

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use “not applicable” or “does not apply” only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the [Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions \(Part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Zoning Code Updates – Temporary Homeless Shelters and Cold-Weather Low-Barrier Shelters

2. Name of applicant:

City of Kenmore

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

Reilly Rosbotham, Planner
City of Kenmore
18120 68th Ave NE
Kenmore, WA 98028
(425) 398-8900
RRosbotham@kenmorewa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared:

April 8, 2025

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Kenmore

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

A public hearing and City Council adoption is anticipated in May 2025.

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

Not at this time.

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

None.

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.

None.

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

In 2020 the Washington State Legislature amended RCW 36.01.290, which limits the ability of local jurisdictions to regulate hosting of the homeless by religious organizations. The City of Kenmore Municipal Code (KMC) contains limitations on temporary outdoor homeless shelters that are not consistent with the amendments to the RCW. Pursuant to RCW 36.01.290, the City desires to amend Chapter 18.100 of the KMC as set forth in Exhibit A to comply with state law and to increase flexibility for temporary homeless shelters and cold-weather low-barrier shelters. The proposed changes include the following:

- Increase the maximum duration of a temporary outdoor shelter from 125 days (approximately four (4) months) to six (6) months.
- Eliminate the requirement for there to be only one indoor or outdoor temporary shelter per calendar year.
- Simplify the application intake and public notice process for temporary homeless shelters and cold-weather low-barrier shelters.

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.

The code amendment applies throughout the City of Kenmore.

B. Environmental Elements

Sections B.1 through B.16 are not applicable as this is not a site-specific development application or action. The proposed amendments are a nonproject action.

C. Signature [Find help about who should sign](#)

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.

X 

Signed by: 6d766438-cbea-476d-8ec7-4d83018999d1

Type name of signee: Reilly Rosbotham

Position and agency/organization: Planner, City of Kenmore Development Services

Date submitted: 4/8/2025

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](#)

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section for project actions. Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment. When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The code amendment will not increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise.

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

The code amendment will not affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

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

The code amendment will not deplete energy or natural resources.

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?

The code amendment will not 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.

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 code amendment will not affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans.

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

The code amendment may slightly increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities in the vicinity of temporary shelters by increasing the maximum duration of temporary shelters and by allowing more than one temporary shelter in the City per calendar year.

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

None.