



To: Public Agencies, Indian Tribes and Interested Persons
From: Pegi McEvoy, Assistant Superintendent Operations and SEPA Responsible Official
Date: January 12, 2018
Re: Determination of Significance (DS) and request for comments on scope for Building Excellence (BEX) V Program

Determination of Significance and Preparation of EIS: Pursuant to WAC 197-11-360, as the SEPA Responsible Official for Seattle School District No. 1 (“District”), I have determined that some of the projects included in the BEX V Program (“Proposal”) may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and that an environmental impact statement (“EIS”) will be prepared.

Description of the Proposal, Proposal Location, Proponent and Lead Agency: The Proposal is a non-project action. It is a decision on a capital construction program, to meet the needs of the District. The Proposal includes construction, renovation, replacement, and modernization of school buildings located throughout Seattle. The Proposal also includes upgrades to and installation of lighting at athletic fields. These projects require SEPA evaluation and the impacts will be evaluated in a programmatic EIS.

Scoping: The lead agency has identified the following areas for discussion in the EIS: Transportation, land use, historic and cultural preservation, recreation, aesthetics, light and glare, noise, plants (including trees), habitat areas and water resources, and construction. The EIS will evaluate the impacts of four alternatives:

Alternative 1 – No Action Alternative. Under this alternative, the District would not implement the BEX V capital construction program. No capacity projects, facility improvements, or field upgrade and lighting projects would take place.

Alternative 2 – Additional Capacity and Improved Conditions with Replacement Schools and Additions. This alternative would include up to 10 elementary school replacement projects, up to 7 elementary school addition/modernization projects, up to 4 middle school replacement projects, 1 new downtown high school with stadium, up to 3 high school modernization project system repair and maintenance projects, and athletic field upgrades and lighting at up to 5 schools.

Alternative 3 – Additional Capacity with New Schools at New Sites. This alternative would include approximately up to 4 new elementary schools at new sites, 1 new downtown high school with stadium, system repair and maintenance projects, and athletic field upgrades and lighting at up to 5 schools.

Alternative 4 – Additional Capacity and Improved Conditions with Additions and Modernizations. This alternative would include approximately up to 17 elementary school

modernization and addition projects, up to 4 middle school modernization projects, up to 5 high school addition projects, 1 high school modernization project, system repair and maintenance projects, and athletic field upgrades and lighting at up to 5 schools.

Phased Review: The District will conduct a phased environmental review of the capacity and lighting projects. Specific environmental impacts for each individual site will be evaluated when the District begins project-specific planning, design and construction activities as to a specific site.

Public Comment: Comments may be submitted on the alternatives, mitigation measures, probable adverse impacts and licenses or permits that may be required. Comments may be submitted not later than **Monday, February 12, 2018 at 5:00pm** to Pegi McEvoy, SEPA Responsible Official, by mail at Seattle Public Schools, PO Box 34165, Mail Stop 22-183, Seattle, WA 98124-1165 or by email to: SEPAcomments@seattleschools.org.

No Agency Appeal: There is no agency appeal of this Determination and Scoping Notice.