



## King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

### Parks and Recreation Division

King Street Center

201 South Jackson Street, Suite 5702

Seattle, WA 98104

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/parks>

## SEPA Environmental Checklist

### A. BACKGROUND

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

Ordinance to Amend King County Code Governing Park Rules (Title 7) (the “Park Rules Ordinance”)

#### 2. Name of applicant:

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

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

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#### 4. Date checklist prepared:

June 16, 2023

#### 5. Agency requesting checklist:

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

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

The Park Rules Ordinance will be transmitted to King County Council for review in 2023 and possible adoption in late 2023 or early 2024.

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

The amended park rules contained in the Park Rules Ordinance would allow for future proposals of additional types of projects in some parks and trails as described below in A.11. All future project proposals would still undergo a project specific SEPA analysis.

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

The proposed language for the Parks Rules Ordinance is available at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/about/notices.aspx>

**9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

None.

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

King County Council Approval is the only government approval required for adoption of the proposed ordinance.

**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.**

This non-project action would amend Title 7 of King County Code governing the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks. This legislation will improve park users experience by clarifying guidelines and rules for use of parks, trails and open spaces and by ensuring appropriate uses of park assets. It also supports the 2015 King County Strategic Plan (<https://kingcounty.gov/strategicplan>) goals by supporting safe communities and encouraging a growing King County economy and sustainable communities by safeguarding and enhancing King County's natural resources and environment.

The proposed revisions to the Park Rules include:

- Changes to include a process for notice of suspension, to provide a fair process to suspend or ban users from any park or facility owned by King County Parks for illegal use or behavior.
- Changes to accommodate new and emerging technologies in parks and regional trails, including the ability to allow electric bikes on the regional trails system.
- Changes to allow for the director to adopt public rules for the following items:
  - Establishing the circumstances for which fee waivers or scholarships are available and the process for granting the waivers or scholarships;
  - Establishing the operating hours of regional trails outside of the existing hours of operation currently permitted by Title 7 for other parks facilities;
  - Permitting the use of motor vehicles on trails under specified conditions;
  - Permitting the use of electric-assisted bicycles and other micromobility devices on trails under specified conditions.
- Changes to update code to modern legal language to reflect how people use the parks and trails, including infractions and misdemeanors; Park uses addressed in these updates include camping, motor vehicles, marine areas, fishing, pet animals, park areas accessible to the public, littering, alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, disruptive or destructive behavior, aircrafts, and fireworks.

- Changes to reorganize pet-related code into a new section and to reduce the maximum required pet leash length in parks from fifteen feet to eight feet.

This legislation does not change the requirement to complete a project specific SEPA analysis for future projects in King County owned parks, trails and open spaces.

**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 action that would apply to all King County-owned parks, trails, and open spaces, totaling almost 30,300 acres in fee.

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

### **1. Earth**

#### **a. General description of the site**

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable proposed site but pertains to all the parks, trail and open spaces owned by King County Parks. These areas can be flat, rolling, hilly, steeply sloped, mountainous, or a combination. A project specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects.

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

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site but includes sites owned by King County Parks, some of which have steep slopes. A project specific SEPA analysis would be completed for future projects.

#### **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.**

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but soil in unincorporated King County generally reflects geologically recent glacial alluvial (river and stream) activity, as well as human activity. A project specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects with site-specific soil conditions.

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

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site but does pertain to parks, trails, and open spaces owned by King County Parks, some of which have unstable soils, typically associated with steep slopes. Any future projects in these areas will be

subject to existing regulations, and a project-specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects detailing soil stability at the site.

- 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 ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. Any proposed project that includes filling, excavation or grading will be subject to existing clearing and grading regulations and a project-specific SEPA analysis will be prepared including filling, excavation and grading quantities.

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

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. Any project that will include clearing or construction (or other use that could potentially cause erosion) will develop a site specific erosion control and sedimentation plan, will be subject to existing regulations, and will require that a project specific SEPA analysis be prepared.

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

This ordinance does not have any direct impacts to impervious surface percentages; any development projects that change the amount of impervious surface on site will be subject to existing regulations and will require that a project specific SEPA analysis be prepared.

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

Because the proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts, no specific measures to control erosion or other impacts to the earth have been proposed as part of this plan. Future projects will be subject to existing regulations and will develop a project specific erosion and sedimentation control plan, including implementation of best management practices such as silt fences, minimization of clearing limits, and covering of unstable soils.

## 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.**

The proposed ordinance incorporates the goals of the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan to reduce the need for driving and decrease greenhouse-gas emissions by supporting the use of electric-assisted devices on the Regional Trail System.

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

The ordinance is a nonproject action that will not be directly affected by off-site sources of emissions or odor. This potential effect will be analyzed for future projects as part of a project specific SEPA.

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

This ordinance is a nonproject action and will not have any direct impacts to air emissions. Additional federal, state, and local codes may provide standards and controls for these types of emissions and would not be modified by the Park Rules Ordinance. Any future projects will be subject to existing regulations and will require that a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**3. Water****a. Surface Water:****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.**

This ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, although numerous streams, lakes, ponds and wetlands are located within King County Parks-owned parks, trails, and open spaces. Any future projects with the potential to affect these water bodies will be subject to existing regulations and will require a site specific SEPA analysis be prepared to determine any affects to nearby surface water bodies.

**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.**

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly require any work over, in or adjacent to the described waters. Existing federal, state and local regulations will apply to any development projects within 200 feet of waters and a project-specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects.

**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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly result in the placement or removal of any fill or dredge material. A project-specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects with specific amounts of fill and dredge material as applicable.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly require any surface water withdrawals or diversions. A project-specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects with specific amounts of withdrawals or diversions.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but several parks, trails and open spaces owned by King County Parks are located in the 100-year floodplain. Any future projects in these areas will be subject to existing regulations and will require a project-

specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**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.**

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly involve any discharge of waste materials to surface waters. Any future projects that will potentially cause discharges of waste materials to surface waters will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action and will not directly involve any withdrawals or groundwater or discharge to groundwater. Any development projects that will potentially use groundwater or discharge to groundwater will be subject to all existing state, local and federal regulations concerning groundwater removal and protection and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly result in any discharge of waste material into the ground. Any future projects that will potentially result in the discharge of waste material into the ground will be required to treat and dispose of the waste in a manner compatible with state and local regulations and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly affect water runoff. Any future projects that will potentially impact water runoff will be subject to existing regulations and will have to comply with the King County Surface Water Design manual (or local equivalent in incorporated areas). Future projects will also require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly result in any waste material entering ground or surface waters. Any development projects that might affect materials entering ground or surface waters will be subject to existing state, local and federal regulations protecting surface and ground waters and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis.

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

The proposed update is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. A site-specific drainage analysis consistent with existing regulations will be prepared for any future projects in King County Parks-owned parks, trails and open spaces. Future projects will also require a project-specific SEPA analysis to be developed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to surface or groundwater runoff or drainage patterns. Any development projects will be subject to existing local, state and federal regulations for surface or groundwater runoff and will require a project specific SEPA analysis be developed.

**4. Plants**

**a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine
- 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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but parks, trails and open spaces owned by King County Parks contain a variety of vegetation types. King County Parks does not own land that produces crops for agriculture production.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly result in the removal or alteration of vegetation. Removing or damaging vegetation without the express permission of King County Parks remains unlawful under the proposed ordinance. A project-specific SEPA analysis will be completed for future projects that include clearing or grading of a proposed area.

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

The proposed update is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but there are no known federally listed or endangered plant species in King County. However, there are several species in King County listed as threatened or endangered according to the Washington State Natural Heritage Program and it is likely that some of these species occur on or near King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces. Any future projects will be consistent with existing regulations for species protection and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis that will examine any vegetation species on site.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, however noxious and invasive weeds are located throughout King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces. Regulated noxious weeds are treated and/or removed by licensed King County employees or contractors. Non-regulated invasive weeds are usually treated or removed when native plantings and restoration projects are planned.

**5. Animals**

**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. Examples include:**

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other  
Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other  
Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but a variety of birds, mammals and fish, including all of those listed above, are found throughout parks, trails and open spaces in King County.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. However, there are federally listed threatened and endangered species throughout King County, including, but not limited to, the northern spotted owl, streaked horned lark, yellow-billed cuckoo, Oregon spotted frog, bull trout, Puget Sound Chinook salmon and Puget Sound steelhead. Any future projects will do an analysis to identify any site specific known threatened and endangered species. Future projects will be required to follow all existing federal, state, and local regulations for the protection of these species and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site, but King County is within the Pacific Flyway migratory pathway, which is a major north-south route of travel for migratory birds in America, extending from Alaska to Patagonia. Migrating and nesting birds will be protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and other existing regulations for future projects.

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

In general, active stewardship restoration completed by King County Parks in association with any County projects will work to improve the ecological value of King County parks, trails and open space to preserve or enhance wildlife.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. Invasive animal species are found throughout King County, and any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA



analysis be developed that will identify known invasive species at the project site.

## 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.**

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not result in any direct energy needs. Any future projects will be subject to existing energy codes and regulations and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed to analyze energy needs.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct solar energy needs. Any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed to assess potential affects to the use of solar energy.

- 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:**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to energy use or energy conservation. Any future projects that will incorporate energy use will be subject to current building and energy codes and will have to comply with the King County Green Building Ordinance. In addition, future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

## 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.**

The proposed update is a nonproject action that will not directly cause any environmental health hazards. Generally, one of the goals of projects in King County parks, trails and open spaces is to reduce exposure to environmental health hazards. Any future projects will be regulated by existing local and state regulations on hazardous waste and will require project-specific SEPA analysis be developed to assess these potential hazards.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Contaminated sites do exist within King County and any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to determine if the project site is contaminated.

- 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.**

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Sites with hazardous chemicals/conditions exist within King County and any future projects will

require a project-specific SEPA analysis to determine if the project site is contaminated.

**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.**

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis that will describe hazardous chemical storage, and will be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not require any special emergency services.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impact on the environment, so no measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards are proposed. Any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to identify measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards following existing regulations as applicable.

**b. Noise**

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site that can be evaluated for existing noise levels. Any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to determine site specific existing noise levels.

**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.**

Consistent with the current code, the proposed ordinance retains the operating hours of regional trails from thirty minutes before sunrise to thirty minutes after sunset. The proposed ordinance also gives the director authorization to adopt a rule to change the operating hours for regional trails or specific regional trail segments if the need occurs. If the director chooses to adopt a rule and establish different operating hours for regional trails, that could change noise patterns in vicinity of regional trails.

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

King County Code Title 12 Public Peace, Safety, and Morals defines regulations for noise levels throughout King County. Noise complaints and violations can be reported through the King County Sheriff's non-emergency number, 206-296-3311. King County Parks will work with the King County Sheriff to address noise complaints and violations originating from King County Parks owned parks, trails, and open spaces.

In addition, the director is authorized to adopt a public rule under the new Parks Rules Ordinance to specify different hours of operation for specific trail segments.

Additional information on noise guidelines for unincorporated King County can be found on the [Seattle and King County Public Health website](#).

## 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.

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site and so will not have any direct impacts on current land uses or nearby properties. Any future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to determine land use impacts at project sites and nearby properties.

### 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?

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site and will not have any direct impacts to working farmlands or forestlands. Any future project work will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to be developed.

### 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:

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly affect or be affected by the normal business operations of working farms or forests.

### c. Describe any structures on the site.

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site, but King County Parks owns and maintains various structures throughout its parks, trails and open space system. These vary from operational shops that provide employee workspace to facilities maintained for the purpose of public use including, but not limited to, community centers, picnic facilities, camp sites, play areas, and bridges.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. King County Parks has a program specifically for demolition of derelict or unnecessary structures when new parks, trails and open space priorities are acquired. All structure demolition is done following existing federal, state, and local regulations. Demolition of a structure on acquired parks, trails and open space properties is typically exempt from additional SEPA analysis under WAC 197-11-800(2)(g); however, for structures that do not meet the exemption criteria, the project will require a project specific SEPA analysis to be developed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Many of the parks, trails and open spaces owned and maintained by King County Parks are in

unincorporated King County and include, but are not limited to, areas zoned Rural Area, Residential or Forest. King County code does not currently include a separate zoning code for Parks. Some parks, trails and open spaces, as well as regional trails, are located within cities and follow zoning regulations of the associated city. Any activity on these parks, trails and open spaces is consistent with the city's and/or county's zoning restrictions.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. King County parks, trails and open spaces are typically, but not exclusively, designated as *King County open space system* in the comprehensive plan. Any activities in parks, trails, and open spaces owned and maintained by King County Parks are consistent with comprehensive plan designations.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Unincorporated King County includes a variety of shoreline master program designations and proposed development projects on site will comply with any applicable existing shoreline regulations and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis be developed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. There are critical areas found on many parks, trails and open spaces owned and maintained by King County Parks. Any future projects will comply with existing critical area code and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to determine critical areas and assess potential impacts on site.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that would not directly result in a completed project, where people would reside. People are not allowed to reside on any King County Parks owned or maintained parks, trails and open spaces. A few parks, trails and open spaces allow camping by permit. King County Parks employees work on all sites within its open space system. King County Parks currently employs approximately 125 permanent staff members in the Operations and Maintenance Section and hires approximately 125 additional temporary seasonal staff each year.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site and does not directly displace any people.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly result in any displacements. Thus, no measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts are proposed.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action but was drafted to be compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action and will not directly impact agricultural and forest lands. Any future projects proposed will require a project-specific SEPA analysis that will examine any potential effects to nearby agricultural and forest lands.

**9. Housing**

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have direct impacts to housing. King County Parks does not typically provide any housing units in parks, trails or open spaces.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have direct impacts to housing.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have direct impacts to housing and thus no measures are proposed to reduce impacts.

**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?**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly involve the construction of any structures: however, parks related structures are sometimes constructed on King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces. Future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess the impacts from proposed structures.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly have an impact to views. Future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess any impacts to existing views.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly impact aesthetics thus no measures are proposed to reduce or control impacts.

## 11. Light and glare

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

No additional lighting is being proposed on King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces as part of the Parks Rule Ordinance. Any future projects that add lights to parks, trails and open spaces will undergo a project specific SEPA analysis. For this reason, no additional light or glare is expected as part of this non-project action.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not directly cause any light or glare. Future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess whether potential light or glare could result in a safety hazard or interfere with views.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site that will be affected by light or glare. Future projects will require a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess whether existing sources of light or glare will affect the proposal.

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

Even though light and glare impacts are not expected from King County owned parks, trails and open spaces, the director is given the flexibility under the new Parks Rules Ordinance to specify different hours of operation for specific trail segments.

## 12. Recreation

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site; however, recreation is a major component of King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces and there are many designated and informal recreational opportunities throughout the system.

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

This legislation provides the opportunity to increase recreational opportunities in King County, by allowing the director to designate recreational uses, including areas open to electric bikes or areas open to off-leash dogs, on all park sites. This legislation also furthers the goals of the Equity and Social Justice principles in the Strategic Plan by assuring fair and consistent rules, and access to parks and recreational opportunities across King County regardless of income or location. Finally, it helps keep park users safe and protects park assets by clarifying that penalties for violating park rules include potential prohibitions on future park use.

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

This proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have direct impacts to recreation, but through code update, will support more recreation opportunities and abilities throughout the

King County open space system.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. King County Parks does maintain a small number of buildings, structures or sites that are over 45 years old. Any future projects to these sites, or others, will be required to comply with local, state and federal historic property and cultural resource rules and regulations and will require a project-specific SEPA analysis.

- 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. However, landmarks, features and other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation exist throughout unincorporated King County and on parks, trails and open spaces owned and maintained by King County Parks. King County Historic Preservation Program maintains a database with resources that have been identified on King County properties by past studies. All future projects and activities that disturb the ground or that have the potential to impact significant historical above-ground resources will consult with the King County Historic Preservation Program prior to ground disturbance and will comply with existing historic and cultural resource regulations.

- 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to cultural and historic resources. All future projects will consult with the appropriate parties and review applicable existing surveys, maps, and GIS data following existing federal, state, and local regulations to assess potential impacts.

- 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to cultural and historic resources, thus no measures are 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to identify public streets and highways on the site.

- 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?**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that does not have an identifiable site. Various King County Parks owned parks, trails and open spaces are served by public transit, but not all. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to identify proximity to public transit at the site.

- 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).**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly impact roadways or streets. Any future projects that will create new trails will require a project SEPA analysis.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to transportation facilities. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess transportation use.

- 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?**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly generate any vehicular trips. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess traffic impacts as applicable.

- 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly affect the movement of agriculture or forest products. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess this impact as applicable.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to transportation volumes thus no measures to reduce or control impacts are 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly result in any increased need for public services. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess this impact as applicable.

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

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action that will not directly result in any increased need for public services thus no measures to reduce or control impacts are proposed.

**16. Utilities**

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. The ordinance will have no direct connection to utilities. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess utilities available at the site.

- 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.**

The proposed ordinance is a nonproject action with no identifiable site. The Parks Rules Ordinance would not directly result in a completed project that would connect to utilities. Future projects will develop a project-specific SEPA analysis to assess the need for utilities at the such sites.

**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.

DocuSigned by:  
*Heidi Kandathil*  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 6/16/2023 | 4:44 PM PDT  
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**Name of Signee:** Heidi Kandathil  
**Position/Agency:** Project Manager, King County Parks and Recreation Division

## 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?**

### Water

This legislation does not directly or indirectly increase discharges to water.

### Hazardous Substances

It does not increase production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances.

### Air

This legislation does not increase emissions to air.

### Noise

This legislation does not directly increase noise levels. See Section 7.b above for additional discussion on noise.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

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

This legislative change does not directly or indirectly affect plants, animals, fish or marine life. It does not change laws or regulations that protect these species. Future projects with the potential to affect these elements will still be required to complete a project specific SEPA analysis.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

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

This legislative change is not expected to be likely to deplete energy or natural resources.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

- 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?**

This legislative change does not directly use or affect environmental sensitive areas or areas designated for government protection. It does not change laws or regulations

that protect these areas. Future projects with the potential to affect these areas will still be required to complete a project specific SEPA analysis.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

**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?**

This legislative change does not directly affect land or shoreline use. It does not change the laws or regulations that govern use in these areas.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

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

This legislative change is not expected to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities. Future projects with the potential to affect these elements will still be required to complete a project specific SEPA analysis.

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

No impacts are expected and so no measures are proposed.

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

This legislative change does not conflict with any local, state, or federal laws or requirements for protection of the environment.