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: [help]
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 [help]

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [help]
   Black Diamond Elementary School

2. Name of applicant: [help]
   Enumclaw School District #216
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [help]
   Liz LeRoy
   c/o Black Diamond Elementary School
   PO Box 285
   25314 Baker Street
   Black Diamond, WA 98010
   Phone: 206-782-8700

4. Date checklist prepared: [help]
   February 25, 2016

5. Agency requesting checklist: [help]
   Enumclaw School District #216

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [help]
   Abatement / demolitions Summer 2016
   Construction beginning September 2016 and continuing through August 2017
   Opening August 2017

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [help]
   No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [help]
   Geotechnical Report and addendum
   Traffic Report
   Storm Water Management Report
   Survey and Tree Survey

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. [help]
   None pending.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [help]
    Site Review
    Building Permit

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.) [help]

    Demolish of the existing school (26,184 square feet) and construction of a new two story (50,217 square feet) elementary school on the existing site. The project will include the demolishment of
eight existing portable facilities on site. The project will also include new parking areas, landscaping improvements, reconfigured site access, and associated project and site work. The site has two parcels. The larger parcel is 4.61 acres and currently used for park and playground purposes. This use will continue. The smaller parcel is 2.11 acres and currently houses the existing school and parking. The new school and new parking will be developed on this parcel.

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. [help]

The project is located at 25314 Baker Street in the City of Black Diamond, Washington (the corner of Baker Street and 2nd Street). The subject property lies north of Baker and east of 2nd.

Legal Description: See attached.

Site Plan, Vicinity Map, Topographic Map/Site Survey: See Attached.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [help]

1. Earth [help]

a. General description of the site: [help]

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other ________________

The site is irregularly shaped parcel with the long dimension running north and south. The site slopes generally from a high point at the SE corner to the low point at the NW corner of the site. The total maximum grade change on the site is 12’ over 450’.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [help]

There is a very limited area of where the slope is approximately 20%.

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. [help]

The soils report describes the soils as silty sand with some gravel overlaying weathered Puget Sound Sandstone bedrock. To our knowledge there is not any relevant classification of agricultural soil or long term agricultural commercial significance to these site soils or this site.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [help]
There is no indication of any unstable soils in the immediate area. In addition, the site is located in a declassified coal mine hazard area based on King County and Black Diamond mine hazard definitions.

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. [help]

Excavating and filling will be required for the new development. Existing fill will be removed and replaced with structural fill below the proposed building foundations and slab. The proposed school building slab elevation will be at or near the elevation of the existing slab. Overall the site will require 3,000 CY cut and 5,000 CY fill. Fill material will be directed by the on-site Geotechnical engineer during site work. It may include the use of native on site material if acceptable to the Geotech and/or use of imported structural fill material as directed by the Geotech. Import structural fill will be from an approved source. Export material will be hauled off to an approved location.

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

Minor erosion is possible in some areas as a result of soil disturbance associated with construction activities. Construction Best Management Practices (BMP’s) will be implemented in accordance with the City of Black Diamond permitting requirements. Turbidity monitoring per the Department of Ecology NPDES Permit will be required during the construction to limit the impact of soil disturbance to the natural systems.

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

Impervious surface will be approximately 71% of the school site.

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

During construction temporary erosion control measures, or Best Management Practices, will be implemented as required by the City of Black Diamond. These measures include stock pile covering, catch basin protection, silt fence, construction exit, and temporary construction runoff storage facilities.

2. Air [help]

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. [help]

Normal construction and demolition emissions, including dust and exhaust. All hazardous materials emissions would be contained on site and abated in accordance with state and federal regulations. Open asphalt pots will not be required for roofing. There will be the installation of asphalt paving.
b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [help]

None known.

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

Dust emissions during demolition and construction will be remediated through watering. Smells due to asphalt installation will not be mediated but will be limited to a small number of days in the total construction schedule.

3. Water [help]

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. [help]

There are no surface water bodies in or within the immediate vicinity of the site.

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. [help]

There are no surface water bodies in or within the immediate vicinity of the site.

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. [help]

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

No.

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. [help]

No.

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. [help]

Isolated areas of construction dewatering may be required during excavation operations.

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. [help]

None

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. [help]

A storm drainage plan will be prepared in accordance with the City of Black Diamond requirements. Storm water runoff will be collected under pervious paving, in catch basins, downspouts, roof drains, and area drains and conveyed to water quality and runoff control facilities. Water quality facilities will include a cartridge filter vault approved by the Department of Ecology for commercial developments. The Detention system will include a below-grade vault. The treated runoff will discharge to the existing downstream system.

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

No.

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

No.

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

A comprehensive storm drainage system will be installed in accordance with the current City of Black Diamond Drainage requirements. Runoff will be mitigated by the use of a detention vault and a water quality treatment facility. Runoff will be discharged to the existing downstream storm system.

4. Plants [help]

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [help]

__x__deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
__x__evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [help]

Existing lawn and planter areas around the school will be removed and replaced. Some larger trees will need to be removed and will be replaced in accordance with the City of Black Diamond Tree Replacement Rules. Existing ornamental landscaping and turfgrass will be removed in some areas to accommodate the new building and site improvements. Approximately 33,000 SF of landscape area will be altered and/or replaced with new landscape.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help]

None known.

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

Lawn and planting areas around the new school will be planted with grass and with native and drought resistant plantings of shrubs and bushes. New specimen trees will be planted on site where feasible and or required by local ordinance.

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

None known.

5. Animals [help]

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. [help]

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _________

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

None known.

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

None known.
d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [help]
   Does not apply.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [help]
   None known.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [help]
   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. [help]
      Heating and cooking.

   b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?
      If so, generally describe. [help]
      The height of the building has the potential at certain hours to shade some portion of neighboring
      houses located immediately east and north of the building site.

   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: [help]
      The building lighting system will incorporate LED fixtures resulting in a lighting energy savings
      that exceeds the mandated goals of the current energy code.

7. Environmental Health [help]
   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. [help]
      Abatement work will be performed per code, otherwise there is no known potential exposure.

      1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [help]
      Site has been used for school buildings at least since the early 1900’s. It is possible that unknown
      underground tanks or spill areas exist on the site that were not encountered and mitigated during
      the last school construction phases.

      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. [help]
         None known

      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. [help]
None known

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [help]

The project will require normal emergency services only, fire, police, ambulance.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [help]

School will be developed to meet WSSA guidelines including prohibitions on the use and inclusion of hazardous materials for construction or maintenance of the building.

b. Noise [help]

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

Traffic noise is commensurate with low volumes and low speeds expected on adjoining streets. This is not expected to have any significant impact on the project, and classrooms are oriented away from the adjoining streets.

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. [help]

Short Term: Typical building and construction impacts during business hours, including truck traffic, heavy machinery, power tools and hand tools. Construction hours will be consistent with permitting authorities parameters.

Long term: Typical noise commensurate with an elementary school including, bells, student voices, regular vehicle traffic, as well as building mechanical equipment. Mechanical equipment is located in the building or surrounded by a wall to attenuate sound and meet city standards. Noise will generally occur during normal school hours, though there is likely to be some use of the play areas by the community on the weekends. An emergency generator will automatically cycle on weekly to maintain itself in operational condition.

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

Work methods and schedules will be in accordance with City of Black Diamond guidelines for noise mitigation. Mechanical equipment will be acoustically screened.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [help]

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. [help]

The site currently houses an elementary school and a city park. It is bounded on all sides primarily by residences, but also by several small civic and community buildings including a small fire station garage which is no longer used and a small post office.

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? [help]

Not applicable.

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: [help]

No impacts.

c. Describe any structures on the site. [help]

The existing school is a one story frame building of approximately 30,000 sq ft. comprised of two buildings, a larger classroom building and a smaller gym and cafeteria building. There are also eight portables on site and a covered play structure on the recreational parcel that will remain.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [help]

The portables will be removed, and the two school buildings will be demolished.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [help]

The site is zoned PUB

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [help]

Unknown

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

Not applicable.

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

No

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

400-500

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

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [help]

Not applicable.

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

Site Plan Review with the City of Black Diamond.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [help]
9. **Housing** [help]
   a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [help]
      Not applicable.
   
   b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [help]
      Not applicable.
   
   c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [help]
      Not applicable.

10. **Aesthetics** [help]
    a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [help]

      The west end of the gym is 44’ high to the peak of the gable. The eave is 27’ above grade. The slope of the roof is 6:12. The principal exterior materials horizontal cement board ship lap siding and vertical ribbed metal siding.

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

      The new building will be taller than the existing, however, it is unlikely that any neighboring buildings have views that are not already blocked by the existing school.

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

      The building scale is broken down with strong vertical slots that divide the exterior into shorter wall lengths, canopies that bring smaller scale elements around the taller mass, and a pattern of window and louver openings that further enliven the walls and make the building more welcoming to the community.

11. **Light and Glare** [help]
    a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [help]

      Site lighting will be designed to be contained on the site. The building will be illuminated when occupied, but the majority of public areas that may be occupied later into the evening are oriented away from the neighboring houses.

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

      No

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

      None.
d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [help]

Site lights will have cut off shields, and building lighting will be controlled by a system that will turn of building lights when the school is not occupied.

12. Recreation [help]
a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [help]

The parcel immediately north of the proposed school will be retained as a recreation use site. Uses here include the school playground and covered play structure, ball fields, and a skate park.

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

No

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

Hard surface play opportunities will be enhanced.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [help]
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. [help]

None known.

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. [help]

None known

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. [help]

Construction will be required to give notification of any historical findings on site and allow appropriate investigation.

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. [help]

Construction will be required to give notification of any historical findings on site and allow appropriate investigation.

14. Transportation [help]
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. [help]
The building site street frontage along Baker and Second streets will be maintained as a part of the project.

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? [help]

Yes, 50 feet away on Baker Street.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [help]

There are currently 27 existing striped parking spaces on site. The new project currently shows 29 striped parking spaces.

d. 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). [help]

The design will include new curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on Baker Street.

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

No.

f. 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? [help]

The project would generate approximately 397 total trips (including in/out) during a typical school day (with 254 existing trips). The peak volumes would occur during the morning peak hour (8:00 to 9:00 a.m.) consistent with present operations at the project site. Following construction, no trucks are expected. See Technical Memorandum, Heffron Transportation, Inc.

g. 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. [help]

Not applicable.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [help]

Street construction activities will be coordinated with street permits. Prior to building permit issuance, the District will enter into a traffic mitigation agreement with the City of Black Diamond to pay a total of $54,055.00, which represents a proportionate share of the costs of identified City of Black Diamond transportation project commitments at the intersections of SR 169 and Baker Street, SR 169 and Roberts Drive, and SR 169 and Black Diamond-Ravensdale Road. The District’s proportionate share addresses increased trips during the p.m. peak hour as a result of expanding permanent capacity at Black Diamond Elementary School from 193
students to 450 students. Refer to the technical memorandum prepared by Heffron Transportation, Inc. dated March 2, 2016.

15. **Public Services** [help]

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. [help]

   No change since new building replaces an existing use.

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

   No change since new building replaces an existing use.

16. **Utilities** [help]

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [help]

   electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other ____________

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. [help]

   A new sewer main will be extended to the south in 2nd Avenue to the northern edge of the site to provide sewer service to the new school. A new water main will extended along the northern edge of the property between 2nd Avenue and the public, gravel access drive east of the property. Domestic and fire services will be tapped from this new main. Onsite storm drainage systems will be connected to the existing public storm system in 2nd Avenue. The City of Black Diamond is the purveyor for storm drainage, sewer and water. New electric and gas services will be connected to the new elementary school from either Baker Street or 2nd Avenue. The purveyor for both gas and electrical services is PSE.

   Construction activities will include demolition and abatement, tree removal, topsoil stripping and stockpiling, excavation and backfill to install utilities and foundations, building construction – foundations, framing, exterior wall finishes windows and glazing and roofs, interior buildout and finishes/painting, building mechanical and electrical systems, asphalt and concrete paving and walkways, installation of play equipment and railings, planting and irrigation and related activities. In addition, some portion of the site will house one or more construction trailers, materials storage, and parking for contractors equipment and vehicles.
C. Signature [help]

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 _____ Liz LeRoy

Position and Agency/Organization _____ Owner’s Rep, Black Diamond Elementary School ___

Date Submitted: __February 25, 2016___