2021 - 2026 Clark County Park Capital Facilities Plan (CFP)
Determination of Non-Significance

Please find enclosed an environmental Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) issued pursuant to State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules (Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code). The enclosed review comments reflect evaluation of the environmental checklist by the lead agency as required by WAS 197-11-330(1)(a)(i).

Written comments may be submitted on this determination within fifteen (15) days of its issuance, after which the DNS will be reconsidered in light of the comments received.

Please address all correspondence to:

Clark County Dept. of Public Works
Rocky Houston, Program Manager
4700 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, WA 98665

Description of Proposal:

The County is proposing to adopt an update to its Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan and Capital Facilities Plan for the years 2022 through 2027, as a non-project SEPA review. Clark County Public Works proposes to update its existing Capital Facilities Plan, as required by law (RCW 36.70A.070), to reflect changes in the overall program. Project specific environmental impacts shall be evaluated during individual project design processes.

Proponent: **Clark County Public Works**

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: **Clark County, Washington**

Lead Agency: **Clark County Public Works,** the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

The lead agency has determined that the requirements for environmental analysis, protection, and mitigation measures have been adequately addressed in the development regulations and comprehensive plan adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW, and in other applicable local, state, or federal laws or rules, as provided by RCW 43.21C.240 and WAC 197-11-158.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below.

Comments must be submitted by: **Friday, October 15, 2020**

Responsible Official: **Eva Haney**
Position/Title **Public Works Director**

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SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

2022-2027 Clark County Parks Capital Facilities Plan (CFP)

2. Name of applicant:

Clark County Public Works

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

Rocky Houston, Program Manager
Clark County Public Works
4700 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, WA 98665
564-397-1676.

4. Date checklist prepared:

September 12, 2021

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Clark County Public Works

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

Adoption of the CFP will occur on October 21, 2021. CFP will be adopted before the annual budget adoption.

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

Yes, the CFP is reviewed and updated annually. An annual element will be adopted separately and monitored throughout each year. Any project phases which are not completed in the current year, and which have received funding, may be carried over to the next CFP annual element.

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

Projects currently in design or under construction have environmental documentation on file or in progress. Projects not yet underway will undergo complete environmental review during the design process.

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.

Soil types vary throughout the county. Soil conditions for each project are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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

There are mapped areas of potential instability due to underlying geologic conditions and physical characteristics associated with steep slopes along various waterways. Detailed designs for new projects will include appropriate measures to ensure stability.

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.

Specific projects will address the source and location of necessary filling or grading and appropriate permits will be secured before construction begins.

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

Erosion could occur as a result of clearing for construction of projects. Appropriate erosion control measures are included in the plans developed during project design and implemented in the field during construction.

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

This is project/site specific, but approximately 5% of all parks will be covered with impervious surfaces for park roads and park facilities. Specialized sites may vary from this and will be addressed at the time of their design.

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

Detailed design plans will be submitted when specific road segments are proposed, including drainage and erosion control plans.

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.

Fugitive dust could occur during the construction of the proposed park improvements. Watering the construction areas or covering disturbed soils while not being worked are both approved best management practices.

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

Clark County has many acres which lie within 100-year floodplains. Detailed locations will be identified when specific projects are designed. Most projects will not involve structures or fill that would cause impacts to floodplains. However, where project development would cause impacts, all federal, state, and local floodplain provisions will be met.

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.

Stormwater runoff (described below) is the only discharge to surface waters.

b. Ground Water:

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

Ground water may be withdrawn for drinking water or other purposes. This is site specific. The County complies with State and local regulations and each site is assessed specifically. Improvement projects will meet federal, state and local standards for drinking water or other water purposes.

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.

Waste Materials are managed a variety of ways and is site specific. The County complies with State and local regulations and each site is assessed specifically. Improvement projects will meet federal, state and local standards for water materials.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including stormwater) 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.

Surface water runoff will be generated from impervious surfaces. Improvement projects will meet federal, state, and local standards for stormwater collection and treatment as applicable.

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

Not as a result of this action. Contractors are required to develop spill response plans to ensure materials are kept out of ground and surface waters.

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

- **birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, and other local birds
- **mammals:** deer, beaver, coyote, opossum, weasel, raccoon, otter, rabbits, squirrel, and other small mammals and domestic farm animals
- **fish:** lamprey, sturgeon, salmon, steelhead, trout, smelt, minnows, carps, suckers, catfish, sandroller, sunfish, perch, sculpin

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

There are several federally threatened or endangered species that may be found in Clark County:

- Gray Wolf
- Columbian White-Tailed Deer
- Northern Spotted Owl
- Marbled Murrelet
- Streaked Horned Lark
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Oregon Spotted Frog
- Chinook Salmon
- Chum Salmon
- Steelhead
- Coho Salmon
- Pacific Eulachon
- Bull Trout

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

The Columbia River corridor is part of the migration route for salmon, Canada geese and other waterfowl. Also, the Lewis and Washougal Rivers have migrating salmon, steelhead, and coho.

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

Wildlife mitigation measures will be addressed when specific parks are proposed for development.

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

Project specific analysis will be done at time of design.

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.

No energy resources will be used as a result of the proposed action. Future construction of roads and park improvement projects will require energy resources.

Measures will be implemented during construction in order to protect land and water resources. Project specific plans will include requirements for spill prevention, preparedness, and response to prevent hazardous substances from discharging from the project site. If pre-existing contaminated media or solid waste is found during construction, the contaminated media and/or solid waste will be characterized and disposed of in a licensed hazardous disposal facility.

b. Noise

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

Noise conditions for each project will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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.

Future construction of projects will result in construction noise (equipment operation) during normal working hours. Once construction is complete, park use noise is possible during operational hours. Noise will vary by site and facilities developed.

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

Project impacts will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Mitigation measures will comply with established federal standards where applicable.

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.

Projects vary in land-use throughout the County. Final design of specific projects will be subject to mitigation measures through future SEPA, Shoreline, interdepartmental review, and various other regulations, where applicable.

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

The implementation of individual projects under the county's Park Capital Improvement Plan can occur in farmland or forestland tax status. Parks are an allowed use in this land use classification.

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:

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

The CFP is developed based on existing and anticipated transportation needs of Clark County. It is also consistent with the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan and 20-year Capital Facilities Plan. Part of the criteria for review by the Clark County Council is to evaluate the proposal in terms of its compatibility with existing and projected land uses.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

As mentioned above, the CIP and capital facilities plan for parks infrastructure are analyzed in conjunction with the County's Comprehensive Plan amendments. The process of adopting comprehensive plan amendments provides an opportunity to ensure that future transportation projects are compatible with nearby agriculture and forest lands of long-term commercial significance. In addition, project-specific analysis will ensure that transportation infrastructure is designed to meet the needs of adjacent agricultural and forest land uses.

9. Housing

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

No housing units will be provided by park projects.

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

Some acquisition is planned, which may involve acquiring property with housing units on it. Any acquisition is completed by willing sellers and follows the local agency guidelines (LAG) manual for property acquisition.

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

Every reasonable effort will be made to avoid impacts to existing or future residences. Specific measures will be addressed as part of the environmental review of individual projects.

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?

Project specific analysis will be done at time of design.

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

Project specific analysis will be done at time of design.

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

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 located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

The Cultural Resources Inventory of Clark County identifies numerous archaeological sites associated with Native American activity countywide. More than 70 historic structures, sites, objects, and vessels, as well as one historic district and one national landmark are located in Clark County. Historic preservation officials emphasize that comprehensive field investigations have not been conducted and that artifacts and historic resources are probably not confined to those identified sites. Individual project evaluation will be done.

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.

Project specific analysis will be done at time of design.

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.

Assessment of impacts will be conducted by trained professionals. Archaeological and cultural resource monitoring, documentation and resulting reports will be designed to satisfy federal, state and local regulations, as necessary.

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.

Preservation officials have emphasized the need for cultural resource evaluations and inventories performed on sites, which have a greater potential for historic significance. Such surveys will be performed, as appropriate, with avoidance and/or mitigation measures to be identified and implemented on a site-specific basis.

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.

Each project is listed in the attached program.

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?

Clark County is served by C-TRAN with fixed route and demand transit service.

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

Measures to reduce impacts to public services will be addressed at the project level.

16. Utilities

a. List utilities currently available at the site:

Electricity, natural gas, water, telephone, sanitary sewer, cable television, fiber optic lines, and septic systems are common utilities found along transportation routes.

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.

Coordinating park improvements with utility system expansion will be addressed as specific projects are designed.

D. Supplemental sheet for non-project actions

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?

Once new parks are constructed, vehicular traffic may result in automobile emissions to the air, polluted water runoff discharged into surface water, and increased noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Surface water runoff will be generated from impervious surfaces. Improvement projects will meet federal, state, and local standards for stormwater collection and treatment as applicable.

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

Existing vegetation may be removed at the time of construction of individual projects.

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

Every attempt will be made to avoid displacement of unnecessary numbers of plants and animals.

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

The proposal is not expected to deplete energy or natural resources.

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

Urban trail systems help to reduce the number of vehicular trips necessary by providing alternative means of transportation. Additionally, during the design and development of County parks, consideration is made to the net impact of the project on a case-by-case basis.

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 may pass through or be adjacent to areas designated as environmentally sensitive. Specific mitigation of these impacts will be addressed as part of specific project designs and will follow all federal, state and local regulations.

2022-2027 Park Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) Projects

Hearing: October 21, 2021

Clark County PROS 2022 - Capital Facilities Plan

6-Year Capital Programming List

2022-2027

Project Type	Funding Sources		Total
Preventative Maintenance	O, G	$	1,800,000
Major Maintenance	R, G, O	$	4,780,000
Development	R,P,G,O	$	24,825,000
Acquisition	R,P,G,O	$	17,400,000
	Total	$	48,805,000

Legend	
Reet II	R
PIF	P
Grant	G
Other	O