

**State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

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

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE CHECKLIST!**

**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:** Upriver Park Project

2. **Applicant:** Avista Corporation

3. **Address:** 1411 E. Mission Avenue

**City/State/Zip:** Spokane, WA 99220

**Phone:** (509) 495-8657

**Agent or Primary Contact:** Robin Bekkedahl

**Address:** 1411 East Mission Avenue

**City/State/Zip:** Spokane, WA 99220

**Phone:** (509) 495-8657

**Location of Project:** Intersection of Upriver Drive and Mission Avenue

**Address:** 1411 E Mission Avenue Spokane, WA 99220

**Section:** 9

**Quarter:** SW

**Township:** 25N

**Range:** 43E

**Tax Parcel Number(s):** 35093.0005; 2103; 2104; 2006; 1317; 0006; 0004

4. **Date checklist prepared:** February 2020

5. **Agency requesting checklist:** City of Spokane

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

The community meeting was held on August 21, 2019; the public hearing and first reading was held on May 5, 2020; the administrative design review was approved on February 17, 2020; the predevelopment meeting was conducted on February 13, 2020; the application for the shoreline substantial development permit is expected to be submitted in March 2020; the second hearing for the street vacation is expected on or around March 2020; construction is anticipated to begin as early as May 2020 with project completion around November 2020.

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

There are no plans for future additions or expansions.

**b. Do you own or have options on land nearby or adjacent to this proposal? If yes, explain.**

Avista owns property adjacent to the proposal.

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

- 1) Upriver Park Habitat Management Plan (Anderson Environmental Consulting, August 19, 2019)
- 2) Upriver Drive Public Road Vacation Traffic Impact Analysis (Morrison Maierle, June 2019)
- 3) Revegetation and Landscaping Plan
- 4) Stormwater Drainage Plan
- 5) Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- 6) Spill Prevention Plan

**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.**

The Upriver Drive street vacation process is currently in progress.

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

Avista anticipates the following permits may be required for the project:

- 1) Upriver Drive Street Vacation – City of Spokane;
- 2) Shoreline Substantial Development Permit – City of Spokane;
- 3) Shorelines Critical Area Checklist – City of Spokane;
- 4) SEPA Threshold Determination – City of Spokane;
- 5) Floodplain Development Permit – City of Spokane;
- 6) Grading Permit – City of Spokane; and
- 7) Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) – Washington Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

**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 is proposing to vacate Upriver Drive for the sole purpose of developing Upriver

Park (Park) for public use, providing public river access for non-motorized boaters and for realigning the Centennial Trail adjacent to the river. The proposed three (3) acre area will be developed as a Park to encompass and improve this reach of the Centennial Trail and improve existing access to the River. The Centennial Trail will be realigned and expanded to twelve feet (12') to accommodate the pedestrian and bicycling traffic. Two (2) entry areas will be integrated in the park on the north and south sides. Other elements will likely include, a brick arch, park benches, signage, picnic tables, bike racks, kayak stands, lighting and a concrete type amphitheater seating area at the north entry/plaza. A 10 foot to 20 foot length of gabion wall near the middle of the reach will be opened and reformed to allow pedestrian access from the Centennial Trail to the existing Shoreline Trail, an existing dirt path through the riparian area along the Spokane River. An existing reach of jersey barriers along Upriver Drive will be removed to open views of the shoreline and river. The project will remove only non-native vegetation and enhance ecological functioning, as these will be replaced with native vegetation between the new trail and the river. Irrigation will be installed, as appropriate, to establish the native vegetation. Landscaping on the west side of the trail away from the river will provide a more managed park setting, with lawn, trees and shrubs consistent with nearby City parks. Managing the vegetation will assist in eliminating illegal camping opportunities in the immediate area and open up view sheds to the river. Public safety will be improved by the vacation of Upriver Drive by eliminating, or significantly reducing, traffic at the Upriver Drive/Mission Avenue intersection. Additionally, the development of Upriver Park will enhance public safety for Centennial Trail users by eliminating the current shared space between vehicles and trail users. As a requirement of the street vacation, Avista will modify the Upriver Drive and North Center intersection to allow a better flow of traffic for the reroute.

- 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 application related to this checklist.**

The Park is a linear configuration replacing the existing Upriver Drive between the intersection of Mission Avenue and North Center Street, along the west side of the Spokane River. The legal description is the SW1/4 Section 9; T25N; R43E. Site plans, a vicinity map and topographic map are a part of the permit application submittal.

- 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.)**

The proposal is within the ASA, General Sewer Service, Priority Sewer Service Area and the City of Spokane.

- 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).**

The proposed park does not have any designed systems that will dispose materials off site or to the groundwater.

- (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 chemicals will be stored above or underground in the proposed project area.

- (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.**

N/A.

- (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)?**

Depth to groundwater is unknown, but based on nearby monitoring wells, is expected

in the range of 25 feet to 30 feet. A geotechnical evaluation consisting of a test pit on the north side of the Mission swale was completed in March 2015. The test pit, excavated to a depth of 15 feet, showed no groundwater at that depth. Depth to bedrock is unknown; the area is underlain by the extensive flood deposits which characterize the Spokane River valley.

**(2) Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts.**

Stormwater from the proposed park will be managed in swales and/or drywells, landscaping buffers and open areas. The location of the drywells and stormwater calculations will be provided prior to the issuance of a grading permit. The design and construction will be in accordance with Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual and SMC 17D.060.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site (check one):**

Flat    Rolling    Hilly    Steep slopes    Mountainous

Other:

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

5%

**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.**

Soils encountered onsite consist of silty sand, silty gravel, native alluvium consisting of poorly graded gravel with variable silt and sand content, and cobbles. Fill was also observed onsite and consisted of wood, metal, plastic, asphalt pavement, and broken brick.

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

There are no surface indications or history of unstable soils in the project area.

- 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:**

Demolition of Upriver Drive will consist of the excavation and removal of approximately 4,500 cubic yards of asphalt, concrete, pavers, and soil. Grading for Upriver Park will consist of approximately 5,500 cubic yards from the Mission Avenue to North Center Street. Excavation will be limited to asphalt and concrete, with limited reshaping of site soils. The intent is to leave road base material in place and re-use where possible for the new trail, entry access areas etc., in order to disturb the site as little as possible. Landscape areas on the east side of the new trail area will be provided with sufficient soil material to sustain plantings. The northern most plaza will be filled slightly to create a flat area and separate it from the Centennial Trail so that activities are not conflict. Riparian planting will be made in existing native soils, and minimal earthwork is contemplated between the trail and river except the removal of existing roadway.

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

Minor, localized wind and/or stormwater runoff could occur as a result of grading activities. Appropriate erosion control measures, which may include silt fences, straw wattles, berms, etc., will be installed, monitored and inspected during the duration of the project activities.

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

The vacation of Upriver Drive and the realignment/reconfiguration of the trail and entry areas will decrease the total impervious surface by 45,434 square feet (1.04 acres). The majority of the decrease of impervious surface is due to the removal of Upriver Drive. This is expected to improve natural stormwater percolation.

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

The project will employ appropriate best management practices (BMPs) such as silt fencing and straw wattles. Stockpiling will be limited, and all BMPs will be inspected, monitored and tracked throughout the duration of the project activities. Final stabilization includes the planting of native vegetation, grass and hardscaping.

## 2. Air

- a. **What type 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.**

Temporary dust and equipment emissions could result during construction. The street vacation is expected to increase bicyclist and pedestrian usage and decrease vehicle usage in this area, reducing overall long-term emissions along that portion. The vehicle traffic will be diverted to North Center Street. The project will not result in any additional emissions.

- 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:**

During the construction phase, dust will be controlled through light water spraying if necessary. Impervious surfaces will be cleaned where tracking could occur and debris will be collected, contained, and hauled from the site to an appropriate facility.

## 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.**

The Spokane River and floodplains/wetlands are adjacent to the project boundary. The Spokane River flows into the Columbia 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 existing roadway is within, and therefore, the project will be constructed within 200 feet of the Spokane River. The site plan and topographic maps are attached as a part of this permit application. Overall construction plans are described above.



- (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.**

No material will be filled or dredged from the surface water/wetlands. In-water work is currently not anticipated.

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

The proposal will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

The proposal is located within the 100 year floodplain. This is shown on the site plan.

- (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.**

The project reduces stormwater and from discharging into the Spokane River and eliminates any current waste sources associated with the existing roadway, such as oils and grease.

**b. GROUNDWATER:**

- (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.**

No groundwater will be withdrawn or water discharged to groundwater.

- (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.**

No waste materials will be discharged into the ground.

**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.**

Rain is the only source of runoff to possibly occur at the site. Stormwater is currently collected in swales that are adjacent to the existing North Center Street and Upriver Drive. Overall, the project increases natural permeability of the area and so will reduce stormwater issues.

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

No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters.

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

This project will not substantially alter the drainage patterns in this area.

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

The proposed park project will result in a net decrease in impervious surface. During construction, BMPs will be employed to prevent runoff. The park design effectively accommodates runoff.

**4. Plants**

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

**Deciduous tree:**  alder  maple norway  aspen

**Other:** American elm, Apple, Black locust, Box elder, Choke cherry, Horse chestnut, Poplar, Siberian elm, White willow.

**Evergreen tree:**  fir  cedar  pine

**Other:**

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:** Shrubs (Common lilac, Douglas hawthorn, Golden currant, Mock orange, Tall Oregon grape, Western serviceberry, White mulberry, and Woods rose).

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

There are two primary vegetative communities. One community includes riparian vegetation, which consists of primarily naturalized non-native trees and shrubs above the naturally scoured shoreline from the edge of Upriver Drive southeast toward the river. The second community consists of landscaping that includes trees, shrubs and lawn consistent with Avista's campus between Upriver Drive and the western edge of the Project. The vegetation located at the LID Mission Swale is mainly native vegetation and will not be disturbed. The Upriver Park Habitat Management Plan addresses the specifics regarding vegetation removal, focusing on replacement of non-native trees and shrubs with native plants suited for the riparian buffer.

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

No species listed in the US Fish and Wildlife Service May 2019 IPC report for Spokane County have been observed or identified within the project area. There are no critical habitats at this location.

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

Plants and vegetation selected for the Park will be from the list on the Upriver Park Habitat Management Plan.

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

The Upriver Park habitat management plan August 2019 lists Common dandelion, Common plantain, Common tansy, Dalmation toadflax and St. John's wort as the invasive species.

## 5. Animals

- a. **Check *and* 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:**

Birds:  hawk  heron  eagle  songbirds

Other: Osprey, waterfowl

Mammals:  deer  bear  elk  beaver

Other: Yellow bellied marmots

Fish:  bass  salmon  trout  herring  shellfish

Other: Largescale Sucker, Sculpin, Smallmouth Bass

Other (*not* listed in above categories):

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

There are no known threatened or endangered animal species in the project area.

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

This site is not a part of a migration route.

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

- 1) Vacating Upriver Drive and reconfiguring the trail and plazas will decrease the total impervious surface by 45,434 square feet (1.04 acres);
- 2) Vehicular traffic will be eliminated near the river area. This will minimize the potential for wildlife collisions and eliminate barriers for the wildlife.
- 3) The removal of 10 to 20 feet of gabion wall in the middle of the reach of the park and the existing jersey barriers along Upriver Drive will minimize barriers to wildlife.
- 4) Removing and thinning non-native vegetation will create improved habitat and allow native species to proliferate, increasing the diversity of the riparian area.
- 5) Prevention of unauthorized camping will help keep the shoreline ecosystem healthier.
- 6) Native vegetation will be incorporated in the riparian area to improve habitat function.

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

Yellow bellied marmot are present in nearby shoreline areas.

**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.**

Electricity will be used for minimal trail lighting.

**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:**

The street lights will incorporate LED lighting. Overall lighting energy use is expected to be less than, or similar to, the current street lighting, which will be removed.

**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.**

No.

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

None.

**(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.**

None.

- (3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals/conditions 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.**

None.

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

None.

- (5) 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.**

The Upriver Park will not create any additional noise from the site. The park is expected to reduce the noise since a portion of Upriver Drive will be vacated. Construction noise will be short-term and limited to typical daytime work hours.

- (3) Proposed measure to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

N/A.

**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.**

The site is principally located on a portion of the proposed vacated right-of-way for Upriver Drive, between Mission Avenue (at the south) to the intersection of North

Center and Upriver Drive. Upriver Park will positively affect the adjacent land uses by providing an area for the public to enjoy the river and improve the Centennial Trail for recreational users, and a park for residents of nearby neighborhoods.

- 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?**

No.

- 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:**

No.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

None.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, which?**

No.

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

The project site is split lengthwise between Residential Single Family (RSF along the river side) and Light Industrial (LI, along the Avista Headquarters side). The entire project site is located within the Upriver Shoreline District.

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

The comprehensive land use plan designates the Park as light industrial on the section west of Upriver Drive. The Upriver Drive and the section east is designated as Open Space.

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

The City of Spokane Shoreline Master Plan designates this site as Limited Urban

Environment with a 75 foot shoreline buffer from the Spokane River. The existing Upriver Drive is largely within the buffer.

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

The section within the 75 foot shoreline buffer is designated as a critical area and is located within the Riparian Habitat Zone 2, as designated in the Spokane Municipal Code Chapter 17E.020, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas. At this specific site, much of the buffer is currently a roadway.

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

None. Upon completion, normal park maintenance would occur.

- 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:**

The Comprehensive Plan, Shoreline Management Plan, Bicycle Plan and Park Plan encourage parks, open space and access to the river. Upriver Park is consistent with and supports the goals of these plans.

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

N/A.

## **9. Housing**



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

N/A.

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

N/A.

- 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?**

The design of the North entry plaza includes a proposed archway to frame a seating and viewing area, approximately 12 feet high and finished in brick similar to nearby buildings.

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

The view shed of the Spokane River for the public will be improved. This will be accomplished through the removal of jersey barriers and non-native tree trimming/removal, along with the increased access for people to the area.

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

The Upriver Park proposal is improving the aesthetics in this area and providing the neighborhood and other recreational users a more inviting environment that is enjoyable and safe.

## 11. Light and Glare

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

Trail lighting consistent with similar park areas in the City will be used, which will only come on at nighttime. This lighting will be at a lower level than current street lighting.

**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?**

No.

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

Appropriate down-casting trailside lights consistent with similar settings will be used.

**12. Recreation**

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

The Centennial Trail currently resides adjacent to Upriver Drive, Witter Pool is directly located southeast and Mission Park is located to the southwest of the proposed park site.

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

The Centennial Trail will be re-routed during construction. Avista will work with Washington State Parks, Spokane City Parks and Friends of the Centennial Trail on the temporary re-route.

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

Since the Centennial Trail reconfiguration and realignment is a part of the park project, this feature will need to be rerouted in consultation with the WA State Parks and City of Spokane Parks Department. The reroute will be completed prior to the start of the project. There will be signage and additional communication that provides the Centennial Trail users of the project and the temporary relocation/detour. In the long

term, the project area will have an improved Centennial Trail with park amenities.

### 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. **Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the sited 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 Mission Avenue Bridge is situated immediately southeast of the proposal. The bridge has been recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C, as an excellent example of concrete arch bridge construction, built at a time when the City turned to concrete bridges as the way to ensure a lasting and durable transportation infrastructure.

- 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.**

There are no culturally significant features located on or nearby the site. Avista completed a cultural resource study of the Mission Swale located in the southeast border of the project site boundary. This document is confidential and can be obtained at the Department of Archaeology of Historic Preservation (DAHP) in Olympia, Washington. Because the area has been repeatedly disturbed and consists primarily of a roadway and roadbed built by the City, no culturally-significant resources are expected. The entire area was subject to cultural resource review during relicensing of the Spokane River Hydro Project, and no resources within the proposed project footprint were identified.

- 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 archaeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

The methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources in this area includes archaeological surveys (Centennial Trail, Spokane River License, etc.) historic maps, WISSARD, GIS date, consultation with tribes and the DAHP.

- 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.**

Avista will implement an Inadvertent Discovery Protocol for historic and cultural resources.

#### 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.**

Mission Avenue is serving the site on the south side and Upriver Drive and North Center is serving the site from the north side. The streets will be shown on the site plans.

- b. **Is 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 site is served by public transit off of Mission Avenue.

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

The existing turn out has approximately 10 parking spaces. These parking spaces will be shifted and relocated farther away from the Spokane River and closer to the north plaza area. An additional 10 parking spaces will be located on the south side of the project near Mission Avenue.

- 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).**

The improvements to the Upriver Drive and North Center were completed in 2016. The relocation and realignment of North Center was upgraded to accommodate traffic from Upriver Drive and re-route it to Indiana. The proposed project will include additional improvements to the North Center-Upriver intersection as required by the City Street Department. In addition, the existing Upriver-Mission intersection will be modified to a narrower footprint, improving safety.

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

The Burlington Northern railroad is nearby and parallel to the project. The railroad has been a long existing use since at least the early 1900s. The Mission Park, Witter Pool, residential housing, the Avista Corporate office have built in and around the railroad property. Railroad and traffic signals all assist in the organization of the traffic, pedestrian and bicycle flow in this area.

- 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

The proposed Upriver Park is a small linear neighborhood/pocket park primarily used by those in close proximity. The majority of the public will walk or bike to the park. The peak volumes for a park is during the summer and early fall in the daylight hours. After Labor Day in September, attendance dramatically decreases due to weather conditions and the start of school. Peak hours are usually during daylight hours with the weekends and holidays experiencing the most visitation and use. There will be 20 parking spaces for the public. The traffic volumes for the park is de minimus and will have no impact to the existing traffic.

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

- 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, general describe.**

No.

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

The traffic mitigation for Upriver Park has been completed from the relocation of North Center Street. The intersection of North Center Street and Upriver Drive will be improved with a free flow lane to accommodate the diverted traffic going westbound. The intersection of Upriver Drive and Mission Avenue will be redesigned to a driveway to access the Avista Mission Campus.

## **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.**

No.

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

The development of Upriver Park is expected to reduce the need for public services currently needed by the city to respond to problem use and dumping along the river. Avista will maintain the park.

**16. Utilities**

**a. Check utilities currently available at the site:**

electricity

natural gas

water

refuse service

telephone

sanitary sewer

septic system

Other:

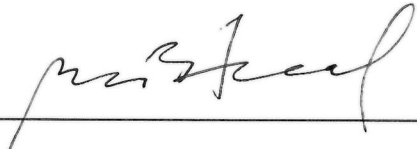
**b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed:**

Existing electricity and water service from Avista will support the park.

**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: March 17, 2020

Signature: 

***Please Print or Type:***

Proponent: Robin Bekkedahl Address: 1411 E Mission Ave

Phone: 509-495-8657 Spokane, WA 99220

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

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

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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.