

## Environmental Checklist

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Purpose of Checklist:**

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

### **Instructions for Applicants:**

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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 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.

### **Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:**

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "*does not apply*."

IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (Part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

## A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Huntington Park Pedestrian and Bicycle Linkages
2. Name of applicant: Avista Corporation c/o Robin Bekkedahl
3. Address and phone number of applicant or contact person: PO Box 3727, Spokane, WA 99220
4. Date checklist prepared: April 2013
5. Agency requesting checklist: City of Spokane
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): Construction is to begin in June and be completed in October 2013  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. a. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
b. Do you own or have options on land nearby or adjacent to this proposal? If yes, explain. No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to his proposal. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
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. Since this project is within the FERC boundary on the Spokane River License, a FERC amendment for this project was submitted for approval in January 2013.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. FERC amendment, Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, easements, City design approval  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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. Avista plans to make improvements to Huntington Park that will accommodate visitor use that has changed since the park was initially developed. These improvements consist of sidewalks, which are designed to separate pedestrian traffic from the service road, signage, planters, benches and small grassy areas. One small overlook will be developed to allow the public a safe place to enjoy views of the Upper Falls, and the intake and powerhouse access building may be re-faced with a faux basalt finish. The improvements will be developed in a manner compatible with improvements that may be constructed on the City of Spokane's and/or Avista's adjoining property, both of which are outside the Project Boundary, and with the City of Spokane's Riverfront Park Master Plan. The total project area is 3.8 acres. The ground disturbance will be less than 2 acres and the ground disturbance in the shoreline area will be considerably less.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information to 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 application related to this checklist. The project area incorporates the City Hall parking lot area and then extends down to the Spokane River. The proposed area is at the northwest corner of Spokane Falls Blvd and Post Street. The legal description is SW1/4 S18 T25N R43 E,

13. Does the proposed action lie within the Aquifer Sensitive Area (ASA)? The General Sewer Service Area? The Priority Sewer Service Area? The City of Spokane? (See: Spokane County's ASA Overlay Zone Atlas for boundaries.)  
Yes

14. The following questions supplement Part A.

a. Critical Aquifer Recharge Area (CARA) / Aquifer Sensitive Area (ASA)

(1) Describe any systems, other than those designed for the disposal of sanitary waste, installed for the purpose of discharging fluids below the ground surface (includes systems such as those for the disposal of stormwater or drainage from floor drains). Describe the type of system, the amount of material to be disposed of through the system and the types of material likely to be disposed of (including materials which may enter the system inadvertently through spills or as a result of firefighting activities).

Not applicable

(2) Will any chemicals (especially organic solvents or petroleum fuels) be stored in aboveground or underground storage tanks? If so, what types and quantities of material will be stored? No

(3) What protective measures will be taken to insure that leaks or spills of any chemicals stored or used on site will not be allowed to percolate to groundwater. This includes measures to keep chemicals out of disposal systems.

This project will not store any chemicals as a part of this project. Avista will have spill kits in the case of any fuel spillage or inadvertent spill.

(4) Will any chemicals be stored, handled or used on the site in a location where a spill or leak will drain to surface or groundwater or to a stormwater disposal system discharging to surface or groundwater?  
No

b. Stormwater

(1) What are the depths on the site to groundwater and to bedrock (if known)?  
Unknown

(2) Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts? No additional stormwater will be discharged into the ground from this project.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT**

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

Evaluation for  
Agency Use  
Only

**1. Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): *flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountains, other:* slopes toward Spokane River.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? 25%

- 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 prime farmland. Basalt rock, fill
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. No
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill: Based on the current design and considering the entire 3.8acre site, we intend to cut 6,100cy of soil and relocate (fill) on-site 2,714cy; a net export of 3,386cy. However, based on the current design and considering only the area within 200' of the shoreline, we intend to cut 4,111cy of soil and relocate (fill) on-site 2,298cy; a net export of 1,813cy.
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.  
No because this area is previously disturbed with a park
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? 1% maximum
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion or other impacts to the earth, if any: During construction straw wattles, silt fencing, and other measure will be used as needed. The project will be build behind an existing retaining wall.

## 2. Air

- a. What type of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial, wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. Emissions during the construction
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. No

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:  
If needed, the dust may need to be watered for dust control.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Water

a. SURFACE:

- (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.

Spokane River  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- (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. The work will be within the 200' shoreline area in an existing development. The park will incorporate better pedestrian and bicycling access from Spokane Blvd and Post Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- (3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from the surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

None  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- (6) Does the proposal involve any discharge of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

b. GROUND:

- (1) Will groundwater be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

- (2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sanitary waste treatment facility. Describe the general size of the system, the number of houses to be served (if applicable) or the number of persons the system(s) are expected to serve.

No

c. WATER RUNOFF (INCLUDING STORMWATER):

- (1) Describe the source of runoff (including stormwater) and method of collection and disposal if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

The project is incorporating permeable surfaces so the water will  
filtrate into the ground. This area will incorporate native  
vegetation and any other stormwater will be filtered in these  
grassy/vegetated areas.

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

No

- d. PROPOSED MEASURES to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any.

The plan is incorporating grassy areas as well as additional  
native vegetation.





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

None

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

The river has various birds that travel the corridor

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

Plant a variety of native vegetation to enhance the area.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. N/A

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

No

- 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:

N/A

## 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. N/A

- (1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None

---

---

---

- (2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

N/A

---

---

---

b. NOISE:

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

None

---

---

- (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.

Construction work during working hours of 7:00 am and 6:00 pm

---

---

---

- (3) Proposed measure to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:  
Limit the time of construction to daylight hours and weekdays. The construction schedule may determine that some weekends are needed and Avista would try and keep weekend time to a minimal.

---

**8. Land and shoreline use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? This is in the downtown core of Spokane and adjacent land uses are the Riverfront Park, Spokane River, City Hall, Riverfront Parking Garage, bridges, hydroelectrical development.

---

---

---

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. \_\_\_\_\_

No

---

---

---

- c. Describe any structures on the site. There is currently City Hall and the Monroe Street HED. A small service building and a plaza is currently existing.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, which? No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? DTG-70 and DTG-100  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? Downtown and Conservation Open Space  
\_\_\_\_\_
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?  
Urban Intensive Environment  
\_\_\_\_\_
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area? If so, specify. No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?  
None  
\_\_\_\_\_
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? None  
\_\_\_\_\_
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any?  
Indicate whether high-, middle- or low-income housing. \_\_\_\_\_  
None  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated?  
Indicate whether high-, middle- or low-income housing. \_\_\_\_\_  
None  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if  
any: \_\_\_\_\_  
N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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?  
Gateway architectural feature, terraces that accommodate  
seating and pedestrian sidewalks. This will include the use  
of basalt, native vegetation, historic light features and  
interpretive facilities  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or  
obstructed? The views of the river and downtown area will  
be altered for the better. This project will enhance and  
revitalize the aesthetics by adding landscaping, plaza  
areas, benches, etc.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts,  
if any: N/A; this project will enhance the areas aesthetics.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What  
time of day would it mainly occur? \_\_\_\_\_  
None  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? \_\_\_\_\_  
No. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? \_\_\_\_\_  
None. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: \_\_\_\_\_  
N/A \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? \_\_\_\_\_  
Lower Spokane Falls, River Front Park, shopping and restaurants are all located within walking distance to the project. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. \_\_\_\_\_  
No, this project will enhance passive recreational uses. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: \_\_\_\_\_  
The project will enhance passive recreation opportunities with increased landscaping and urban design measures to enhance public realm. \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes, the Monroe Street Bridge, Post Street Substation, and the Upper Falls HED. The Monroe Street Bridge located at Monroe Street between Ide Avenue and Riverfalls Boulevard and built in 1911. The bridge was listed in the NRHP (1976). The Avista Post Street Substation located at 333 N. Post Street was built in 1909 and listed as eligible for NRHP (1979). The Avista Upper Falls HED located at 600 N. Wall was built in 1922 and listed as eligible for the NRHP (1998). \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic archaeological, scientific or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.  
The historical structures listed on the NRHP have cultural significance and are integrated in the design as a part of the plan.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: \_\_\_\_\_  
The overall design of the plan integrated the historical features.

#### 14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spokane Falls Blvd and Post Street.
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? The site borders city streets served by public transit.
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximately 23 car parks north of city hall will be eliminated. ADA compliant parking will be made available in an off-street location immediately west of City Hall and accessed by Spokane Falls Boulevard.
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). No.
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail or air transportation? If so, generally describe. No.
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak would occur. None

*(Note: to assist in review and if known indicate vehicle trips during PM peak, AM Peak and Weekday (24 hours).)*

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: The Huntington Park area is located below near the Spokane River and has existing access from Spokane Boulevard and Post Street and minimal transportation impacts is expected.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Public services**

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. \_\_\_\_\_  
No
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**16. Utilities**

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: 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. Electrical utilities are currently existing. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### C. SIGNATURE

I, the undersigned, swear under penalty of perjury that the above responses are made truthfully and to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that, should there be any willful misrepresentation or willful lack of full disclosure on my part, the agency must withdraw any determination of Nonsignificance that it might issue in reliance upon this checklist.

Date: April 12, 2013

Signature: [Signature]

**Please Print or Type:**

Proponent: ROBIN BEKKEDAH

Address: PO BOX 3727

Phone: 495-8657

SPOKANE, WA 99220

Person completing  
form (if different  
from proponent): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Staff member(s) reviewing checklist: \_\_\_\_\_

Based on this staff review of the environmental checklist and other pertinent information, the staff concludes that:

- ☐ A. there are no probable significant adverse impacts and recommends a Determination of Nonsignificance.
- ☐ B. probable significant adverse environmental impacts do exist for the current proposal and recommends a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance with conditions.
- ☐ C. there are probable significant adverse environmental impacts and recommends a Determination of Significance.