turning radius. Large vehicles, such as the WB-67, are 8.5' wide; the 11'-12' travel lane standards in the Manual are scaled to accommodate through movement of these trucks. Studies, like the one below published in the Transportation Research Record, have shown that there is a positive correlation between travel lane width and vehicle speeds. Simply stated, as lane widths increase, so does the higher 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. Speed is the critical factor in the severity of collisions. According to research published in the SDOT 2017 Vision Zero Progress Report<sup>1</sup>, people who are walking are twice as likely to live after being hit by a car at 25 MPH than at 30 MPH.

<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://www.seattle.gov/visionzero>

**Wider travel lanes are correlated with higher vehicle speeds.**



"As the width of the lane increased, the speed on the roadway increased... When lane widths are 1 m (3.3 ft) greater, speeds are predicted to be 15 km/h (9.4 mph) faster."

Chart source: Fitzpatrick, Kay, Paul Carlson, Marcus Brewer, and Mark Wooldridge. 2000. "Design Factors That Affect Driver Speed on Suburban Streets." *Transportation Research Record* 1751: 1B-25.

— Regression Line  
 ● 85th Percentile Speed of Traffic

The Manual standards also include curb radii, which is a critical factor in safe and effective intersection design. The smaller the curb radii, the less width a pedestrian needs to cross the street, which is beneficial from a safety perspective and in the efficiency of signal operations, reducing the time dedicated to a pedestrian phase in the signal cycle. The Manual's curb radii standards range from 10'-30' based on arterial classifications, modal plan considerations, and volumes of the roadway. For instance, low volume residential streets are 10' and can accommodate an SU-30 design vehicle, whereas industrial streets are designed for larger trucks and have a 30' radius. The existing Right-of-Way Improvements Manual recommends a 30' curb radius for major truck streets and the proposed Manual has retained that standard.

Potential transportation impacts from individual projects will be addressed through existing regulations and separate site-specific environmental review. Projects will be subject to the City Sidewalk and Street Use Code, Building and Construction Code, Land Use Code, and Light and Power Code.

The Manual provides guidance for right-of-way approvals and construction and maintenance requirements including traffic control and locating underground utilities. It provides new design standards for bike, freight, and transit facilities in accordance with master plans. The Manual also provides design considerations for access around fire stations, traffic calming, and utilities in the right-of-way.



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

SDOT environmental review for individual projects will be consistent with local, state and federal laws and requirements for the protection of the environment. The Manual provides guidance on environmental review and approvals and construction and maintenance requirements at the local, state, and federal level. It is intended to provide design guidance and standards consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, multi-modal plans, and other related plans. These policies include those outlined in the: Comprehensive Plan; Seattle's Bicycle, Freight, Pedestrian, and Transit Master Plans; and Seattle's Complete Streets Ordinance.