

Please publish one time in the next edition of the paper.

**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND  
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA)  
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) FOR  
THE CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND 2015 DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

**Applicant:** City of Black Diamond, Community Development Department, 24301 Roberts Drive, Black Diamond, WA 98010

**Description of Proposal:** The proposed action is the 2015 Comprehensive Plan Update. The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), RCW 36.70A.130(5) requires periodic reviews of comprehensive plans to ensure compliance with GMA requirements. These periodic reviews are required every eight years. Black Diamond's Comprehensive Plan has been updated since the original 1996 GMA Plan, with a significant update adopted in 2009. An EIS for the 1996 Plan was prepared by the City and an addendum was prepared for the 2009 update.

The Draft City of Black Diamond 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan can be found at this link:  
[http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Docs/Notices/2019/Comprehensive%20Plan\\_102418.pdf](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Docs/Notices/2019/Comprehensive%20Plan_102418.pdf)

The updated plan has been completely reformatted and contains updated information and inventories as well as new and revised goals and policies for the planning horizon. New chapters for Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space and Economic Development were added. Amended chapters include: Natural Environment, Land Use, Housing, Transportation, and Capital Facilities and Utilities. This is a non-project under SEPA. Specific environmental review will be required when a site-specific development proposal is submitted and a threshold determination will be made at the time of a development application.

**Location of Proposal:** Citywide

**Lead Agency:** City of Black Diamond

**Responsible Official:** Barbara Kincaid

**Position/Title:** Community Development Director

**Phone:** 360.886.5700

**Address:** 24301 Roberts Drive, P.O. Box 599, Black Diamond, WA 98010

**Determination of Nonsignificance:** The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact. 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, the EIS for the 1996 Comprehensive Plan and the addendum for the 2009 update. This information is available to the public on request.

**Comment and Appeal Period:** This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen days after the date of issuance. Written comments must be received by 4:30pm, on April 15, 2019. Appeals must be accompanied by a written statement and appeal fee as specified by the City fee resolution.

Date: April 1, 2019

Signature:



Barbara Kincaid, Community Development Director

[bincaid@blackdiamondwa.gov](mailto:bincaid@blackdiamondwa.gov)

24301 Roberts Drive, Black Diamond, WA 98010

Phone 360.851.4447

# 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**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**City of Black Diamond 2015 Periodic Comprehensive Plan Update**

2. Name of applicant:

**City of Black Diamond**

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

**Barb Kincaid, Community Development Director, 1 (360) 851-4447**

4. Date checklist prepared:

**March 21, 2019**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**City of Black Diamond**

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

**The City plans to adopt the updated Comprehensive Plan in April 2019.**

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

**Not applicable. The proposed action is a nonproject action.**

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

**City of Black Diamond Final Environmental Impact Statement for the City of Black Diamond Comprehensive Plan, prepared July 1996**

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.

**Not applicable. The proposed action is a nonproject action.**

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

**The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) will need to certify the updated Comprehensive Plan.**

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

**The City proposes to conduct the required periodic review and update of its Comprehensive Plan consistent with the Growth Management Act. The amendments are intended to ensure consistency between the City's comprehensive Plan and laws and guidelines that may have changed since the City last updated its SMP in 2009.**

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 in 2014. The Blackd Diamond Comprehensive Plan was originally adopted in 1996 and underwent a periodic review/update in 2009. Minor amendments have occurred since 2009 to present day.

The Comprehensive Plan consists of goals, policies and analyses of the following elements (chapters):

- Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space
- Natural Environment
- Land use
- Housing
- Transportation
- Capital Facilities and Utilities
- Economic Development

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 nonproject proposal. The amendments to the Comprehensive Plan are citywide and includes new and revisded goals and policies for the planning horizon.**

## B. Environmental Elements

*No discussion of the individual Environmental Elements is required for GMA actions per WAC 197-11-235.3.b.*

## 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:  \_\_\_\_\_

Name of signee: Barbara Kincaid

Position and Agency/Organization: Community Development Director

Date Submitted: March 21, 2019

## 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?

**The 2015 Comprehensive Plan periodic review amendments are not anticipated to increase discharge to water or air, or produce or release toxic or hazardous substances, or create noise impacts. Any potential or probable increase in discharges to water or air, or produce or release toxic or hazardous substances would be due to proposed projects which will require SEPA Environmental Review and appropriate mitigations.**

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 2015-2035 City of Black Diamond Comprehensive Plan will result stronger policies to improve the protection of plants, animals, and fish within the City.**

**Individual projects could have impacts to plants, animals, fish, or marine life. Any impacts that may result from these projects will be mitigated adequately through the SEPA Environmental Review process and the City of Black Diamond regulations for the specific project.**

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?

**The 2015 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review Amendments will not have any impact on energy or natural resources. Individual projects could have minimal impacts to energy or natural resources. Any impacts that may result from these projects will be mitigated adequately through the SEPA Environmental Review process and applicable regulations for the specific project.**

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?

**No impacts are anticipated to environmentally sensitive areas because of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review Amendments. The updated goals and policies are intended to strengthen the protection of environmentally sensitive areas citywide. Individual projects that could affect environmentally sensitive areas will be mitigated adequately through the SEPA Environmental Review process and the City of Black Diamond regulations for the specific project.**

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 purpose and intent of the Comprehensive Plan update is to provide for local needs relating to the use of land and infrastructure.**

**The new and updated goals and policies in the proposed City of Black Diamond 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan encourages compatible land uses within the City. The analysis of updated data and inventories will be used to amend existing plans to maintain consistency with the City's policies, regulations and budget.**

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 2015 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review Amendments. If there are any impacts to transportation or public services and utilities, the appropriate mitigation will occur through the SEPA Environmental Review process and applicable 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 2015 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review Amendments are expected to align with local, state, and federal laws and requirements of the Growth Management Act.**