

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

for

**CITY OF PORT TOWNSEND
SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM
Periodic Review and SLR Adaptation**

Prepared For:

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SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

THE PURPOSE OF SEPA

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requires the City to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. The City will use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant and decide whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required from a Determination of Significance (DS), or a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) may be issued. An EIS must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the environment. Frequently, however, the impacts of a proposal can be mitigated through certain conditions or voluntary measures agreed to by the applicant. Mitigation measures may include, for example, limiting construction hours to reduce noise, preserving significant trees or habitat, and a variety of other issues regarding the environment.

New development proposals may also place an added burden on public services. New residents and employees use public parks, require fire and police protection, and other general government services. These impacts are significant during the first few years after a proposal is submitted to the City, and before the tax the City receives generated by the project. City service providers must cover increasing expenses without compensating revenues. Impact mitigation under SEPA is designed to help reduce the strain on public services.

Also, capital costs associated with providing facilities for new residents and employees are not covered by these tax revenues. In a rapidly growing community, existing City taxpayers must make up unpaid short-term operational costs and capital expenses. Unless these impacts are mitigated, current City taxpayers would be put in the position of subsidizing new development and would not realize a full return on their tax dollars.

CRITICAL AREAS

Pursuant to the Washington Growth Management Act (GMA), the City requires protection of critical areas within the city limits. These areas, along with protective buffers, include wetlands and streams, frequently flooded areas, aquifer recharge areas, fish and wildlife habitat, and geologically hazardous areas (steep slopes, soils with high erosion rates). The Critical Areas Ordinance, as codified in Chapter 19.05 of the Port Townsend Municipal Code, establishes protection standards that minimize development impacts.

If your property is in a mapped critical area, or meets the criteria for a critical area, City staff may conduct a site investigation or you may need to obtain the services of a professional, such as an engineering geologist or wetlands specialist to determine if the mapping is correct. If it is, you may be required to obtain a Critical Area permit. Critical areas maps are available on the third floor of City Hall, 250 Madison Street, in the Planning and Community Development Department. You can request a City staff person to print this map for you.

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

City of Port Townsend, Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review

For non-project 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

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

City of Port Townsend, Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Periodic Review and Sea Level rise (SLR) Adaptation

2. Name of applicant:

City of Port Townsend

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

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4. Date checklist prepared:

April 11, 2025

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Port Townsend

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

The City of Port Townsend Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review is anticipated to be adopted by the City Council by June 2025.

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 SMP itself provides documentation that was previously assembled about the inventory and characterization of the City's Shorelines at Chapter 3 of the SMP

City of Port Townsend Sea-Level Rise Resiliency Technical Memorandum. Draft. Herrera Environmental Consultants, Inc. February 26, 2025. <https://engage.ahbl.com/port-townsend-smp-update/SLR-waterwalk>

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
City of Port Townsend, Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review

Jefferson County. June 2023. 2023 Jefferson County SLR Study Prepared by Jefferson County and ESA. Available at:
<https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/17291/Jefferson-County-Sea-Level-Rise-Study>

The City of Port Townsend. October 2022. The City of Port Townsend's Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Risk Assessment. Prepared by the City of Port Townsend and Cascadia Consulting Group. Available at:
https://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/16211/PortTownsend_Report_Sea-Level-Rise

Also helpful:
2018 WA Coastal Resilience Project (WRCP) Available at:
<https://cig.uw.edu/projects/washington-coastal-resilience-project/>

Previous Environmental Review:
Note: Jefferson County, which Port Townsend lies within, conducted a Periodic Review update of its Shoreline Master Program in 2023 (SEPA Register #202304501).

Also note: The City previously conducted SEPA Review in 2018 during a Critical Area Ordinance Update intended to revise the ordinance as necessary to incorporate Best Available Science and address issues found during implementation of the ordinance (SEPA Register # 201801578). SEPA Review was also conducted as a requirement of the City's 2018 Water System Plan Update (SEPA Register #201805188)

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 effective. Notice of the pending adoption and notice of final adoption will also 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.

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 ten 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.

There are several key focus areas to this update. One is the opportunity to streamline permitting procedures and processes. Moreover, in light of new state legislation setting time limits on permit processing (SB 5290), the city has preformed an audit of SMP policies

and development regulations and permit procedures in PTMC 20.01 to minimize redundancy and simplify the permit process, and is proposing several key adjustments.

Next, the project scope was expanded to include the consideration of Sea Level Rise (SLR) topics. SLR and reoccurring flood events are an existential threat to public and private assets along the Port Townsend shoreline and to many neighboring communities. With rising sea levels, climate modeling indicates Port Townsend must prepare for more king tide flooding events.

The Port of Port Townsend has begun Phase 1 of a project they call the “Waterwalk and Sea Level Rise” Project which is situated in the City, extending from the bluff at west end of the Boat Haven to the bluff near the intersection of Water Street and East Sims Way. Under project Phase 1 the Port will consider alternatives, determine feasibility, preliminary alignment, design elevation, cost estimates, right-of-way constraints, community engagement, and probable permitting pathways all in support of pursuing funding opportunities to support future project development phases that include detailed design, permitting, Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E), bidding, and construction. A key component of the project is integration of a pedestrian Waterwalk with the sea-level rise structure. The Waterwalk aims to fulfill the vision in the City’s Shoreline Master Program (Policy 7.3.5).

As alternatives are explored, the City leaders recognize it is important to take a holistic and collaborative approach to ensure that community priorities and requirements under the state’s Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and the City’s local Shoreline Master Program (SMP) are fully considered.

As the Port continues with Waterwalk planning along the city’s southern shoreline it is necessary to evaluate several Sea Level Rise adaptation strategies (for example, avoid, protect, accommodate, or retreat) to protect public access to the shoreline, water-oriented uses, and vital infrastructure.

Accordingly, the City will evaluate technical data, regulatory constraints, and community preferences to inform priorities for alternatives and Shoreline Master Program amendments that are needed to reflect sea level rise adaptation, including the potential development of the Waterwalk along the southern shoreline.

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 Port Townsend (Jefferson County, Washington) situated in Section 3, Township 30 N, Range 1W, W.M.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. *Earth*

- a. General description of the site:

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, :

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Port Townsend's elevation ranges from sea level to nearly 300 feet above sea level. Steep slopes greater than 30% represent a relatively small percentage of the City's total acreage (0.7%, or 33 acres) and, in general, the terrain is suitable for development. A majority of Port Townsend's existing development has taken place in areas with slopes of less than 15%. Steep slopes include near vertical bluffs along the adjacent saltwater bodies. (A detailed description of the City of Port Townsend Planning Area can be found on page IV -1 of the 1996 Comprehensive Plan DEIS.) The planning area includes a variety of terrain and soil types. Soils reflect the region's geologic history. Townsend gravelly loam (Tnc) and Clallam gravelly sandy loam (CmC) are the predominant soil groups within the City. According to the City's Critical Areas maps, seismic hazard areas and unstable soils exist within the planning area.

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

See 1a above

- 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.

See 1a above

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

See 1a above

- 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.

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Any future development will follow applicable City codes, the City Engineering Design Standards and any applicable State and Federal regulations. Future project actions not categorically exempt under Chapter 197-11-800 WAC will be subject to review under the City's SEPA

Implementing Ordinance (Chapter 19.04 PTMC). Proposals within critical areas or their buffers will be reviewed for compliance with the City' Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) (Chapter 19.05 PTMC).

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

See 1e above

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

See 1e above

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

See 1e above

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.

N/A - Adoption of the proposed amendments is a non-project action.

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

Port Townsend Paper Company pulp mill, located directly adjacent to the city limits, is a significant contributor of air pollutants and strong odors that impact portions of the city when winds are from the southwest.

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

N/A - Adoption of the proposed amendments is a non-project action.

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.

Port Townsend contains a variety of natural and human modified aquatic resources. These include Port Townsend Bay, Admiralty Inlet,

the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and ponds, wetlands, and aquifers. Each of these features has its own hydrological functions as well as other important and sometimes competing functions, such as economic, recreational, wildlife and fisheries habitat, open space and aesthetic functions. For additional information, see Exhibit D. BAS Addendum and page IV-16 of the 1996 Comprehensive Plan DEIS.

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.

Does not apply. This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Any future development will follow applicable City codes, the City Engineering Design Standards and any applicable State and Federal regulations. Future project level actions which are not categorically exempt under Chapter 197-11-800 WAC will be subject to review under the City's SEPA Implementing Ordinance (Chapter 19.04 PTMC). Proposals within critical areas or their buffers will be reviewed for compliance with the City's Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) (Chapter 19.05 PTMC).

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.

See 3a(2) above

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

See 3a(2) above

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

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (existing and draft) and the City's Critical Areas maps, portions of the city lie within the special flood hazard area.

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.

See 3a(2) above

b. Ground:

1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Port Townsend residents are served by a municipal water supply sourced from the Big Quilcene and Little Quilcene Rivers. Potable wells are not permitted in the city limits. For additional information, see Exhibit D. BAS Addendum and page IV-16 of the 1996 Comprehensive Plan DEIS.

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

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Although a few remnant septic tanks exist in the city limits, most development is served by the City's municipal wastewater system. The Comprehensive Plan Capital Facilities Element provides an inventory of the existing system and sets a Level of Service of "a level that allows collection and treatment of peak wastewater flows and meets Department of Ecology criteria."

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.

As a non-project legislative action, this proposal will not directly result in runoff collection or disposal. Future development would be subject to regulations in place at the time of application.

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

The proposal involves a non-project legislative action. Future development would be subject to regulations in place at the time of application.

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

The proposal involves a non-project legislative action. As the City is developed, existing drainage patterns may be altered.

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

Development may not result in a net loss of the functions and values of the critical area impacted. All projects are subject to temporary erosion and sediment controls and stormwater quality and quantity standards as required by the Stormwater Management Manual adopted by the City and the Port Townsend Engineering Design Standards.

4. **Plants**

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:
- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 - evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
 - shrubs
 - grass
 - pasture
 - crop or grain
 - orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.
 - wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
 - water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 - other types of vegetation

Other: Port Townsend supports a diversity of native and non-native plants, including all the species listed above. Documented native and introduced tree species include: Ornamental Cherry, Ash, Norway Maple, Washington Hawthorne, Small Hornbeam, Lombardy Poplar, Monterey Cypress, Willow, various species of pine, Western Red Cedar, Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock, Alder, Cottonwood, Big Leaf and Vine Maple, and Madrona. Native shrubs, herbs, grasses and wetland plants also exist within the city limits.

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

No vegetation would be removed as a result of the SMP update.

- 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.

No vegetation would be removed as a result of the SMP update. Where mitigation is required for impacts to critical areas, the Critical Areas Ordinance gives preference to native plant species.

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

This proposal is a non-project action and does not affect a specific site. Many noxious weeds and invasive species are present within the City limits including but not limited to Butterfly bush, Common reed, cordgrass, Himalayan blackberry, scotch thistle, scotch broom. European green crab monitoring is ongoing in Jefferson County.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- Birds: **hawk**, **heron**, **eagle**, **songbirds**, other:
- 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.

Species	State Listing Status	Federal Species Listing Status	Critical Habitat Designation	Location
Bald Eagle <i>(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)</i>	Sensitive	Species of Concern	Not designated	Mainly forested areas near shorelines
Coastal-Puget Sound Bull Trout <i>(Salvelinus confluentus)</i>	Candidate	Threatened – November 1, 1999 (64 FR 58909)	October 18, 2010. Revision (75 FR 63898)	Marine waters
Northern Steller Sea Lion, Eastern DPS <i>(Eumatopias jubatus)</i>	Threatened	Species of Concern (Eastern DPS delisted in 2013)	Not designated	Marine waters
Georgia Basin Bocaccio DPS <i>(Sebastes paucispinis)</i>	Candidate	Endangered – July 27, 2010 (75 FR 22276)	Not designated	Marine waters
Georgia Basin Canary Rockfish DPS <i>(S. pinniger)</i>	Candidate	Threatened – July 27, 2010 (75 FR 22276)	Not designated	Marine waters
Georgia Basin Yelloweye Rockfish DPS <i>(S. ruberimus)</i>	Candidate	Threatened – July 27, 2010 (75 FR 22276)	Not designated	Marine waters
Gray Whale <i>(Eschrichtius robustus)</i>	Sensitive	Not listed	Not designated	Marine waters
Hood Canal Summer-run Chum ESU <i>(Oncorhynchus keta)</i>	Threatened	Threatened – March 25, 1999 (63 FR 14507)	August 12, 2005 (70 FR 52630)	Marine waters

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

Yes, the City of Port Townsend lies along and within the Pacific Flyway.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not impact wildlife. The proposed critical areas regulations are meant to protect, enhance and aid in better management of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas utilizing Best Available Science as required by the Washington State law and the GMA.

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

Local marine interest groups are considering the need to monitor for Zebra mussel and European green crab.

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.

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action. As such, the action (proposal) does not have any energy needs.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

- 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. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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 because of this proposal? If so, describe.

The SMP update is not anticipated to have any impact regarding environmental health hazards.

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

Does not apply – this is a non-project action.

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.

Does not apply – this is a non-project action.

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.

Does not apply – this is a non-project action.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None required.

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

None proposed.

b. Noise

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

None proposed.

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.

The land uses within the City include residential, commercial, industrial, mixed-use, transportation, utility, institutional and open space.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

Does not apply to this proposal.

- 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. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

Numerous buildings and structures are situated within the shoreline area, as generally described in the SMP.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

The city has various zoning classifications; lands within shoreline jurisdiction may have several of the different zoning classifications.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action. Once adopted, the SMP will apply to all shorelines within the city limits.

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

The existing City Shoreline Master Program classifies the following shoreline designations: Shorelines of Statewide Significance, Aquatic, Natural, Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, Urban, Historic Waterfront, Boat Haven District, and Point Hudson District. No changes to the designations are proposed.

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

The planning area includes environmentally sensitive areas including geologically hazardous, frequently flooded and wetlands, aquifer recharge areas, and fish and wildlife habitat as required by state law. The City has also designated Critical Drainage Corridors.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

None proposed.

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

The SMP is required to be consistent with the locally adopted Comprehensive Plan.

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

None proposed.

9. **Housing**

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

N/A. The SMP update is a legislative, non-project action.

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

None 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. This non-project action will not directly result in construction of any new facilities. However, it is notable that the SMP itself does regulate maximum structure heights.

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

Not applicable. This non-project action will not directly result in construction of any new facilities. However it is notable that the SMP itself does address views and visual access to shorelines.

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

None proposed

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. This non-project action will not produce light or glare.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

None proposed.

12. Recreation

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

Port Townsend contains numerous parks providing both formal and informal recreational opportunities throughout the city (and specifically within shoreline areas. Throughout the city, these facilities include but not limited to: Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, Port Townsend Golf Course, non-motorized trails linking neighborhoods, Port Townsend Bay, Larry Scott Memorial Trail, and the 433.5-acre Fort Worden State Park.

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

Not applicable. This non-project action will not directly impact recreational uses. Protection of critical areas and their associated buffers may indirectly benefit parks, recreation and open space. Additionally, it is notable that the SMP itself addresses recreation opportunities extensively.

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

None proposed.

13. *Historic and Cultural Preservation*

- 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.

Port Townsend contains numerous national and state listed historic structures, many of which are situated within shoreline jurisdiction. For example, the Point Wilson Lighthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Chinese Gardens is also a significant cultural landscape, but has not been designated as a local, state, or national historic site.

- 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.

See 13a above. Additionally, it is notable that the SMP itself does address cultural resources.

- 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.

Not applicable. This non-project action will not directly result in impacts to cultural or historic resources. The SMP itself does address these topics.

- 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.

None proposed.

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. This is a non-project action. The SMP addresses

transportation facilities and applies to those facilities within shoreline jurisdiction.

- 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?

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

No.

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

None; does not apply.

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

No.

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

None proposed.

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. This non-project action will not directly result in the need for increased public services.

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

None proposed.

16. **Utilities**

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

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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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: Nicole Stickney

Name of Signee: Nicole Stickney, AICP

Position and Agency/Organization: Consultant on Behalf of the City of Port Townsend / Associated Principal - Planner, AHBL, Inc.

Date Submitted: April 15, 2025

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?

As a non-project, legislative action, the proposed SMP Update is not anticipated to pose any environmental hazards nor produce any emissions/noise. Please refer to the following checklist sections: 2. Air, 3. Water, 7. Environmental Health and Noise.

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 proposed SMP amendments are likely to improve the protection of plants, animal, fish and marine life within the City's shoreline jurisdiction as new development and redevelopment occurs.

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?

As a non-project, legislative action, the proposed SMP Update is not anticipated to deplete energy or natural resources.

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?

Highly unlikely

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 SMP update will result in improved protections for the environment and guide future land and shoreline use within 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 SMP update. 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 SMP update is expected to align with local, state, and federal laws and requirements for the protection of the environment.