



Southwest Athletic Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

Final State Environmental Policy Act Checklist

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For questions and more information about this document, please contact the following:

Conrad Plyler
Project Manager
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While the Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting Project Final State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist is accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the attached figures and appendices that support the checklist contain complex material that are not accessible. The following is a description of what is contained in the figures and appendices:

- **Figure 1, SWAC Upper Softball Field Site Vicinity Map, Seattle, Washington**
Figure 1 is a vicinity map of the SWAC Upper Softball Field site and the surrounding neighborhood. The SWAC is outlined in blue and the Upper Softball Field project area is outlined in red.
- **Figure 2, SWAC Upper Softball Field Aerial Map, Seattle, Washington**
Figure 2 is an aerial map of the SWAC Upper Softball Field site and the surrounding area. The SWAC is outlined in blue and the Upper Softball Field project area is outlined in red.
- **Figure 3, SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Site Plan, Seattle, Washington**
Figure 3 consists of the site plan for the SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project. The plan shows the location of the five light poles, numbered A1, A2, B1, B2, and C1. There is also a descriptive legend listing the light poles, light fixture types and other project elements.

- **Appendix A: Construction Best Management Practices**
 Appendix A consists of construction best management practices that could be implemented during the construction of the proposed project.
- **Appendix B: Geotechnical Engineering Study**
 Appendix B is a Geotechnical Engineering Study prepared by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc., dated November 11, 2025. The study documents existing geotechnical conditions on the site and provides recommendations for the proposed project. The report includes figures. Figure 1 shows a vicinity map of the site and surrounding area. Figure 2 shows an aerial view of the site and the site exploration boring locations. Figure 3 provides a plan view map of the site and site exploration locations. Site exploration boring logs are included as an appendix to the report.
- **Appendix C: Noise Analytical Report**
 Appendix C is a Noise Analytical Report prepared by Landau Associates, dated August 10, 2026. The assessment documents existing evening noise conditions and analyzes potential noise that would be anticipated to be generated with the development of the proposed project. The report includes tables which organize noise measurement data that illustrate the report's findings. A figure is also provided in the report (Figure 1) which shows an aerial view of the upper softball field and surrounding area, as well as the four locations where noise measurements were taken.
- **Appendix D: Light and Glare Report**
 Appendix D is the Light and Glare Report prepared by Stantec, dated March 6, 2026. The report describes existing light and glare conditions on the site and surrounding area, describes the proposed field lighting system, and analyzes potential glare, light spillage, and sky glow that could be generated with the proposed project. The report includes photographs to illustrate and support discussions in the text portion of the report.
- **Appendix E: Transportation Technical Report**
 Appendix E consists of the Transportation Technical Report for the project that was prepared by Heffron Transportation, Inc., dated July 17, 2026. The report provides a description and analysis of background conditions in the project area, including traffic volumes, traffic operation (level of service), parking, traffic safety, transit facilities, and non-motorized facilities. It evaluates potential impacts of the proposed lighting project and concludes with a summary and recommendations. There are figures and tables through the document to support the analysis in the report. Appendices are provided at the end of the report, including Appendix A, "Level of Service Definitions," and Appendix B, "Parking Utilization Study Data."
- **Appendix F: Public Comments Summary and Responses**
 Appendix F is a summary of public comments that were received on the Draft SEPA Checklist and responses.

This concludes the Final SEPA checklist.



DATE: Sept. 2, 2026

TO: Recipients of the State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Nonsignificance (SEPA DNS) for Southwest Athletic Field Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

FROM: Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, SEPA Official

Seattle Public Schools (SPS) has determined that the final SEPA checklist dated August 2026, meets our environmental review needs for the Southwest Athletic Field Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project. SPS plans to begin construction in summer 2027 with operation in fall 2027.

After conducting an independent review, SPS has determined that the project will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment, as documented in the checklist and the enclosed DNS.

The final SEPA checklist discusses the potential environmental impacts that could result from construction of the project. A draft of the checklist was released for public comment from June 1, 2026, through July 1, 2026. Comments received helped inform revisions to the final SEPA checklist, on which the DNS is based. The responses to written comments received are summarized in the SEPA Public Comments and Seattle Public Schools Responses, which are included with the SEPA checklist.

Thank you for your participation in the SPS SEPA process. Your involvement has helped to make the Southwest Athletic Field Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting proposal a much better project.

Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of School Operations
P.O. Box 34165, MS 22-183, Seattle WA 98124 * 206-252-0636

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC FIELD COMPLEX UPPER SOFTBALL FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT**

Date of issuance: Sept. 9, 2026
Lead agency: Seattle School District No. 1 (Seattle Public Schools)
Location of proposal: Southwest Athletic Field Complex, 2801 SW Thistle St., Seattle, WA 98126
(NE Quarter of Section 5, Township 25 North, Range 4 East)

Description of proposal: The proposed Southwest Athletic Field Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting Project would provide new field lighting at the site to allow for expanded use of the field for scholastic and community use, particularly during late fall, winter, and early spring. The proposed project would consist of five 60-foot-tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field. The galvanized steel lighting poles would be installed with two on the west side, two on the south side, and one in the center of the edge of the outfield. Each of the poles would contain shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top, as well as one to two ball-tracking shielded floodlights mounted at 15 feet above grade and aimed above the field. Three of the poles would also include one additional low wattage “full cutoff” area light mounted at 30 feet above grade.

The proposed lighting design would meet the requirements for Class IV level play, which is the lowest recommended level listed by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. The field lighting system is designed to provide an average maintained lighting level of 48 foot-candles infield and 32 foot-candles outfield, using a 0.9 loss factor to achieve acceptable lighting levels and comply with City of Seattle lighting regulations. No changes to existing parking, nor the addition of new parking, are proposed with the SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project.

With the completion of the project, existing uses of the field would continue from SPS, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and other community organizations, including school-related physical education and athletic programs, as well as softball and baseball practices and games for a variety of age levels. Lighting of the field also would allow for increased use of these activities, as well as potential future use for high school and middle school softball and baseball practices, fastpitch games, and little league games.

Field usage between SPS and the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department would continue to occur in accordance with the joint use agreement. Field activities could occur until 9:45 p.m. and the proposed lighting could be operational until 10 p.m. to allow for safe egress from the field.

Site preparation and construction could begin in summer 2027, with operation in summer 2029.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that this project will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request at the following location: Seattle Public Schools, John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence, 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98124-1165 (Attn: Conrad Plyler, Phone: 206-252-0662) and online at:

<https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/sepa/>

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal prior to September 24, 2026 (at least 15 days from the issuance date listed above) following a concurrent comment and appeal period. Comments and appeals (appealed by written notice setting forth specific factual objections) are to be received no later than September 24, 2026, sent to:

Superintendent
Seattle School District No. 1
P.O. Box 34165, MS 32-151
Seattle, WA 98124-1165

Name of agency making threshold determination: Seattle Public Schools

Responsible Official: Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Assistant Superintendent School Operations, Seattle Public Schools

Phone: 206-252-0636

Address: MS 22-183, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1165

Date: Sept. 2, 2026

Signature:  _____

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

for the proposed

Southwest Athletic Field Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

prepared by



August 2026

*EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC
D.A. Hogan & Associates, Inc.
Associated Earth Sciences, Inc.
Landau Associates
Stantec
Heffron Transportation, Inc.*

PREFACE

The purpose of this Environmental Checklist is to identify and evaluate probable environmental impacts that could result from the ***Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** and to identify measures to mitigate those impacts. The ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** would provide new lighting at the existing softball field to allow for expanded use of the field.

The proposed project would consist of five 60-foot-tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field. The galvanized steel lighting poles would be installed with two on the west side, two on the south side, and one in the center of the edge of the outfield. Each of the poles would contain shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top, as well as one to two ball-tracking shielded floodlights mounted at 15 feet above grade and aimed above the field. Three of the poles would also include one additional low wattage “full cutoff” area light mounted at 30 feet above grade.

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)¹ requires that all governmental agencies consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before the proposal is decided upon. This Environmental Checklist has been prepared in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act; the SEPA Rules, effective April 4, 1984, as amended (Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code); and the Seattle City Code (25.05), which implements SEPA.

This document is intended to serve as SEPA review for site preparation work, associated construction, and operation of the proposed development comprising the ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project***. Analysis associated with the proposed project contained in this Environmental Checklist is based on plans for the project, which are on-file with Seattle Public Schools. While not construction-level detail, the plans accurately represent the eventual size, location, and configuration of the proposed project and are considered adequate for analysis and disclosure of environmental impacts.

This Environmental Checklist is organized into three major sections. *Section A* of the Checklist (starting on page 1) provides background information concerning the *Proposed Action* (e.g., purpose, proponent/contact person, project description, project location, etc.). *Section B* (beginning on page 5) contains the analysis of environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the proposed project based on review of major environmental parameters. This section also identifies possible mitigation measures. *Section C* (page 33) contains the signature of the proponent, confirming the completeness of this Environmental Checklist.

Appendices to this Environmental Checklist include: the *Geotechnical Report* (AESI, 2025), the *Noise Analytical Report* (Landau Associates, 2026), the *Light and Glare Report* (Stantec, 2026), and the *Transportation Technical Report* (Heffron Transportation, Inc., 2026).

¹ Chapter 43.21C RCW

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SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use “not applicable” or “does not apply” only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the [Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions \(Part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

2. Name of applicant:

Seattle School District No. 1 (Seattle Public Schools)

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

Conrad Plyler

Project Manager

Seattle Public Schools

2445 3rd Avenue S

Seattle, WA 98134

206-252-0662

4. Date checklist prepared:

August 19, 2026

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Seattle School District No. 1

2445 3rd Avenue South

MS 22-332, P.O. Box 34165

Seattle, WA 98124-1165

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

The *SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project* analyzed in this Environmental Checklist involves site preparation work, construction, and operation of the project. Site preparation and construction could begin in summer 2027 with operation in fall 2027.

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

No future plans for further development related to this proposal are proposed at this time. It is noted that the existing synthetic turf surface for the upper softball field is scheduled to be replaced by the end of September 2026 as part of a separate project. The existing synthetic turf surface is at the end of its normal lifespan and requires replacement to ensure the safety of field users. Replacement of the existing synthetic turf surface is part of the regular maintenance schedule for Seattle Public Schools (SPS) field surfaces and is fully independent from the proposed field lighting project.

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

The following environmental information has been prepared for the project and is included as appendices to this Checklist:

- *Site Plans, Topographic Survey, and Tree Inventory* (DA Hogan, January 14, 2026);
- *Geotechnical Engineering Study* (Associated Earth Sciences, Inc., November 11, 2025);
- *Noise Analytical Report* (Landau Associates, August 10, 2026);
- *Light and Glare Report* (Stantec, March 6, 2026); and
- *Transportation Technical Report* (Heffron Transportation, Inc., July 17, 2026)

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.

There are no known other applications that are pending approval for the ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** site.

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

City of Seattle

Department of Construction and Inspections -- permits/approvals associated with the proposed project, including:

- Master Use Permit and Special Exception for Lighting Pole Height
- Building Permit
- Electrical Permits

11. Give a 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.

The proposed ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** would install new fielding lighting at the existing Upper Softball Field which is located in the center of the west side of the sports complex. The field and overall SWAC are generally utilized by Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School, as well as other SPS and community uses. The Upper Softball Field is located at 2801 SW Thistle Street, in the Westwood neighborhood of Seattle (see **Figure 1** and **2**).

The proposed lighting would allow for extended use of the field in late fall, winter, and early spring by SPS, as well as Seattle Parks and Recreation and other community groups. Informal use of the field would also continue to be permitted during times when scheduled activities are not taking place.

Existing Site

The existing Upper Softball Field is comprised of a synthetic turf field that is directly surrounded by manicured grass areas, trees, and paved pedestrian walkways. Further

surrounding the site, pickleball and tennis courts and the Southwest Community Center are noted to the north, basketball courts and parking lots are located to the east, a small parking lot, grassy areas, residences, and additional sports fields are observed to the south, and a soccer field and playground are noted to the west. Historically, the athletic field has been utilized by the school for recreational activities and as part of their physical education and athletic programs. Pursuant to the approved joint-use agreement (JUA) between SPS and Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Public School-identified fields are prioritized for school athletic programs on weekdays after school until 7:00 PM throughout the school year. On Saturdays, this priority continues for school programs from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM; middle school activities have Saturday priority from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. In accordance with the joint-use agreement, Seattle Parks and Recreation and other community organizations have also used the Upper Softball Field for softball and baseball practices and games for a variety of age levels.

Currently, the field is used year-round for Chief Sealth High School physical education classes during regular school hours from 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM. During fall and winter, after school usage of the field is limited due to the absence of current lighting and offseason timing for baseball and softball. In the spring and summer, after standard school hours, the field is used by SPS for softball and baseball practices, as well as by other community sports organizations until dusk.

The complex includes two on-site parking lots. The main lot providing parking to the SWAC is located near the center of the property (directly east of the Upper Softball Field) and is also associated to the Southwest Community Center (with the Southwest Pool and Teen Center operated by Seattle Parks and Recreation). The primary SWAC parking lot contains a total of 347 parking stalls including 21 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant stalls and access is provided from the north side via driveways connecting to SW Thistle Street. Another small parking lot is located directly south of the Upper Softball Field that contains six standard and two ADA parking stalls. Access to this parking lot is obtained via the east leg of SW Cloverdale Street where it intersects with 29th Avenue SW. Additional street parking is available along the roadways surrounding the SWAC, with the closest to the Upper Softball Field located along SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW to the southwest.

Proposed Project

The proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would provide new field lighting at the site to allow for expanded use of the field for scholastic and community use, particularly during late fall, winter, and early spring.

The proposed project would consist of five 60-foot tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field. The galvanized steel lighting poles would be installed with two on the west side, two on the south side, and one in the center of the edge of the outfield. Each of the poles would contain shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top, as well as one to two ball-tracking shielded floodlights mounted at 15 feet above grade and aimed above the field. Three of the poles would also include one additional low wattage “full cutoff” area light mounted at 30 feet above grade. See **Figure 3** for a site plan of the proposed lighting poles. The proposed lighting design would meet the requirements for a Class IV level of play which is the lowest recommended level listed by the Illuminating

Engineering Society of North America. The field lighting system is designed to an average maintained lighting level of 48-foot candles infield and 32-foot candles outfield using a 0.9 loss factor to achieve acceptable lighting levels and comply with City of Seattle lighting regulations. No changes to or new parking is proposed with the completion of the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project**.

With the completion of the project, existing uses of the field would continue from SPS, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and other community organizations, including school-related physical education and athletic programs, as well as softball and baseball practices and games for a variety of age levels. Lighting of the field would also allow for increased use of these activities, as well as potential future use for high school and middle school softball and baseball practices, fastpitch games, and little league games.

Field usage between SPS and the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department would continue to occur in accordance with the joint use agreement. Field activities could occur until 9:45 PM and the proposed lighting could be operational until 10:00 PM to allow for safe egress from the field.

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.

The SWAC Upper Softball Field is located at 2801 SW Thistle Street within the Westwood neighborhood of Seattle (a portion of the NE Quarter of Section 26, Township 24, and Range 3). The sports complex is generally bounded by SW Thistle Street to the north, 26th Avenue SW to the east, existing residences along SW Cloverdale Street and SW Trenton Street to the south, and existing residences along 29th Avenue W and 30th Avenue SW to the west. The existing Upper Softball Field is located along the center of the west side of the athletic complex, across from the intersection of SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW (see **Figures 1 and 2**).

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

The **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site is generally flat and maintains an elevation of approximately 336 feet throughout the field itself. A sloped area is located along the adjacent western edge of the field, starting at an elevation of approximately 346 feet that descends down towards the field elevation of 336 feet. To the south and the east beyond the field, the elevation slopes down to approximately 300 and 324 feet, respectively. Several retaining walls are located along the steep area to the west that provide stabilization.

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

The steepest slope near the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site is approximately 33 percent and is located along the above-described adjacent western edge to the site. According to the City of Seattle's Environmentally Critical Areas (ECA) Maps, the sloped area is recognized as an ECA steep slope area (*City of Seattle, 2025*). Additional ECA steep slope areas are noted within the sports complex along the perimeter of the property, as well as through the center along the edges of other fields and tracks and to the west of the SWAC pickleball and tennis courts (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

In accordance with Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.09.090.B.2.b, development is allowed within a steep slope area and buffer if the area was created through previous legal grading activities; however, erosion control best management practices (BMPs) would be required. Per the Geotechnical Report (**Appendix B**), the existing slopes were created through previous legal grading and have performed adequately with no visual evidence of instability or unusual erosion. As such, the geotechnical analysis supports the exemption for the SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project from steep slope requirements for this area, in accordance with SMC 25.09.090.B.2.b. The exemption would be noted as part of the permit application to the City. See **Appendix B** for further details on the geotechnical analysis for the project.

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.

The *Geotechnical Report* (**Appendix B**), included three site exploration borings as part of onsite investigations. Borings were completed to a depth of 15 to 26.5 feet deep. The soils encountered on the site generally consisted of existing fill over Vashon lodgement till, followed by Vashon advance outwash (AESI, 2025). These soils beyond the fill included silty, fine sand, as well as gravel.

Additionally, the project site does not contain any agricultural land areas of commercial significance.

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

In general, the Puget Sound region is a seismically active region; thus the project site could experience seismic activity, which may cause surface rupture, liquefaction and subsidence, and landslides. According to the City of Seattle ECA Maps, the project site is not located within a Liquefaction Prone Area (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

The *Geotechnical Report* prepared by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (**Appendix B**), includes a review of geologic hazards, including landslide hazards, seismic hazards, and erosion hazards. At the time of the completion of the geotechnical explorations at the site, no seepages in the slopes or indications of slope instability, such as tension cracks, back-tilted benches, or slumps, were observed (AESI, 2025). The western slope above the Upper Softball Field is recorded as a landslide-prone area and a steep slope erosion hazard area. Per SMC subsection 25.09.090.B.2.b, development is allowed in a steep slope erosion hazard area if the area was created through previous legal grading activities; however, erosion control best management practices (BMPs) will be required by the City (SMC 25.09.060.H). The Geotechnical Report identified that the existing slopes were created by previous permitted grading, including the existing retaining wall, and have performed adequately without visual evidence of instability or unusual erosion. As such, an exemption would apply for the current light pole installation project from steep slope requirements in accordance with the code section cited above. In addition, the limited amount of excavation in this area of the site would not be anticipated to affect the slope or stability of the area as noted in **Appendix B**.

Per SMC subsection 25.09.080.A, specific development standards are required by the City for development on a parcel with a landslide-prone area. These standards are outlined in SMC section 25.09.080 and include complete site stabilization after construction and solutions to provide site stability during construction. Additionally, construction should follow local standards of practice for temporary erosion and sedimentation control (TESC) BMPs.

Considering the historical grading activities and developed conditions at the site, as well as the implementation of applicable and required TESC plan and construction BMPs, no impacts from the adjacent steep slope and erosion areas are anticipated.

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.

A minimal amount of structural fill and excavation would be required to install the foundations for each of the proposed light poles and potential electrical equipment cabinet bases. Any required fill should be evaluated by a qualified individual prior to use by the contractor to confirm adequacy (AESI, 2025).

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

Erosion is possible in conjunction with any construction activity. Site work would expose soils, but a TESC plan and BMPs would be implemented to mitigate potential impacts. Once the project is operational, no erosion is anticipated.

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

The proposed project would not add any new impervious surfaces or buildings.

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

No significant erosion is anticipated with the construction of the proposed project. The proposed project would comply with City of Seattle regulations, including providing a TESC Plan and utilizing construction BMPs. See **Appendix A** for a list of typical construction BMPs for SPS projects and **Appendix B** for geotechnical recommendations for the project.

2. Air

- 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.**

During construction, the ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** could result in temporary increases in localized air emissions associated with particulates and construction-related vehicles. It is anticipated that these would be the primary source of emissions associated with the proposed light pole installations. However, considering the relatively small scale of the project, as well as the minimal amounts of excavation that would be required as described above under the Earth section, air quality emission impacts are not anticipated to be significant.

Upon completion of the project, the primary source of emissions would be from vehicles travelling to and from the site. Emissions from such vehicles would not be anticipated to result in a significant adverse air quality impact.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

The primary off-site source of emissions in the site vicinity is vehicle traffic on surrounding roadways, the closest being SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW to the southwest of the site. However, these emissions are expected to be minimal and therefore would have no impact on the proposed project. There are no other known off-site sources of air emissions or odors that may affect the proposed project.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.

Construction activities would be required to comply with Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) regulations, including Regulation I, Section 9.11 (prohibiting the emission of air contaminants that would be injurious to human health) and Regulation I, Section 9.15 (prohibiting the emission of fugitive dust, unless reasonable precautions are employed). No significant air quality impacts are anticipated with the construction of the proposed project.

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.

There is no surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site. The nearest surface water body is wetland areas associated with the Thistle Street Greenspace located approximately 0.25 miles northeast and an unnamed wetland area located approximately 0.25 miles southwest of the site; Longfellow Creek is also located further to the northeast of the site (*City of Seattle, 2025*). The nearest major surface water body is the Puget Sound, which is located approximately 1.2 miles to the west of the project 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.

The proposed project would not require any work over, in, or adjacent (within 200 feet) to any water body.

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.

No fill or dredge material would be placed in or removed from any surface water body as a result of the proposed project.

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

The proposed project would not require any surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

The proposed project site does not lie within a 100-year floodplain and is not identified as a flood prone area on the City of Seattle ECA map (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

- 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.**

There would be no discharge of waste materials to surface waters as a result of the proposed project.

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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No groundwater would be withdrawn, and no water would be discharged to groundwater as part of the proposed project.

- 2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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.**

Waste material would not be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources as a result of the proposed project.

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.**

The proposed lighting poles and associated equipment would not notably increase the amount of impervious surface at the project site. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to generate additional runoff.

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

The existing stormwater management system for the site would continue to ensure that waste materials would not enter ground or surface waters as a result of the proposed project.

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

The proposed project would not alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the site vicinity.

4. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.

No impacts to surface, groundwater and runoff water, and drainage patterns are anticipated. The amount of impervious surfaces would not substantially change on the site with the project and the existing stormwater management system would continue to serve the field area. Although no impacts are anticipated, TESC and construction BMPs will be implemented during project development to reduce the risk of materials entering the stormwater runoff systems.

4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☒ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☒ 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

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

Existing grass areas are located surrounding the Upper Softball Field and small portions of these areas would be disturbed to accommodate the installation of the proposed lighting poles. To the extent feasible, these grass areas will be returned to their original conditions upon the completion of the proposed project. No trees would be affected by the installation of the proposed lighting poles.

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

No known threatened or endangered species are located on or proximate to the project site.

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

No additional landscaping is proposed as part of the project besides the replacement of existing grass areas that would be disturbed during the construction process.

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

Noxious weeds or invasive species that could be present in the vicinity of the site include

giant hogweed, English Ivy, and Himalayan blackberry.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: crows, pigeons, seagulls
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: squirrels, raccoons, rats, opossums
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

Urban wildlife is known to be on and in the vicinity of the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site including, crows, pigeons, squirrels, raccoons, rats, and opossums. Data obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) indicates that no eagles have been observed in the project site area (USFWS, 2025).

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

The following are listed or proposed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that could be affected by development on the site or surrounding vicinity based on data from the USFWS: Marbled Murrelet, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Northwestern Pond Turtle, Bull Trout, Monarch Butterfly, and Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee (USFWS, 2025). However, it should be noted due to the urban and developed nature of the site and surrounding area, none of the respective species' habitats have been observed and it is unlikely that these animals are present on or near the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site.

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

The proposed project site is not located within a specific migration route. However, in general, the entire Puget Sound area is within the Pacific Flyway, which is a major north-south flyway for migratory birds in America that extends from Alaska to Patagonia. Every year, migratory birds travel some or all of this distance both in spring and in fall, following food sources, heading to breeding grounds, or travelling to overwintering sites.

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

No specific measures are proposed to enhance wildlife and/or habitat.

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

There are no known invasive animal species on or adjacent to the project site; however, invasive species known to be located in King County include European starling, house sparrow, and eastern gray squirrel.

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 is the primary source of energy that would serve the proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project**. During operation, electricity would be used for lighting the athletic field. The field lights would allow for activities until 9:45 PM. Field security lighting could remain on until 10:00 PM to allow users to safely leave the field.

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

The proposed project would not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

- 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.**

No significant energy impacts are anticipated with the proposed project. However, the proposed project would be required to meet or exceed the requirements of the City of Seattle Energy Code, as well as comply with the Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol (WSSP), Seattle Public School Board Clean Energy Resolution 2020/21-8, and Seattle Public School Board Green Resolution 2012/13-12. The WSSP is a design process that helps school districts plan and implement established sustainability requirements for energy and water efficiency through site planning, materials, and indoor environmental quality.

The proposed project design is intended to minimize lighting energy use by utilizing high-efficiency electric LED lights and advanced lighting controls to optimize lighting system operations as efficiently as possible. The proposed lighting would be consistent with the City of Seattle light and glare standards (SMC 23.45.534) and SPS design requirements. The project includes the following measures that would be utilized to conserve energy and minimize energy impacts:

- The proposed field lighting for the project would utilize LED lighting fixtures specifically designed for athletic fields which are more efficient with delivering light for sports activities when compared with traditional LED lighting fixtures.
- The proposed field lighting system would be connected to a fully programmable control system with remote operation to allow field lights to be turned off after play is completed and area lights would remain on for a short period of time to allow for ample light for safe egress from the site.
- The programmable control system would allow the lights to remain off if the field is not scheduled for use in advance through Seattle Public Schools or Seattle Parks and Recreation.

7. Environmental Health

a. Environmental Health Hazards:

1. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.**

Accidental spills of hazardous materials from equipment or vehicles could occur in conjunction with any construction activity. However, considering the construction activities for the proposed project would require limited excavation and few vehicles/equipment, the potential for spills would be limited. The construction contractor would develop a spill prevention/control plan to prevent the accidental release of hazardous materials to the environment.

2. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (WA Ecology) website was reviewed to identify any potential contaminated soils on or in the vicinity of the site, as well as potential issues related to the former Tacoma Asarco Smelter Plume. There are no records of any contaminated soils on the project site, and the site is located in an area where levels of arsenic and lead associated with the smelter plume are anticipated to be below state cleanup levels (WA Ecology, 2025).

A former release of a heating oil underground storage tank (UST) is recorded as a cleanup site by WA Ecology at the Chief Sealth High School and Denny Middle School to the northeast of the SWAC beyond SW Thistle Street. The listing status is set to "Cleanup Complete" as of July 2009 and is therefore not considered to present a possible contamination concern at the project site.

3. **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.**

No existing hazardous chemicals/conditions are located within the project area that would affect the proposed project.

4. **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.**

Chemicals stored and used during construction would be limited to gasoline and other petroleum products that are utilized by construction equipment and vehicles. No other toxic or hazardous chemicals are anticipated to be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or operation.

5. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services are expected to be required as a result of the project. As is typical of urban development, it is possible that normal fire, medical, and other emergency services may, on occasion, be needed from the City of Seattle for field activities (i.e. injuries during athletic events, etc.).

6. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

No significant environmental health hazards are anticipated as part of the project and no mitigation measures would be required. A spill prevention plan would be developed and implemented during construction to minimize the potential for an accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment.

b. Noise:

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

The primary sources of noise in the vicinity of the project site are from vehicular traffic noise associated with surrounding roadways (SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue W), as well as human voices, activities, and maintenance work associated with activities at the surrounding SWAC facilities. There are no existing sources of noise in the area that would affect the proposed project.

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)?

Short-Term Noise

During the construction process, minor, short-term noise impacts could occur from construction vehicles and equipment while the lighting poles are installed. Pursuant to Seattle's Noise Control Code, SMC 25.08, maximum sound levels in residential communities shall not exceed 55 dB(A) during the daytime and 45 dB(A) during the nighttime. However, per SMC 25.08 and the Neighborhood Residential 2 zoning at the site, construction activities are allowed to exceed the maximum noise levels between 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM on weekdays and 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM on weekends and holidays. Construction equipment may exceed the sound level limits during construction periods by 25 dB(A) and portable powered equipment may exceed the limits by 20 dB(A). The proposed project would comply with provisions of Seattle's Noise Code as it relates to construction-related noise to reduce noise impacts during construction. Contractors are aware of the City of Seattle Noise Ordinance requirements and are contractually required by SPS to abide by them. Any short-term construction noise impacts are expected to be less than significant.

Long-Term Noise

A Noise Analytical Report was completed for the proposed project by Landau Associates and is included as **Appendix C** to this Checklist. As described above, the site is located in a

residential zone and pursuant to the Seattle Noise Code (SMC 25.08), the applicable sound level limits are 55 dB(A) during daytime hours and 45 dB(A) during nighttime hours.

Noise sources associated with the SWAC Upper Softball Field include human voices, activity, and maintenance work. These noises would be similar in nature to noise currently produced at the Upper Softball field during daylight hours. Since the addition of lighting to the Upper Softball Field would extend use hours at that field from the current closing time (dusk) to 10:00 PM, the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Project** is anticipated to result in changes to associated noise between dusk to 10:00 PM in the darker months of the year when the proposed lights would be in use. Changes in noise associated with the field would not be expected to extend into nighttime hours after the lights are turned off. These extended hours would match the current schedule at the SWAC Baseball Field to the south of the site.

As part of the noise assessment, sound level measurements were completed at two locations within the vicinity of closest residences approximately 240 feet west and 80 to 100 feet southwest of the Upper Softball Field. Since the proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would generally extend use of the field into the evening, additional sound level measurements were taken at a comparable athletic field with lighting (the SWAC Baseball Field) during a sporting event. These sound levels are anticipated to be similar to what would occur at the Upper Softball Field with implementation of the proposed project. The two measurements taken at the SWAC Baseball Field were located approximately 80 to 100 feet west and south. Sound levels at the measurement location to the south of the SWAC Baseball Field were observed to be primarily associated with vehicle traffic on SW Trenton Street. For this reason, the sound meter was moved away from the street to the west of the SWAC Baseball Field to focus sound level readings on the field activity. Measurements were taken at all four locations between 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM on October 23, 2025, while a youth baseball practice was conducted at the SWAC Baseball Field.

Baseline sound measured between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM and 8:30 PM and 9:00 PM included players arriving and departing the facility by foot and in vehicles. Measured sound levels during that period were within two decibels of measured sound levels between 9:00 PM and 9:30 PM when all players had departed the site, indicating that vehicular noise is not expected to increase significantly over existing vehicular noise levels (*Landau Associates, 2025*).

Sound measurements indicated existing evening activities at the SWAC Baseball Field are currently audible in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field. Additionally, sound levels associated with activities at the SWAC Baseball Field are similar to existing sound levels in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field during the sporting event and all sound measurements were below the SMC Noise Limits (see Table 3 in the *Noise Analytical Report* in **Appendix C**).

Potential noise impacts associated with the addition of lighting to the Upper Softball Field were evaluated by comparing the measured existing sound levels at the Upper Softball Field (with and without activities at the Baseball Field) to the similar sound levels at the

Baseball Field during a sporting event. Sound associated with evening activities at the Baseball Field are audible in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field, and sound levels at the Baseball Field are similar to the existing sound levels in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field. All sound levels at the four measurement locations were well below the daytime noise limit of 55 dB(A) and it would be anticipated that noise associated with evening activities with the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would be similar to those measured for activities at the Baseball Field. Although sounds associated with human voices and other activities on the field may be perceptible over other background noises (such as vehicular noise) due to the different character of the sounds, based on the sound level measurements, it is not expected to be louder than existing sounds in the area which are predominantly from vehicle traffic. In addition, an increase in noise of 3 dBA or less is generally not discernable in active outdoor environments, such as in the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, the sound level associated with the proposed project would be anticipated to be below the noise limits and would not be considered to have a significant impact (see **Appendix C** for details).

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

No significant noise impacts are anticipated with the proposed project. However, the project includes the following measures would be provided to minimize noise from construction and operation of the athletic field.

- Construction of the project would comply with provisions of the City's Noise Code SMC 25.08; specifically: construction hours would be limited to standard construction hours (non-holiday) from 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM and Saturdays and Sundays (including holidays) from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM. However, similar to other SPS projects, construction would generally occur between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM on weekdays.
- The use of the field would be consistent with other lighted fields in the SWAC and allow for activities until 9:45 PM. Field security lighting could remain on until 10:00 PM to allow users to safely leave the field.
- The proposed project would not include the provision of any permanent public address system. Amplified sound through the use of portable systems could be allowed on a limited basis for school-related events to the extent that they are necessary for the operation of the event/activity. The use of portable amplification systems would be restricted for non-school-related events.
- In the event that specific individual activities may cause noise issues, the City of Seattle maintains a 24-hour noise complaint hotline that can be used by the community surrounding the project site.

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 project site would continue to be utilized as an athletic field for SPS and Seattle Parks and Recreation activities and no impacts to current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties are anticipated. The Upper Softball Field is located in the center of the western side of the SWAC and consists of an existing synthetic turf field surrounded by a paved pedestrian walkway. The perimeter further surrounding the softball field is comprised of existing grass areas.

Existing buildings within the SWAC are located on the north side of the complex and include the two-story Southwest Community Center with an indoor swimming pool (constructed in 1975). Additional athletic facilities including pickleball and tennis courts, basketball courts, football field and surrounding track, and additional athletic fields (baseball and soccer), as well as associated parking lots are noted within the sports complex. The Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School currently utilize the SWAC facilities and the Upper Softball Field for physical education classes and sports programs.

Existing land uses surrounding the proposed ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** site include recreational and athletic sports facilities to the north, east, south, and west, as well as residences to the southwest. The primary land use in the project site vicinity is single and multi-family residential. Land uses further to the southeast (beyond SW Trenton Street) include retail and commercial buildings located within a shopping complex. Educational land use associated with the Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School are established to the northeast past SW Thistle Street.

- 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 because 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 non-forest use?**

The project site has no recent history of use as a working farmland or forest land.

- c. **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?**

The project site is located in an urban area and would not affect or be affected by working farm or forest land as no working farm or forest land is located in the vicinity of this urban site.

d. Describe any structures on the site.

Structures on the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site are limited to fences and seating for sports participants and spectators. There are no buildings or significant structures located on the Upper Softball Field site. Surrounding athletic facilities within the complex also contain small restroom buildings, various seating structures, fences, and storage containers. The existing community center building located to the northeast of the Upper Softball Field is constructed with brick, glass, and wood siding.

e. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No structures would be demolished as part of the proposed project.

f. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

The current zoning classification for the site is Neighborhood Residential 2 (NR2) (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

g. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The comprehensive plan future land use designation for the site is Neighborhood Residential (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

h. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

The project site is not located within the City of Seattle designated shoreline boundary (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

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

As noted in Section B.1.b, an ECA steep slope area is located adjacent the western edge of the Upper Softball Field (*City of Seattle, 2025*). However, as noted in the *Geotechnical Report* for the project (**Appendix B**), the existing slopes were created by previous permitted grading and have performed adequately without visual evidence of instability or unusual erosion. As such, an exemption would apply for the current light pole installation project from steep slope requirements in accordance with SMC 25.09.090.B.2.b. The proposed light poles would be placed in a developed and paved area, and the *Geotechnical Report* prepared by AESI did not identify any steep slope concerns, therefore no adverse effects from the steep slope critical area are anticipated.

No other environmentally critical areas are located on or adjacent to the project site.

j. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

No people would reside in the completed project or specifically work in the completed project. The proposed field lighting would allow for extended use of the athletic field during late fall, winter, and early spring months between the hours of 5:00 PM and 11:00 PM. Athletic event participants and attendees would utilize the site, and coaches,

maintenance staff, and umpires/referees would work on the field depending on the type of use activity.

k. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

The proposed project would not displace any people.

l. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

No displacement would occur and therefore no mitigation measures are necessary.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.

The proposed project would be compatible with existing land uses and plans. SMC limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas. However, SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6) provides provisions to allow light poles for athletic fields on new and existing schools sites to exceed the maximum permitted height, up to 100 feet, if it is determined that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and if impacts from light and glare are minimized to the greatest extent feasible.

The proposed project would require light poles at 60 feet in height to provide adequate field illumination and would implement the greatest possible mitigation to reduce light and glare impacts. A special exception to the height limit would be requested to comply with the existing codes. A further discussion of light and glare is provided in Subsection B.11.

n. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.

The project site is not located near agricultural or forest lands and therefore no mitigation measures are necessary.

9. Housing

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

No housing units would be provided as part of the project.

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

No housing presently exists on the project site, and none would be eliminated.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any.

No housing impacts would occur and therefore no mitigation would be necessary.

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 proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would include five galvanized steel lighting poles surrounding the athletic field (two poles on both the west side and the south side of the field and one pole situated at the center of the perimeter of the outfield). Each of the poles would be 60 feet tall. Shielded LED floodlights would be mounted on the top of the individual poles, as well as one to two ball-tracking shielded floodlights mounted at 15 feet above grade and aimed above the field. Three of the poles would also include one additional low wattage “full cutoff” area light mounted at 30 feet above grade.

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

The proposed lighting poles would be visible on the site but would not be anticipated to obstruct any views. Views across the athletic field site would change to include the five new lighting poles on the site; however, this change would be minor and would not represent a significant aesthetic impact.

The City of Seattle maintains public view protection policies which are intended to “protect public views of significant natural and human-made features: Mount Rainier, the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, the downtown skyline, and major bodies of water including Puget Sound, Lake Washington, Lake Union, and the Ship Canal, from public places consisting of specified viewpoints, parks, scenic routes, and view corridors identified in Attachment 1 to the SEPA code². However, there are no SEPA protected view sites on or in the vicinity of the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** site. The closest designated protected viewpoint is located approximately 1.2 miles west of the project site in Lincoln Park (*City of Seattle, 2025*).

View protection from City-designated Scenic Routes is encouraged³. According to documentation from the City of Seattle, the closest designated scenic route to the project site is 35th Avenue SW located approximately 0.3 miles to the west⁴. Installation of the proposed lighting poles would not be visible from this street and therefore no impacts to scenic routes are anticipated.

Views of designated historic landmarks are also a consideration⁵. The closest City of Seattle designated landmark is E.C. Hughes School located approximately 0.4 miles northwest of the project site (*City of Seattle, 2025*). The proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would not be visible from E.C. Hughes School and would therefore

² SMC 25.05.675 P.2.a and the accompanying list of protected views in *Attachment 1*

³ Ordinance #97025, Ordinance #114057, and Seattle DCLU, 2001

⁴ Scenic routes provided by Seattle Transportation, Traffic Division Map within SMC 25.05.675

⁵ SMC 25.05.675 P.2.c

have no impact on the view of landmark structures. There are no designated views of the Space Needle on or adjacent to the project site⁶.

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

No significant impacts are anticipated with regard to aesthetic impacts. The proposed lighting poles are designed to minimize size and bulk, and the floodlights are designed to reduce quantity and size. No other measures are necessary.

11. Light and Glare

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

A *Light and Glare Report* was prepared for the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** by Stantec (*Stantec, 2026*) and is included as **Appendix D** to this SEPA Checklist.

The proposed Upper Softball Field lighting system would consist of five galvanized steel lighting poles surrounding the field (see **Figure 3**). The proposed poles would be 60 feet tall. Each of the poles would contain shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top, as well as one to two ball-tracking shielded floodlights mounted at 15 feet above grade and aimed above the field. Three of the poles would also include one additional low wattage “full cutoff” area light mounted at 30 feet above grade.

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas. However, SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6) provides provisions to allow light poles for athletic fields on new and existing schools sites to exceed the maximum permitted height, up to 100 feet if it is determined that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and impacts from light and glare are minimized to the greatest extent practicable. A special exception to the height limit will be requested from the City of Seattle to comply with existing codes and ensure adequate field illumination and minimize light and glare impacts. In addition, City of Seattle guidelines recommend that athletic field spill light not exceed 0.8 foot-candles at residential property lines.

The proposed lighting design would meet the requirements for a Class IV level of play which is the lowest recommended level listed by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA). The softball infield lighting system is designed to maintain an average lighting level of 48-foot candles using a 0.9 light loss factor to achieve initial lighting levels. The softball outfield lighting is designed to maintain an average lighting level of 32-foot candles using a 0.9 light loss factor. These lighting design levels meet current practices for the City of Seattle and SPS.

The proposed field lighting would generally operate between the hours of 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM and would allow for extended use of the athletic field during late fall, winter, and early spring months. The lighting system would be connected to a fully programmable

⁶ SMC 25.05.675 P.2.d

control system with remote operation and separate switches installed onsite to operate the lights manually, if necessary. Field lights would operate on a separate lighting zone to allow the field lights to be turned off after play is completed (generally no later than 9:45 PM). The area lights would be on a separate zone and would remain on for a short period of time after each event (no later than 10:00 PM) to allow ample light for safe egress from the field (see **Appendix D** for further details).

Glare

The proposed athletic field lighting system would generate new sources of visible glare on the Upper Softball Field site during evening hours, including direct glare from lighting system and reflected glare off of the poles, lights, and surfaces around the athletic field. However, it should be noted that several of the other fields within the Southwest Athletic Complex currently have existing field lighting, including the football/track facility, the baseball field and the lower softball field. To reduce the amount of glare that is visible off-site, the proposed floodlights will need to be mounted higher than the 30-foot height limit identified in the Seattle Municipal Code. At a height of 30 feet, the visibility of the high wattage LEDs and reflectors from adjacent residences would be excessive. With the increased mounting heights to 60 feet, the floodlights would have steeper aiming angles which would result in more effective use of the floodlight shields. Therefore, a substantially smaller portion of the floodlight reflectors and LED diodes would be visible off-site with the increased mounting height to 60 feet.

Direct glare would be visible from all directions overlooking the site, depending on the viewer's location. Due to their proximity to the field, the adjacent properties to the south of the softball field would be exposed to minor levels of direct glare. These properties are close to the field with direct exposure to the light poles and floodlight assemblies. The direct glare visible at these residences would primarily be from a small amount of light exposure off the surface of the floodlights. The residences located further away will have minimal to no exposure to direct glare because of the greater setbacks and trees or structures obstructing the view, therefore eliminating direct views of the floodlight optical assemblies. Residential properties that do not border the site are located farther away from the field and would have minimal to no direct glare impacts.

Reflected glare would also be visible from all locations surrounding the site, depending on the viewer's location and elevation. However, exposure to reflected glare would primarily affect the adjacent properties to the south of the Upper Softball Field. These residences are close to the field with direct views of the softball field and surrounding surfaces. The greatest contribution to reflected glare would be from the synthetic turf softball field. This would be a similar condition to existing lighting and glare associated with the SWAC baseball field. Existing trees along the western edge of the Upper Softball Field could serve as a partial filter for reflected glare for some properties to the south. The residences located further away will have minimal to no exposure to reflected glare because of the greater setbacks and trees or structures obstructing the view, therefore eliminating direct views of the field surfaces. Residential properties that do not border the site are located farther away from the field and would have minimal to no reflected glare impacts.

To maximize glare reduction, the proposed design of the lighting system would increase the pole height up to 60 feet to angle lighting downwards, as well as utilize “full cut-off” style LED floodlights that provide the most advanced light control and shielding that is currently available. Additional reduction in glare would be provided by internal shielding of the LED diodes. The additional shield would nearly eliminate any direct views of the LEDs from off-site locations (see **Appendix D** for further details).

Spill Light

The proposed athletic field lighting system would generate minimal amounts of spill light. The increase in height from 30 feet to 60 feet above the playing surface would dramatically reduce the amount of spill light generated by the lighting system. The higher pole heights allow the floodlights to be aimed down to the athletic field and away from adjacent properties. The taller height also allows for increased effectiveness of the internal and external shielding on the floodlights to control the emitted light and prevent light from escaping beyond the site.

The use of steeper aiming angles allows for less direct light to be delivered beyond the boundaries of the field. The external shielding blocks more direct light and more light is delivered to the field with the increased mounting heights. The proposed taller mounting heights are typical for this type of use and similar to many existing lighting systems in the City of Seattle and at SPS facilities.

The vertical spill light from the proposed field lighting was calculated along the adjacent property lines on the south side of the site. At a mounting height of 60 feet, the maximum amount of measurable light delivered along the property lines is 0.01 foot-candles which is below the City of Seattle recommended practice of 0.8 foot-candles and would result in negligible impacts. For comparison purposes, if lights were mounted at a height of 30 feet, the amount of measurable light along the property line would be 0.62 foot-candles and such a configuration would not meet the lighting standards for IESNA, the City of Seattle or SPS as it relates to field light safety for participants (see **Appendix D** for details).

Sky Glow

The proposed athletic field lighting system would generate a minimal amount of “sky glow”. The proposed mounting heights of 60 feet would reduce the amount of “sky glow” that could be emitted. With mounting heights of 60 feet, the floodlights would have steeper aiming angles that would result in a more effective use of the external shields. The project would also utilize “full cut-off” style LED floodlights that provide advanced light and shielding to block a substantial amount of direct light that could be emitted into the atmosphere. Considering the currently evident high levels of existing “sky glow” in the area from surrounding developments and sports facilities in the SWAC, the effect of the project on “sky glow” in the surrounding area would be minimal.

Overall, based on the increased pole height design, the “full cut-off” LED style lights proposed, the minimal identified glare impacts, the negligible amount of spill light anticipated to be generated, the high amount of existing “sky glow” from surrounding developments as well as sports facilities in the SWAC such as the football stadium, baseball field, and lower softball field, and relatively small scale of the lighting proposed

for the project and minimal anticipated “sky glow,” the effect of the project on light and glare in the surrounding area is expected to have a minimal impact (see **Appendix D** for details).

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

The proposed lighting system would not create a safety hazard or interfere with views in the vicinity of the project site.

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

No off-site sources of light or glare are expected to affect the proposed project.

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

All implemented light and glare designs will follow applicable City of Seattle and SPS requirements. No adverse impacts from light and glare are anticipated with the implementation of the following mitigation measures that would be incorporated into the proposed project:

- The proposed project incorporates an increased lighting pole height up to 60 feet in order to minimize glare, spill light, and “sky glow.” The taller light pole heights would allow for the use of steeper aiming angles to ensure that light would be directed to the playing field and minimal light would be delivered beyond the boundaries of the field.
- The provision of “full cut-off” style LED floodlights would provide maximum light control and shielding to minimize glare and spill light from the project site.
- The provision of internal shielding of the LED diodes would nearly eliminate any direct views of the LEDs from off-site locations.
- The lighting system would be connected to a fully programmable control system with remote operation and separate switches installed onsite to operate the lights manually, if necessary. Field lights would operate on a separate lighting zone to allow the field lights to be turned off after play is completed (generally no later than 9:45 PM). The area lights would be on a separate zone and would remain on for short period of time after each event (no later than 10:00 PM) to allow ample light for safe egress from the field.
- The programmable control system would allow the lights to remain off if the field is not scheduled for use in advance through SPS or Seattle Parks and Recreation.

12. Recreation

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

The Upper Softball Field site is located within the SWAC, which is the primary recreation area for the Chief Sealth International High School and Denny International Middle School, as well as other SPS uses and the surrounding community. The SWAC has been utilized for softball, baseball, soccer, football, and a variety of other sporting activities. The Upper Softball Field has been used for physical education courses, SPS softball practices, sports programs, and other informal community use. The SWAC also includes the Southwest Community Center, located directly to the northeast of the Upper Softball Field, which includes indoor community spaces and a swimming pool. The SWAC baseball fields, lower softball field, and soccer field are located at the south end of the complex; the baseball field and lower softball field each contain existing field lighting. Other hard surface sports facilities within the SWAC include pickleball and tennis courts, basketball courts, and a track surrounding the football field in the northeast corner of the property; the track/football facility also contain existing field lighting.

There are also several parks and recreation areas in the vicinity of the project site (approximately one mile), including:

- Longfellow Creek Greenspace is located approximately 0.3 miles northeast of the site.
- E.C. Hughes Playground is located approximately 0.35 miles north of the site.
- Roxhill Park is located approximately 0.4 miles south of the site.
- Fauntleroy Park is located approximately 0.7 miles southwest of the site.
- Walt Hundley Playfield Park is located approximately 0.85 miles north of the site.
- Delridge and Myrtle Park is located approximately 0.9 miles northeast of the site.
- Highland Park is located approximately 0.9 miles east of the site.
- Kilbourne Park is located approximately 0.9 miles southwest of the site.
- Myrtle Reservoir Park is located approximately 0.9 miles northwest of the site.
- Orchard Street Ravine Park is located approximately 0.9 miles northwest of the site.

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

The proposed project would not displace any existing recreational uses. The provision of the field lighting with the project would allow for extended use of the field into late fall, winter, and early spring by SPS, as well as by Seattle Parks and Recreation, and other community groups. Informal use of the field would also continue to be permitted during times when scheduled activities are not taking place.

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

The proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would increase the available use of the athletic field, particularly during the late fall, winter, and early spring, and allow

for increased recreational opportunities by SPS, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and the surrounding community. No additional mitigation is necessary.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- 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? If so, specifically describe.**

There are no buildings or significant structures currently located on the existing field area. The site historically contained the two-story Denny Middle School constructed in 1952. A previous Building Historic Value Report completed for the building in September 2007 determined the Denny Middle School building did not qualify for an official City of Seattle Landmark status (*ESA Adolfson, 2007*). Denny Middle School was relocated to the Chief Sealth International High School campus in 2011, and the building was subsequently demolished. By 2012, the existing Upper Softball Field was developed at the site.

The closest building to the site, the Southwest Community Center, is a two-story structure that was constructed in 1975 located in the northern portion of the SWAC (northeast of the existing field). This building is not recorded as a City of Seattle Landmark or as a listed or eligible property in any national, state, or local preservation registers. Additionally, the proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** does not include any modifications or alterations that would affect the 1975 building.

The Chief Sealth International High School is recorded on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (*City of Seattle, 2025*). This building was constructed with two stories in 1956 and was listed on the NRHP in 2022. The closest point of the Chief Sealth International High School to the Upper Softball Field is located approximately 0.15 miles to the northeast. While the proposed light poles may be visible from the Chief Sealth International High School, due to the distance, topography, trees, and existing developments (utility poles with overhead lines, street light poles, and parking lot light poles) the **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would not notably alter the viewshed of the historic Chief Sealth International High School and therefore no impacts are anticipated. No other NRHP properties are recorded within one mile of the site.

According to the City of Seattle Landmarks Map (*City of Seattle, 2025*), the following listed City of Seattle Landmarks are located in the site vicinity (approximately one mile):

- E.C. Hughes School located approximately 0.4 miles northwest of the site.
- Fire Station #37 located approximately 0.7 miles northwest of the site.
- Fauntleroy Community Church and YMCA located approximately 0.9 miles southwest of the site.

According to the Washington State Department Archaeology and Historic Preservation's (DAHP) Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), the following listings were noted within a one-mile radius of the site:

- 14th Church of Christ Scientist, located approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the

site, is recorded as eligible for listing.

- Residence at 7302 32nd Avenue SW, located approximately 0.7 miles north-northwest of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.
- Kenyon Hall, located approximately 0.4 miles northwest of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.
- Roxbury House Apartments, located approximately 0.6 miles south of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.
- St. James Lutheran Church, located approximately 0.75 miles southeast of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.
- Residence at 8445 17th Avenue SW, located approximately 0.6 miles east of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.
- Residence at 1500 SW Trenton Street, located approximately 0.7 miles east-southeast of the site, is recorded as eligible for listing.

Although the ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** would be visible from the historic Chief Sealth International High School, considering the proposed project will not significantly alter views towards or from the school due to existing surrounding development and vegetation, no adverse impacts are anticipated. No other listed or eligible properties in any national, state, or local preservation registers would be visible from the proposed project.

- 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.**

The DAHP WISAARD predictive model indicates that the project site area for the proposed field lights could be considered a moderate risk for archaeological resources and recommends that a cultural resources assessment be conducted. There are no landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation. There is no material evidence, artifacts or areas of cultural importance on the site.

The ***SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*** proposes highly localized ground disturbance in five specific locations around the perimeter of the existing field. The Upper Softball Field area has experienced significant prior development and soil disturbance that would have removed near surface soils and sediments that could have had potential to contain cultural deposits. Substantial ground disturbing activities at the site have included the construction of Denny Middle School in 1952, the demolition of the Denny Middle School building in 2011, and the development of the currently existing Upper Softball Field in 2012.

In addition, consistent with these previous ground disturbing activities, the Geotechnical Report for the project conducted subsurface explorations which identified that the site is underlain by up to approximately 20 feet of existing fill which further indicates that substantial ground disturbing activities have historically occurred on the site and that native, near-surface soils are not likely to be present. Therefore, considering the extensive construction development activities that have previously occurred at the site, and the

minimal, highly localized ground disturbance of the proposed project, it would be anticipated that the proposed project would have a low potential to encounter significant archaeological materials.

While the project is anticipated to have a low potential to encounter archaeological materials due to extensive previous development activities, the project could implement Inadvertent Discovery Protocols during the construction process. Potential Inadvertent Discovery Protocols are identified in subsection B.13.d.

- 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.**

The DAHP WISAARD, City of Seattle Landmarks website, City of Seattle Archaeological Buffer online mapper, and the 2007 Building Historic Value Report (*ESA Adolfson, 2007*) were consulted to identify any potential historic or cultural sites in the surrounding area, as well as the potential for encountering archaeological resources in the area.

- 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.**

Significant impacts to historic or cultural resources are not anticipated with the proposed project. However, the proposed project could implement Inadvertent Discovery Protocols during the construction process which could be utilized in the event of an inadvertent discovery. Inadvertent Discovery Protocols could include the following:

- If any cultural or archaeological materials are inadvertently encountered, ground disturbance would pause and the find would be reported to the Seattle Public Schools Project Manager. The Project Manager would notify the DAHP and affected/interested Tribes. DAHP may request that SPS hire a professional archaeologist to evaluate the discovery.
 - The Construction contractor would secure and protect the discovery during the work stoppage. Construction personnel should be informed of the potential for encountering cultural material and the notification protocols in the IDP prior to commencing ground disturbance.
 - Construction would not proceed near the discovery until notice to proceed is received from DAHP. Construction work may occur elsewhere on the site during the localized work stoppage with approval from DAHP.
- If human skeletal remains are encountered during construction, then all activities that may cause further disturbance would be paused. The area of the remains would be secured and protected from further disturbance until the State provides notice to proceed. The finding of human skeletal remains would be reported to

the Seattle Police Department and King County Medical Examiner. The King County Medical Examiner would determine if the remains are forensic or non-forensic. If determined to be non-forensic, then DAHP would take jurisdiction and handle all consultation with affected parties.

14. Transportation

A *Transportation Technical Report* completed by Heffron Transportation, Inc. has been prepared for the proposed project and the results of the report are summarized in this section. For further details on the *Transportation Technical Report*, please refer to **Appendix E** of this Checklist.

It should be noted that while the transportation report provides an analysis of parking with the project, the parking analysis is provided to support the analysis for a special exemption to install lights with poles taller than 30 feet in height. The State of Washington adopted SEPA-related amendments on January 20, 2023, which removed parking as an element of the environment in WAC 197-11-444(2)(c)(iv). The amendment also removed the parking-related question from the environmental checklist in WAC 197-11-960(B)(14)(c). Pursuant to these updates, neither SPS nor the City of Seattle identifies and analyzes parking impacts in its SEPA analysis.

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.

The SWAC is bounded on the north by SW Thistle Street, on the east by 26th Avenue SW, on the south by SW Cloverdale Street and SW Trenton Street, and on the west by 29th Avenue W and 30th Avenue SW. Parking is available along these streets, with access to the site obtained pedestrian walkways connecting to sidewalks. Additionally, there is a pedestrian stairway to the southeast of the Upper Softball Field that connects through the SWAC to a gated access located along SW Trenton Street at the southeast corner of the complex. There is also a curb cut on SW Trenton Street located near the baseball field to the south of the Upper Softball Field that is reserved for emergency and maintenance access only.

The main SWAC and community center parking lot is accessed from the northern entrance on SW Thistle Street. The parking lot is located in the central northern portion of the complex and contains 347 striped stalls, including 21 ADA parking stalls. Access to the smaller parking lot directly south of the Upper Softball Field is obtained from the corner of SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW and contains six standard and two ADA parking stalls. The proposed **SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project** would not change access or parking at the site.

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?

King County Metro Transit (Metro) provides bus service along SW Thistle Street. On SW Thistle Street, the eastbound Metro bus stop is located at the north end of the SWAC

adjacent to the Southwest Community Center near the 28th Avenue SW intersection. The westbound Metro bus stop is located on the other side of the same intersection adjacent to residences. This stop is served by Metro Route 22 which provides service between approximately 6:00AM to 9:40PM from Monday through Friday between the Arbor Heights, Gatewood, and Westwood Village neighborhoods with service to the Alaska Junction in West Seattle. Weekday headways (time between consecutive buses) are approximately 70 minutes.

Additional Metro bus routes include Route 21 at SW Thistle Street and 35th Avenue SW located approximately 0.3 miles west-northwest from the site. Route 21 operates seven days a week from 4:45AM to 1:00AM with service to Arbor Heights and Downtown Seattle including stops at Roxhill, Westwood Village, High Point, West Seattle, and Southern Downtown. Headways are approximately 15 to 30 minutes.

- c. 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).**

No, the project would not require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities.

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

The project would not use or occur in the immediate vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation. The closest water transportation is the Fauntleroy Ferry route which is located over a mile from the project. The closest rail and air transportation are located over two miles from the project.

- e. 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?**

The field lighting project could generate between 240 to 300 additional trips per day for part of the year, primarily from October until early March. With the development of the *SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project*, peak volumes are estimated at approximately 85 trips per hour in the PM as a high school athletic practice or game ends (up to 55 outbound trips) and the spectators and participants of a recreational game arrive (estimated at 25 trips in and 5 trips out). During the remainder of the year, natural lighting conditions allow for field use during these times without the need for field lights (see **Appendix E** for details).

Based on observations of traffic at other athletic fields, none of the new trips are expected to be trucks (commercial or non-passenger vehicles). However, participants and/or spectators of some scholastic athletics may be transported to and from the site in buses (e.g. school buses).

- f. **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.**

The proposal would not interfere with the movement of agricultural or forest products on streets in the area because no agricultural or working forest lands are located within the vicinity of the project site.

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

The proposed project would not result in significant adverse impacts to traffic or parking within the study area. Based on the analyses presented in the referenced *Transportation Technical Report*, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts to traffic or parking within the study area. It is recommended that the District ensure that the off-street parking lots are open and available for users during all times that the field is scheduled for use. No other mitigation would be required to accommodate the project (see **Appendix E** for details).

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.**

Since the completed project would result in increased use of the athletic field, it is possible additional standard fire, police, or medical services could be required. However, this increase is expected to be minimal, and it is not expected to generate a significant increase in the need for public services. To the extent that emergency service providers have planned for gradual increases in service demands, no significant impacts are anticipated.

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

The extended use of the athletic field has the possibility of contributing to incrementally increasing demands for emergency services; however, it is anticipated that adequate service capacity is available within the Westwood area and there would be no need for additional public services.

16. Utilities

- a. **Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:**

All underlined utilities are currently available at the site.

- 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.**

The proposed field lighting system would require additional electricity for operation. Utilities and providers (in parentheses) proposed for the project would include the following:

- Electrical (Seattle City Light) – for the proposed field lighting system and associated pad mount transformer. The field lighting system would be required to connect to existing electrical connections to power the proposed lights.
- Refuse Service (Seattle Public Utilities/Waste Management Northwest) – Seattle Public Utilities, through a contract with Waste Management Northwest, provides refuse service for the south Seattle area, including the project site, and would continue to provide service. SPS would consider the provision of an additional receptacle for garbage and recycling at the field.

C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Conrad Plyler

Type name of signee: Conrad Plyler

Position and agency/organization: Project Manager, Seattle Public Schools

Date submitted: 8/19/2026

REFERENCES

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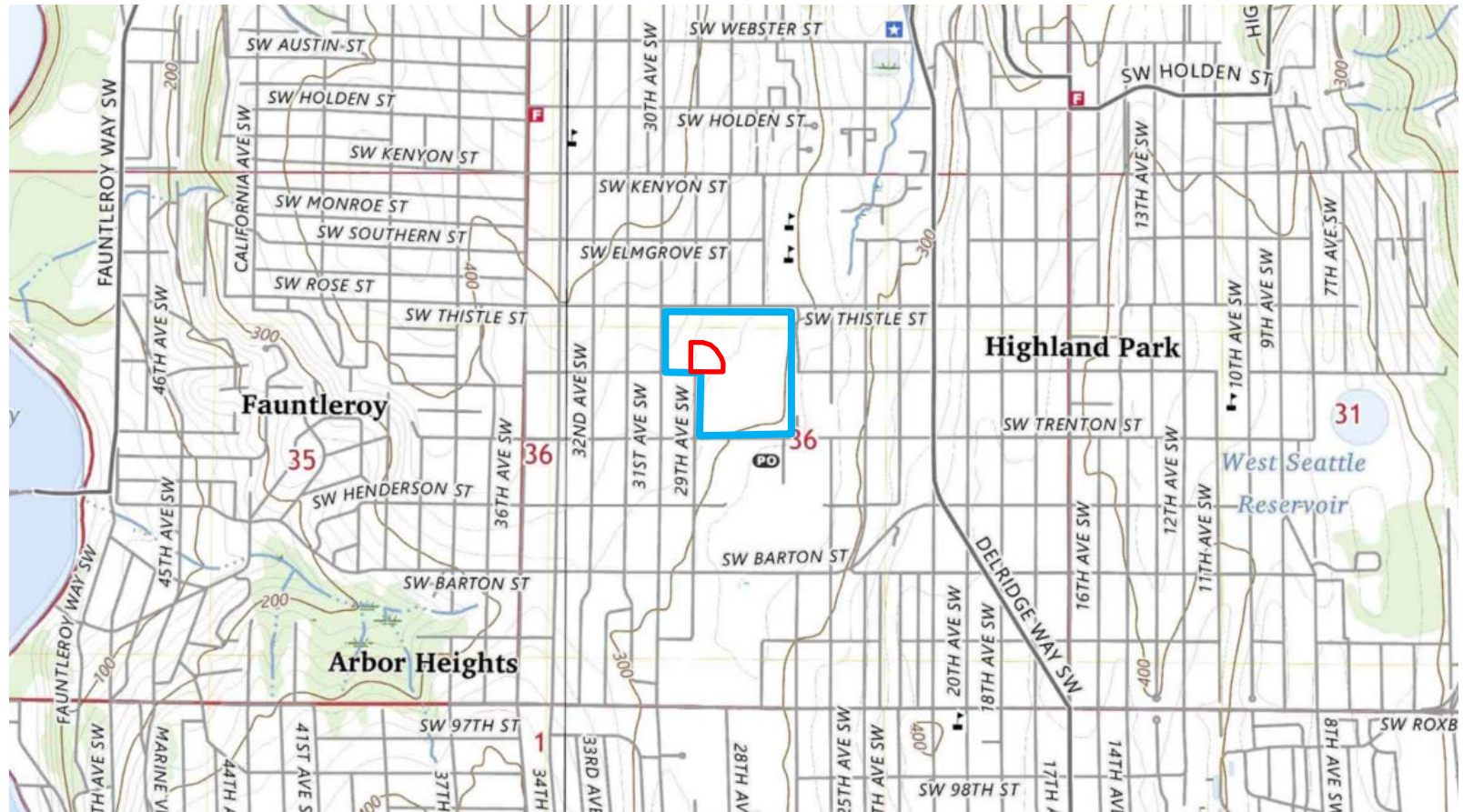
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FIGURES

SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project - Environmental Checklist

Figure 1 - Vicinity Map



- Proposed Upper Softball Field Lighting Site Area
- SWAC Boundary



Source: USGS Topographic Map and EA Engineering, 2026.

SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project - Environmental Checklist
Figure 2 – Aerial Map



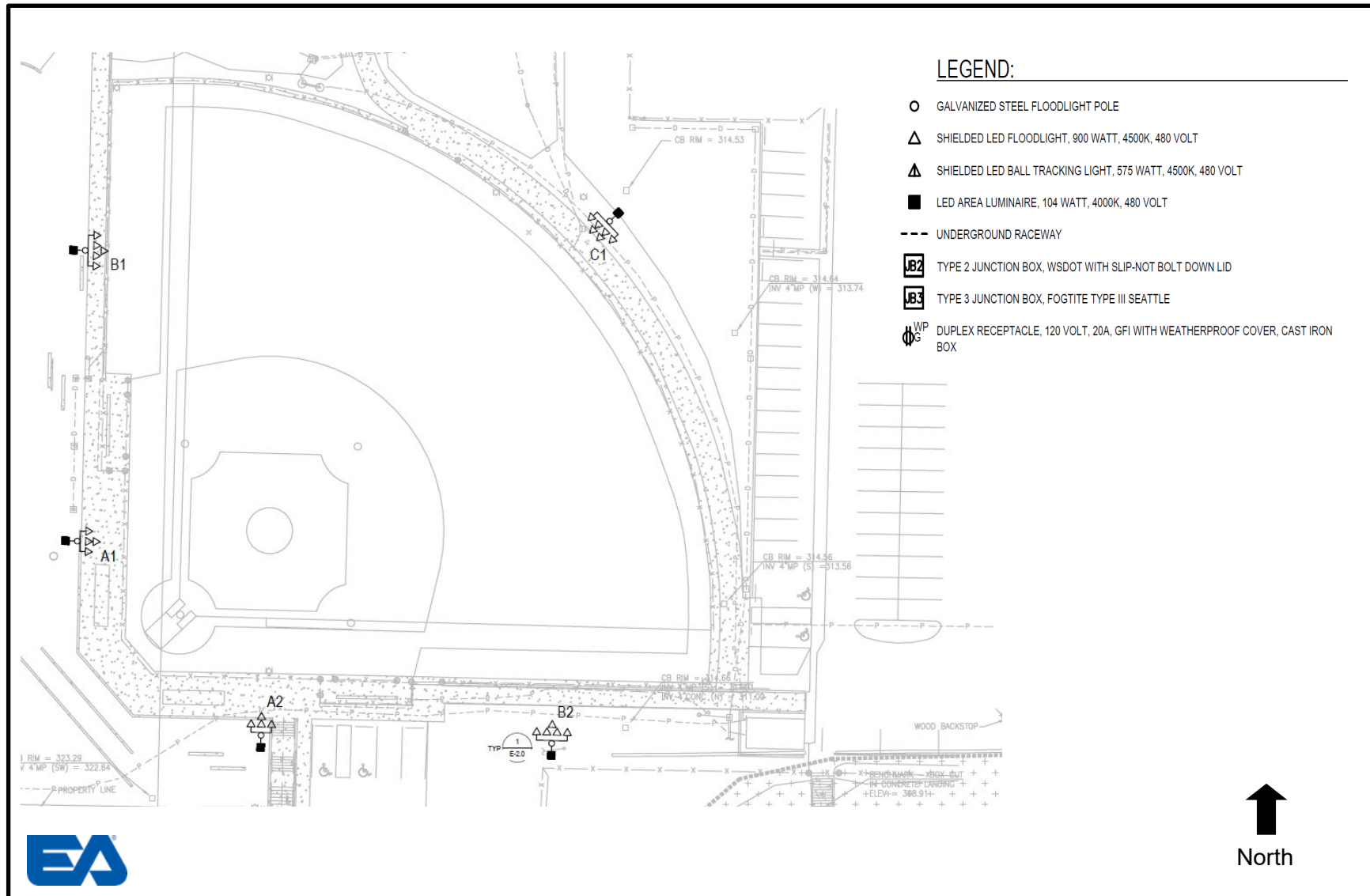
- Proposed Upper Softball Field Lighting Site Area
- SWAC Boundary



Source: Google Earth and EA Engineering, 2026.

SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project - Environmental Checklist

Figure 3 – Site Plan



Source: Source: D.A. Hogan & Associates, Inc., 2026.

APPENDIX A

Construction Best Management Practices

APPENDIX A

CONSTRUCTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The contractor will be required to implement measures to ensure the minimal environmental impacts throughout the construction process, which could include the following:

- The contractor will submit a written earthwork plan to the Project Engineer for approval prior to the commencing with any mass excavation or filling. The earthwork plan will also include:
 - Sequencing of the earthwork and grading activities;
 - Proposed equipment to be utilized;
 - Surface water diversion and control (description of how existing catch basins at the project site would remain intact and measures used to protect them from sediment during construction);
 - Proposed protection methods for excavated stockpiled fill materials and trenches;
 - Soil drying procedures; and,
 - Any other information pertinent to the manner in which the earthwork and grading will be performed.
- The contractor will obtain the City of Seattle's Department of Construction and Inspection approval that erosion control measures are in place and functioning, and will maintain erosion control measures as earthwork and utility construction commences in accordance with City of Seattle Standards.
- Surface water controls (i.e., temporary interceptor swales, check dams, silt fences, etc.) will be constructed simultaneously with clearing and grading for project development.
- Surface water and erosion control measures will be relocated or new measures will be installed so as site conditions change, erosion control measures remain in accordance with City of Seattle Best Management Practice (BMP) requirements during the construction period.
- All construction areas inactive for more than seven days during the dry season (April 1st to October 31st) or two days during the wet season (November 1st to March 31st) will be covered.
- Mitigation measures to reduce and/or control impacts to air will include:
 - Watering surfaces to control dust, the use of temporary ground covers, sprinkling the project site with approved dust palliatives, or use of temporary stabilizations practices upon the completion of grading.
 - Wheel-cleaning stations will be provided to ensure construction vehicle wheels and undercarriages do not carry excess dirt from the site onto adjacent roadways.

- Streets will be regularly cleaned to ensure excess dust and debris is not transported from the construction site onto adjacent roads.
 - Construction activities will be planned to minimize exposing areas of earth for extended periods.
 - The contractor will be required to comply with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's (PSCAA) Regulation I, Section 9.15, requiring reasonable precautions to avoid dust emissions and Regulation I, Section 9.11, requiring the best available measures to control emissions of odor-bearing contaminants. The contractor will be required to comply with recommendations in the Washington Associated General Contractor brochure "Guide to Handling Fugitive Dust from Construction Projects."
- During construction, BMPs would be implemented to ensure that sediment originating from disturbed soils would be retained within the limits of disturbance. BMP measures may include installation of filter fabric between grate and rings of all catch basin inlets, fabric fencing, barriers, check dams, etc.
 - Construction activities will be restricted to hours designated by the City of Seattle Noise Control Ordinance (SMC 25.08.425). If construction activities exceed permitted noise levels, the District would instruct the contractor to implement measures to reduce noise impacts to comply with the Noise Ordinance, which may include additional muffling of equipment.
 - Construction vehicle traffic to and from the site will be minimized during peak traffic hours.
 - Construction vehicles will not be parked in traffic lanes.
 - Flaggers will be provided as required.
 - Barriers, flashing lights, walkways, guardrails, and night lighting will be provided as required for safety and control.
 - Fire lanes and roadways to existing buildings will be retained, as required by the fire department.
 - Walkways leading past the site will remain clear of construction vehicles and debris and will remain safe at all times.

APPENDIX B

Geotechnical Engineering Study



November 11, 2025
Project No. 20250134E001

Seattle Public Schools
Mail Stop 22-332, 2445 3rd Avenue South
Seattle, Washington 98134

Attention: Conrad Plyler

Subject: Subsurface Exploration and Limited Geotechnical Engineering Study
Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Softball Field Light Addition
8402 30th Avenue SW
Seattle, Washington 98126

Reference: "Subsurface Exploration, Geologic Hazards, and Final Geotechnical Engineering Report – Proposed Denny Middle School Redevelopment," prepared by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (AESI), dated January 24, 2011.

Dear Conrad Plyler:

As requested, this letter provides design phase geotechnical engineering recommendations associated with the proposed installation of athletic field light poles at the Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) (Figure 1). Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (AESI) previously provided design and construction phase geotechnical engineering services for the athletic fields that currently exist, including preparation of the referenced 2011 geotechnical engineering report. We completed several explorations near the softball field, the locations of which are shown on Figure 2, "Existing Site and Exploration Plan" and Figure 3, "Site and Exploration Plan." Construction of the existing softball field included substantial regrading and therefore the previously existing subsurface conditions were substantially modified. Because the site was regraded after the earlier borings were completed, we recommended completing new exploration borings for this study.

SITE AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project site is that of the existing synthetic turf softball field, located at the west end of the SWAC. The project site is bordered to the west by landscaped areas of A.T. Milo Park, to the north by existing SWAC tennis/pickleball courts, and to the east and south by parking areas and SW Cloverdale Street.

We understand that the proposed project is limited to the installation of new athletic field lights around the perimeter of the above-mentioned existing softball field and installation of shallow buried electrical conduits to serve the light poles. Earthwork will be limited to boring holes for

light pole bases and burying electrical conduits. We anticipate that the project will not involve any new ancillary structures, significant cuts and fills, or grading.

SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND CONDITIONS

The softball field area is on one of a set of eastward-facing terraces created during past grading. The site was initially graded when the now demolished Denny Middle School was constructed, and the site was regraded again in 2011 when Denny Middle School was demolished and the now existing park and softball field were constructed. The east side of the existing field area is supported via geogrid-reinforced Keystone retaining walls. Beyond the retaining walls, the topography rises to the west from an elevation of about 336 feet to 346 feet, and then slopes down to the south and east from about elevation 330 feet to elevations of 300 and 324 feet, respectively.

At the time of our recent explorations at the site, we did not observe any seepages in the site slopes or indications of slope instability such as tension cracks, back-tilted benches, or slumps.

SITE EXPLORATION

Exploration Borings

In order to assess the subsurface conditions, three exploration borings were drilled at the site on October 10, 2025 (Figure 2). The borings were drilled using a track-mounted, hollow-stem auger drill rig. During drilling, soil samples were collected at depth intervals of approximately 2.5 to 5 feet using the Standard Penetration Test (SPT) procedure in accordance with *ASTM International* (ASTM)-D 1586. This test and sampling method consists of driving a standard, 2-inch outside-diameter, split barrel sampler a distance of 18 inches into the soil with a 140-pound hammer free-falling a distance of 30 inches. The number of blows for each 6-inch interval is recorded and the number of blows required to drive the sampler the final 12 inches is known as the Standard Penetration Resistance (“N-value”), or blow count. If a total of 50 blows is recorded within one 6-inch interval, the blow count is recorded as the number of blows for the corresponding number of inches of penetration. The Standard Penetration Resistance provides a measure of the relative density of granular soils, or the relative consistency of cohesive soils; these values are plotted on the boring logs included in Appendix A.

The samples obtained from the split-barrel, SPT samplers were classified in the field and representative portions placed in watertight containers. The samples were then transported to our laboratory for further visual classification and laboratory testing, as necessary.

Previous Studies

As referenced above, AESI participated in a previous geotechnical study at the site. At the time of the completion of the referenced 2011 report, the project site was occupied by a school building on the west and a parking area at the eastern edge. In order to assess the subsurface conditions at the time, that study completed a series of exploration borings using hollow-stem auger drilling techniques as described above. Four of those borings were in the vicinity of the current project area (Figure 2). The subsurface information from those borings is discussed in the following report section; however, the site has been regraded since the earlier borings were completed and the current conditions may vary significantly from the exploration borings completed for the 2011 geotechnical study.

SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS

In general, the site is underlain by up to approximately 20 feet of loose to dense existing fill overlying medium to very dense lodgement till and advance outwash.

We reviewed a published geologic map of the project, *The Geologic Map of Seattle – A Progress Report*, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Open-File Report OF-2005-1252, scale 1:24,000, by Kathy Goetz Troost, Derek B. Booth, Aaron P. Wisher, and Scott A. Shimel, 2005. The mapping indicates the project site is underlain by Vashon lodgement till with Vashon advance outwash mapped just offsite to the northwest. Our explorations at the site are consistent with the geologic mapping in that we encountered existing fill over sediments consistent with lodgement till in our recent explorations, as well as sediments consistent with lodgement till, advance outwash, and transitional sediments in our earlier explorations at the site and in the vicinity.

Existing Fill

The surficial sediments encountered in all of our exploration borings for this study encountered dark brown, brown, and gray, loose to medium dense silty sand and stiff sandy silt, with variable amounts of fine organics and rootlets, and rarely small construction debris fragments. These sediments had a chaotic texture indicative of fill. The fill extended to depths of 4.5, 17.5, and 20 feet in exploration borings EB-1, EB-2, and EB-3, respectively.

Vashon Lodgement Till

Beneath the existing fill, each of our explorations completed for this study encountered dense to very dense silty sand with variable amounts of gravel and a diamict (unsorted) texture, consistent with Vashon lodgement till. The lodgement till extended beyond the depths explored of 15 to 26.5 feet in the recent explorations. The Vashon lodgement till was deposited directly from basal, debris-laden glacial ice during the Vashon Stade of the Fraser Glaciation, approximately 12,500

to 15,000 years ago. The high relative density characteristic of the Vashon lodgement till is due to its consolidation by the massive weight of the glacial ice from which it was deposited.

Vashon Advance Outwash/Lodgement Till Transitional Sediments

Stratigraphically beneath the surficial fill and lodgement till, exploration borings completed in the current project area for the 2011 study encountered sediments that were typically dense to very dense sands with variable amounts of silt and gravel that were occasionally stratified. These sediments are consistent with advance outwash sediments and/or a transitional period between lodgement till and advance outwash sediment deposition. The Vashon advance outwash was deposited during the Vashon Stade of the Fraser Glaciation, approximately 12,500 to 15,000 years ago and was subsequently overridden by the ice sheet. The high relative density characteristic of the Vashon advance outwash is due to its consolidation by the massive weight of the glacial ice from which it was deposited.

Hydrology

Groundwater was not encountered in any of our above-referenced explorations at the site. However, it should be noted that fluctuations in the level of the groundwater may occur due to the time of the year, variations in the amount of precipitation, and changes in site development. Seepage may also occur at random depths and locations in existing fill and at contacts between geologic units or above silty zones within units.

ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS (ECAs)

We reviewed the City of Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) mapping for known ECAs related to the site and referenced the *City of Seattle Municipal Code* (SMC) on ECAs (chapter 25.09) for further clarification. The western slope above the softball field meets geometric requirements to be classified as a landslide-prone area and a steep slope erosion hazard area.

Per SMC subsection 25.09.090.B.2.b, development is allowed in a steep slope erosion hazard area if the area was created through previous legal grading activities; however, erosion control best management practices (BMPs) will be required by the City (SMC 25.09.060.H). In our opinion existing slopes were created by previous permitted grading and have performed adequately without visual evidence of instability or unusual erosion. We support exemption of the current light pole installation project from steep slope requirements in accordance with the code section cited above.

Per SMC subsection 25.09.080.A, specific development standards are required by the City for development on a parcel with a landslide-prone area. These standards are outlined in SMC

section 25.09.080 and include complete site stabilization after construction and solutions to provide site stability during construction.

STORMWATER INFILTRATION

We do not anticipate that installation of light poles at the existing softball field will trigger a stormwater redesign. The current project area is underlain at shallow depths by fill and lodgement till, neither of which are suitable as an infiltration receptor. In our opinion infiltration using conventional shallow infiltration strategies is not recommended at the softball field.

DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

Our explorations indicate that, from a geotechnical standpoint, the site is suitable for the proposed improvements, and we offer specific geotechnical design recommendations in the sections that follow. The contractor(s) selected for this project should be allowed to review the attached subsurface data for the project area. Construction of the project as proposed will require drilling of very dense lodgement till, and possibly trenching and backfill in very dense lodgement till.

As with any planned earthwork, construction should follow local standards of practice for temporary erosion and sedimentation control (TESC) BMPs. We are available to discuss project-specific BMP recommendations on request.

Structural Fill

Structural fill is expected to be limited to backfill of electrical trenches serving the new light poles, and possibly installation of electrical equipment cabinet bases.

The contractor should note that AESI should evaluate any proposed fill soils prior to their use in fills. This would require that we have a sample of the material at least 3 business days in advance of filling activities to perform a Proctor test and determine its field compaction standard. Soils in which the amount of fine-grained material (smaller than the No. 200 sieve) is greater than approximately 5 percent (measured on the minus No. 4 sieve size) should be considered moisture-sensitive. Use of moisture-sensitive soil in structural fills is not recommended during the winter months or under wet site and weather conditions. Most of the on-site soils are moisture-sensitive and have natural moisture contents over optimum for compaction and will likely require moisture-conditioning before use as structural fill. In addition, construction equipment traversing the site when the soils are wet can cause considerable disturbance. If import soil is required, a select import material consisting of a clean, free-draining gravel and/or sand should be used. Free-draining fill consists of non-organic soil with the amount of fine-grained material limited to 5 percent by weight when measured on the minus No. 4 sieve fraction and at least 30 percent retained on the No. 4 sieve.

Structural fill is defined as non-organic soil compliant with project specifications, placed in maximum 8-inch loose lifts, with each lift being compacted to at least 95 percent of the modified Proctor maximum dry density using ASTM D-1557 as the standard. The top of the compacted fill should extend horizontally a minimum distance of 3 feet beyond footings before sloping down at an angle no steeper than 2H:1V (Horizontal:Vertical). Fill slopes should either be overbuilt and trimmed back to final grade or surface-compact to the specified density.

Light Pole Foundations

We anticipate that the light pole foundations for this project will consist of concrete piers cast “neat” against the sidewalls of drilled holes, without the use of forms.

Explorations completed for the light pole foundations indicate that existing fill extends to about 6 feet below grade near EB-1 and to approximately 17.5 to 20 feet below grade in the southern and eastern portions of the field (EB-2 and EB-3). Because till is relatively deep in these latter areas, light pole shafts will likely derive most of their capacity from skin friction and passive resistance within the fill unless extended to penetrate the underlying dense native till.

Vertical Compressive Capacities

For this project, we anticipate that lateral capacities will be the most critical design factor for the light pole foundations and will likely exert the most control over the depth of embedment. For light poles embedded at least 12 feet below the ground surface, we recommend that the end-bearing portion of the allowable axial compressive capacity be assumed to be 1,000 pounds per square foot (psf). Vertical capacity can also be achieved through friction along the shafts of the poles, as described below.

Frictional Resistance

For frictional resistance along the shaft of the drilled piers used for light pole foundations, acting both in compression and in uplift, an allowable skin friction value of 150 psf for the existing fill is recommended. We recommend that frictional resistance be neglected in the uppermost 2 feet below the ground surface.

Lateral Capacities

Passive Pressure Method

The following recommendations assume that light poles will not be constructed near the top of descending slopes or retaining walls. Light poles constructed near the tops of retaining walls or near descending slopes may require reduced passive resistance values, and we should be allowed to offer situation--specific recommendations if this condition occurs.

Lateral loads on the proposed light pole foundations, caused by seismic or transient loading conditions, may be resisted by passive soil pressure against the side of the foundation. An allowable passive earth pressure of 150 pounds per cubic foot (pcf), expressed as an equivalent fluid unit weight, may be used for foundations embedded within existing fill. These values only apply to foundation elements cast "neat" against undisturbed soil. For new structural fill placed around the pier shaft, a passive earth pressure value of 250 pcf is recommended. Fill must be placed as structural fill and compacted to at least 95 percent of ASTM D-1557. Passive values presented are assumed as a triangular pressure distribution over 2 pier diameters, beginning at the surface and held at a constant depth greater than 8 feet. The triangular pressure distribution is truncated above 2 feet.

Light Pole Foundation Construction Considerations

Though not observed in our exploration borings for this project, glacial soils typically contain occasional boulders. The contractor should have the ability to excavate and remove obstacles encountered during light pole foundation drilling, or light pole locations should be shifted to avoid obstacles that are encountered.

CLOSURE

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter and hope that it meets your needs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,
ASSOCIATED EARTH SCIENCES, INC.
Kirkland, Washington



Kristen A. Marohl, L.G.
Project Geologist



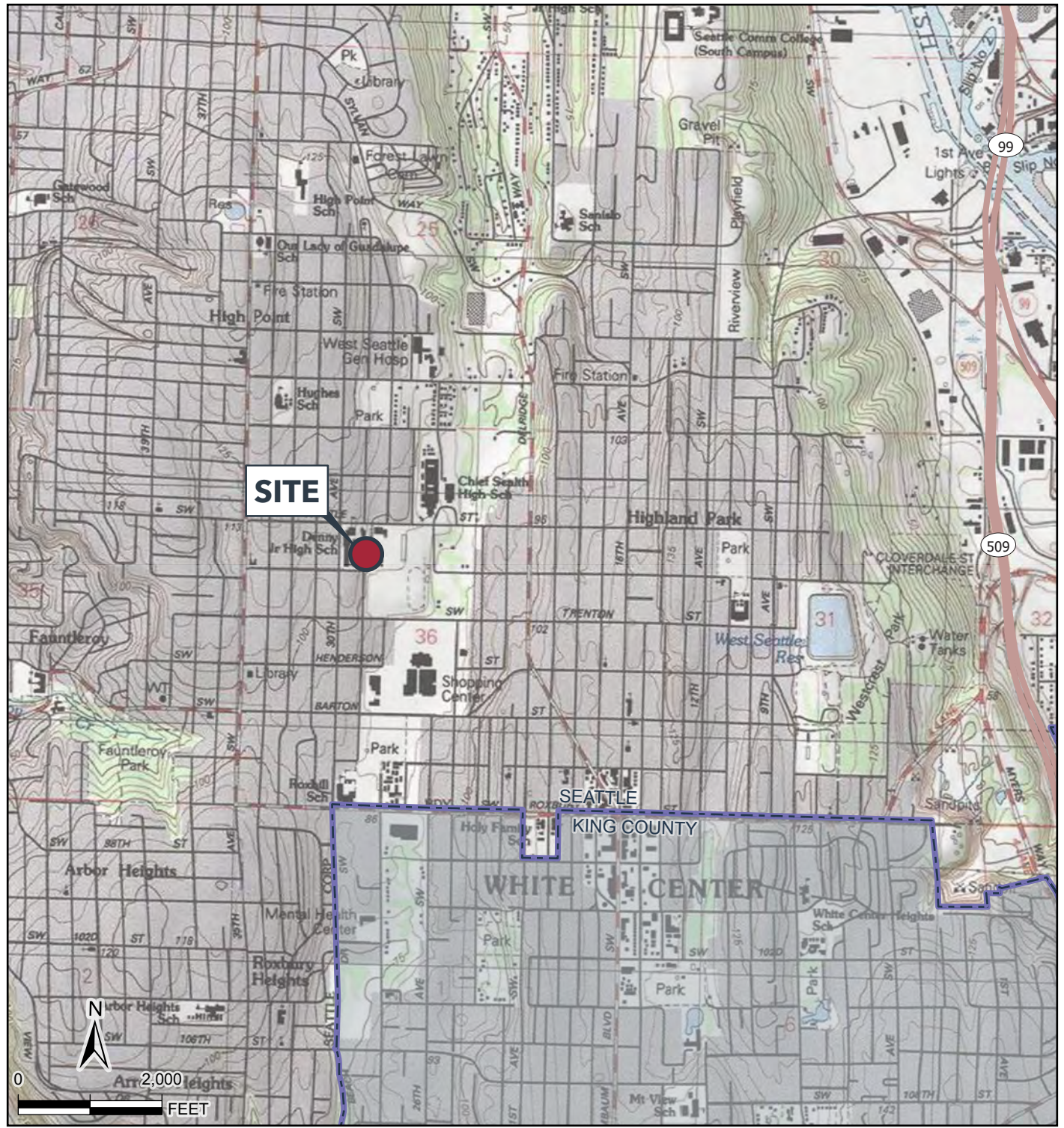
Bruce W. Guenzler, L.E.G.
Principal Engineering Geologist



Carrie M. Mozingo, L.G., L.E.G., P.E.
Principal Engineering Geologist/Engineer

Attachments: Figure 1: Vicinity Map
 Figure 2: Existing Site and Exploration Plan
 Figure 3: Site and Exploration Plan
 Appendix A: Exploration Logs

G:\GIS Projects\2025\250134 SWAC Field.aprx | 20250134E001 F1 VM SWACField 2025-10-16 | jzknkovic



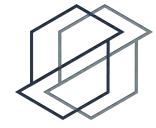
COUNTY LOCALE



ESRI, USGS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, DELORME, NATURALVUE, I-CUBED, GBCO: ARCGIS ONLINE BASEMAP, WADOT STATE ROUTES 24K (12/20), KING CO: PARCELS, ROADS (8/25).

NOTE: LOCATION AND DISTANCES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE. BLACK AND WHITE REPRODUCTION OF THIS COLOR ORIGINAL MAY REDUCE ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND LEAD TO INCORRECT INTERPRETATION.

LOCATION



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VICINITY MAP

SWAC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

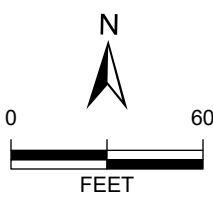
PROJECT NO.	DATE	FIGURE
20250134E001	10/25	1

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- LEGEND**
- SITE
 - EXPLORATION BORING-YEAR
 - CONTOUR 10 FT
 - CONTOUR 2 FT
 - PARCEL

DATA SOURCES/REFERENCES:
KING COUNTY: PARCELS, ROADS (8/25). EAGLEVIEW TECHNOLOGIES, INC.: AERIAL IMAGERY (2023). WA DNR LIDAR: KING COUNTY WEST 2021, ACQUIRED 4/21, 1.5' CELL SIZE. CONTOURS DERIVED FROM LIDAR.



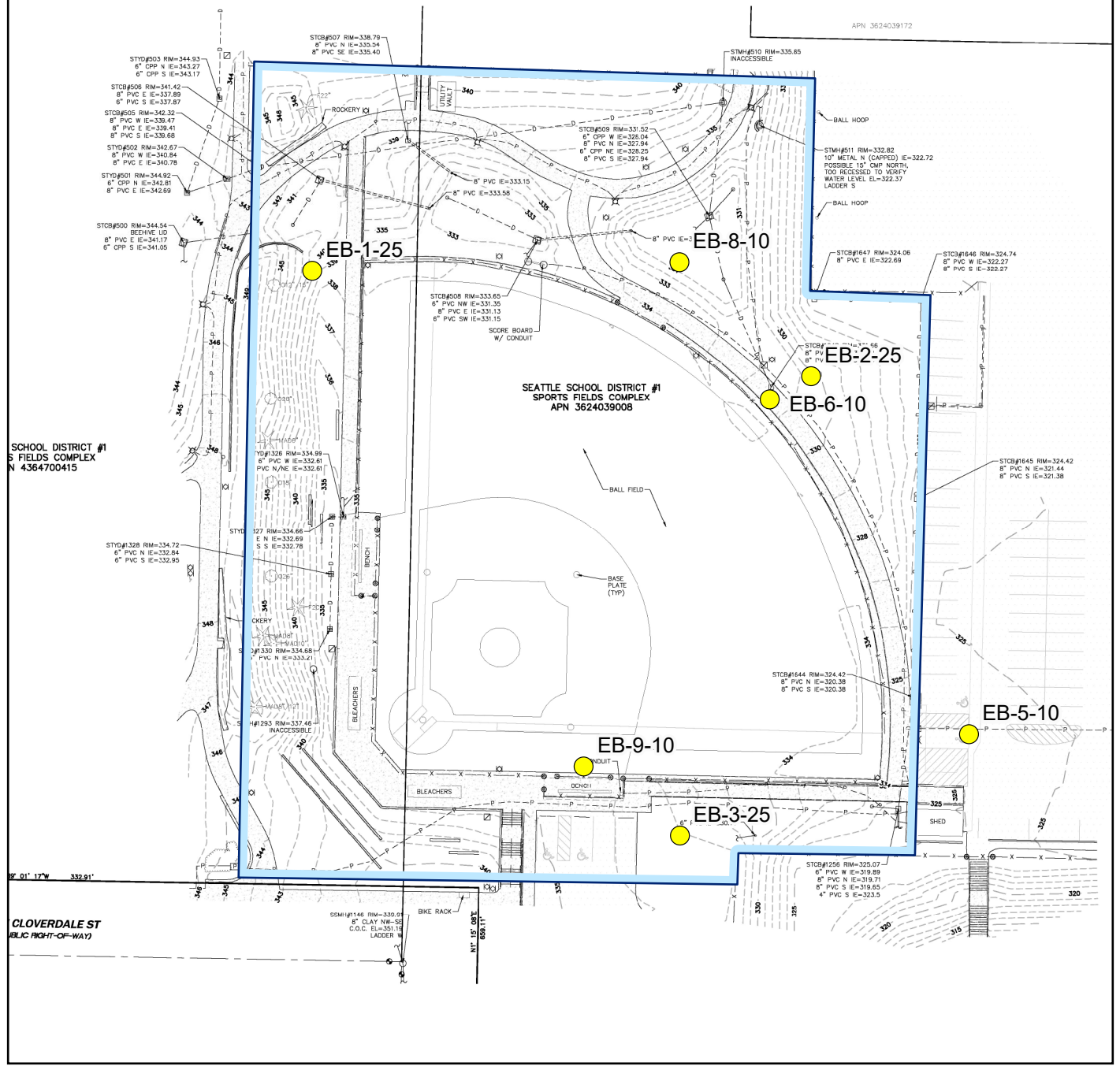
LOCATION AND DISTANCES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE.
BLACK AND WHITE REPRODUCTION OF THIS COLOR ORIGINAL MAY REDUCE ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND LEAD TO INCORRECT INTERPRETATION.



EXISTING SITE AND EXPLORATION PLAN
SWAC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PROJECT NO.	DATE	FIGURE
20250134E001	11/25	2

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LEGEND

SITE

EXPLORATION BORING-YEAR

DATA SOURCES/REFERENCES:
SITE PLAN: AHWL, SWAC SOFTBALL FIELD, BOUNDARY AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY (8/28/25).

0 60
FEET

LOCATION AND DISTANCES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE.

BLACK AND WHITE REPRODUCTION OF THIS COLOR ORIGINAL MAY REDUCE ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND LEAD TO INCORRECT INTERPRETATION.

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SITE AND EXPLORATION PLAN

**SWAC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

PROJECT NO. 20250134E001	DATE 11/25	FIGURE 3
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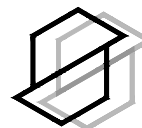
APPENDIX A

Exploration Logs

Coarse-Grained Soils - More than 50% ⁽¹⁾ Retained on No. 200 Sieve			Terms Describing Relative Density and Consistency Density Very Loose 0 to 4 Loose 4 to 10 Medium Dense 10 to 30 Dense 30 to 50 Very Dense > 50 SPT⁽³⁾ blows/foot 0 to 4 4 to 10 10 to 30 30 to 50 > 50 Test Symbols G = Grain Size M = Moisture Content A = Atterberg Limits C = Chemical DD = Dry Density K = Permeability
---	--	--	---

Classifications of soils in this report are based on visual field and/or laboratory observations, which include density/consistency, moisture condition, grain size, and plasticity estimates and should not be construed to imply field or laboratory testing unless presented herein. Visual-manual and/or laboratory classification methods of ASTM D-2487 and D-2488 were used as an identification guide for the Unified Soil Classification System.

- (1) Percentage by dry weight
 (2) Combined USCS symbols used for fines between 5% and 12%
 (3) (SPT) Standard Penetration Test (ASTM D-1586)
 (4) In General Accordance with Standard Practice for Description and Identification of Soils (ASTM D-2488)



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Exploration Boring

EB-1

SWAC Field Improvements

Sheet: 1 of 1

Seattle, WA

Start Date: 10/10/25

Logged By: KAM

20250134E001

Ending Date: 10/10/25

Approved By: JG

Driller/Equipment: Boretac 1, Inc/Tracked Rig w/HSA

Total Depth (ft): 15.3

Hammer Weight/Drop: 140#/30"

Ground Surface Elevation (ft): ≈339

Hole Diameter (in): 6

Datum: NAVD 88 (Client Survey)

Groundwater Depth ATD (ft): Not encountered

Groundwater Depth Post Drilling (ft) (Date): ()

Depth (ft)	Sample Type	Sample	% Recovery	Graphic Symbol	Description	Water Level	Blows/6"	Blows/Foot	Other Tests
0					Sod - 2 inches			10 20 30 40 50+	
					Fill				
		1			Moist, brown, silty, fine to medium SAND, some gravel to gravelly; unsorted (SM).		20 16 9	25	
5		2			Vashon Lodgement Till Moist, brownish gray, silty, fine SAND, some gravel; unsorted; diamict (SM). Driller notes slower drilling at 6 feet.		46 50/5"	50/5"	
		3			As above.		41 50/3"	50/3"	
10		4			As above.		40 50/3"	50/3"	
15		5			As above.		50/4"	50/4"	
					No groundwater encountered.				
20									
25									
30									
35									



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Exploration Boring

EB-2

SWAC Field Improvements

Sheet: 1 of 1

Seattle, WA

Start Date: 10/10/25

Logged By: KAM

20250134E001

Ending Date: 10/10/25

Approved By: JG

Driller/Equipment: Boretac 1, Inc/Tracked Rig w/HSA

Total Depth (ft): 26.3

Hammer Weight/Drop: 140#/30"

Ground Surface Elevation (ft): ~330

Hole Diameter (in): 6

Datum: NAVD 88 (Client Survey)

Groundwater Depth ATD (ft): Not encountered

Groundwater Depth Post Drilling (ft) (Date): ()

Depth (ft)	Sample Type	Sample	% Recovery	Graphic Symbol	Description	Water Level	Blows/6"	Blows/Foot	Other Tests
0					Sod - 2 inches			10 20 30 40 50+	
					Fill				
		1			Gravel stuck in sampler tip; no recovery. Cuttings moist, brown, silty, fine to medium SAND, some gravel to gravelly (SM).		12 9 13	22	
5		2			Moist, dark brown, silty, fine to medium SAND, some gravel; pockets of gray, sandy, silt with brick fragments; chaotic texture (SM/ML).		3 3 12	15	
		3			Very moist, dark brown, brown and gray, sandy, SILT, some gravel; pockets of silty gravel; occasional charcoal fragments; chaotic texture (ML/GM).		9 5 7	12	
10		4			Upper 15 inches: Moist, brown, sandy, SILT; unsorted (ML). Lower 3 inches: Moist, gray, SILT, some sand; abundant brownish black organics (ML).		7 9 9	18	
15		5			Upper 9 inches: Very moist, gray and dark brown, silty, fine SAND, some gravel; occasional organics and rootlets; chaotic texture (SM). Lower 9 inches: Ranges to trace silt (SP). Increased drill action at 17.5 feet.		4 4 5	9	
					Vashon Lodgement Till				
20		6			Moist, brownish gray, silty, fine SAND, some gravel; unsorted; diamict (SM).		13 16 18	34	
25		7			As above.		16 35 50/3"	85/9"	
					No groundwater encountered.				
30									
35									



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Exploration Boring

EB-3

SWAC Field Improvements

Sheet: 1 of 1

Seattle, WA

Start Date: 10/10/25

Logged By: KAM

20250134E001

Ending Date: 10/10/25

Approved By: JG

Driller/Equipment: Borettec 1, Inc/Tracked Rig w/HSA

Total Depth (ft): 26.5

Hammer Weight/Drop: 140#/30"

Ground Surface Elevation (ft): ≈333

Hole Diameter (in): 6

Datum: NAVD 88

Groundwater Depth ATD (ft): Not encountered

Groundwater Depth Post Drilling (ft) (Date): ()

Depth (ft)	Sample Type	Sample	% Recovery	Graphic Symbol	Description	Water Level	Blows/6"	Blows/Foot	Other Tests
0					Sod - 2 inches			10 20 30 40 50+	
					Fill				
		1			Moist, dark brown and mottled gray, sandy, SILT; abundant blackish brown organics; chaotic texture (ML).		5 5 7	12	
5		2			Moist, gray and dark brown, sandy, SILT, trace gravel; abundant blackish brown organics; chaotic texture (ML).		4 5 11	16	
		3			Moist, brown, silty, fine SAND, some gravel; occasional blackish brown organics; unsorted; chaotic texture (SM).		9 6 5	11	
10		4			As above; poor recovery; 3 inches of recovery.		3 2 3	5	
15		5			As above; gray and blackish brown; occasional silt pockets.		8 6 7	13	
20		6			Increased drill action at 20 feet.		15 46 30		76
					Vashon Lodgement Till				
					Moist, brownish gray, silty, fine SAND, some gravel; unsorted; diamict (ML).				
25		7			As above.		17 31 44		75
					No groundwater encountered.				
30									
35									

11/10/2025

20250134E001

APPENDIX C

Noise Analytical Report



SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOISE ANALYTICAL REPORT

SWAC Upper Softball Field
Seattle, Washington

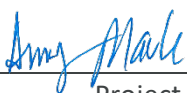
August 10, 2026

Prepared for

Seattle Public Schools
2445 Third Avenue South
MS 22-337
Seattle WA 98134

**Seattle Public Schools
Seattle Public Schools Noise Analytical Report
SWAC Upper Softball Field
Seattle, Washington**

This document was prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, the technical professionals noted below.

Document prepared by:  Amy Maule
Project Manager

Document reviewed by:  Kristen Wallace
Senior Quality Reviewer

Date: August 10, 2026
Project No.: 0878016.010
File path: \\edmdata01\projects\878\016\010\R\Landau SPS SWAC Lighting Noise_rpt 081026.docx
Project Coordinator: bkc

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FIGURES

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Baseball Field	Southwest Athletic Complex Baseball Field
dBA.....	A-weighted decibel
Landau.....	Landau Associates, Inc.
L _{eq}	equivalent sound level
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SLM	sound level measurement
SMC.....	Seattle Municipal Code
SPS.....	Seattle Public Schools
SWAC.....	Southwest Athletic Complex

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

At the request of Seattle Public Schools (SPS), Landau Associates, Inc. (Landau), under contract with EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc. prepared this noise analytical report to support the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist for the proposed Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting project (the project).

The following sections describe the existing conditions and current regulatory environment of the study area, which is defined as the SWAC Upper Softball Field and nearby noise-sensitive receiver locations (land used for purposes sensitive to noise, such as residences; Figure 1), and potential noise increases associated with the project.

2.0 CHARACTERISTICS OF SOUND AND NOISE

For the purposes of this analysis, noise can be described as sound that is undesired in terms of its loudness (amplitude) and frequency (pitch). Magnitudes of typical noise levels are presented below.

Table 1. Common Sources of Noise

Noise Source	Decibel Level	Notes
Jet takeoff at 50 feet	140	Physical pain and immediate injury
Chainsaw, siren at close range	120	Uncomfortably loud
Loud entertainment venue	105 – 110	
Motorcycle at 50 feet	95	Very loud
Noisy urban street	85	
Washing machine or dishwasher	70	Possible annoyance
Range of normal human speech	50 – 70	
Average office	50	Quiet
Refrigerator hum	40	
Whisper, ticking watch	20 – 30	Barely audible

Sources:

HUD. 2014. HUD Noise Guidebook. US Department of Housing and Urban Development. April.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/313/hud-noise-guidebook/>.

CDC. 2025. “Listen Up! Protect Your Hearing.” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed November 17.

https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hearing_loss/infographic/.

Since the human ear is not equally sensitive to sound at all frequencies, a frequency-dependent rating relates noise to human hearing sensitivity. This is called the A-weighted decibel (dBA) scale. This scale accounts for the human perception of a doubling of loudness as an increase of 10 dBA. Therefore, a 70-dBA sound level will sound twice as loud as a 60-dBA sound level. People generally cannot detect differences of 1 to 2 dBA between noise sources of a similar nature (e.g., an increase in traffic noise compared to existing traffic noise); however, under ideal listening conditions, differences of 2 or 3 dBA can be detected by some people. Most people under normal listening conditions would probably perceive a 5-dBA change in noise of a similar nature. However, if an intruding noise is of a different nature than background noise (e.g., backup alarms in a quiet neighborhood), many people can perceive the intruding noise even if it increases the overall dBA noise level by less than 1 dBA.

A measure used to represent the average sound energy occurring over a specified time period is the equivalent sound level (Leq). Leq is the steady-state sound level that would have the same acoustical energy as the time-varying sound that actually occurs during the monitoring period. The 1-hour A-weighted equivalent sound level is the energy average of A-weighted sound levels occurring during a 1-hour period.

When distance is the only factor considered, sound levels from isolated point sources of noise typically decrease by about 6 dBA for every doubling of distance from the noise source. When the noise source is a continuous line, sound levels decrease by about 3 dBA for every doubling of distance. Attenuation of noise at a distance is also affected by the type of intervening ground, with hard/reflective surfaces

(e.g. pavement, water) resulting in less attenuation at a distance and soft/absorbent surfaces (e.g., vegetation, fluffy snow), resulting in greater attenuation.

Noise levels at different distances can also be affected by several factors other than the distance from the noise source. Topographic features and structural barriers that absorb, reflect, or scatter sound waves can affect the decreasing noise levels. Atmospheric conditions (wind speed and direction, humidity levels, and temperatures) can also affect the degree to which sound is attenuated over distance.

Reflections off topographical features or buildings can sometimes result in higher sound levels (lower sound attenuation rates) than normally expected. Temperature inversions and altitudinal changes in wind conditions can also refract and focus sound waves toward a location at considerable distance from the noise source. As a result, the existing noise environment can be highly variable depending on local conditions.

3.0 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The project site is located in Seattle, Washington and is subject to the noise regulations established by the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC). Chapter 25.08 of the SMC, Noise Control, contains regulations that limit noise from noise sources within the City of Seattle (City). Section 25.08.410 of the SMC sets forth maximum permissible environmental noise levels based on districts (Table 2); SMC 25.08.100 defines the three districts, based on land use, as follows:

- “Residential District” includes zones defined as residential zones and NC1 zones in the Land Use Code of the City of Seattle, Title 23.
- “Commercial District” includes zones designated as NC2, NC3, SM, SM-SLU, SM-D, SM-NR, C1, C2, DOC1, DOC2, DRC, DMC, PSM, IDM, DH1, DH2, PMM, and IB in the Land Use Code of the City of Seattle, Title 23.
- “Industrial District” includes zones designated as IG1, IG2, and IC in the Land Use Code of the City of Seattle, Title 23.

The code states that “between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. during weekdays, and between the hours of 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. on weekends and legal holidays [nighttime], the exterior sound level limits [listed below] are reduced by 10 dB(A) where the receiving property lies within a residential district of the City.”

Table 2. Seattle Maximum Permissible Noise Levels (dBA)

District of Sound Source	District of Receiving Property			
	Residential (daytime)	Residential (nighttime)	Commercial	Industrial
Residential	55	45	57	60
Commercial	57	47	60	65
Industrial	60	50	65	70

Abbreviations and Acronyms

dBA = A-weighted decibel

Section 25.08.425 of the SMC addresses sounds created by construction and maintenance equipment. The sound levels listed above in Table 2 may be exceeded by 15 to 20 dBA for maintenance or repair activities and by 20 to 25 dBA for construction equipment during the following times:

Within Lowrise, Midrise, Highrise, Residential-Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial zones, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays and between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekends and legal holidays, except that for parking lot maintenance or if the equipment is being used for a public project, then between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on weekends and legal holidays.

Within all other zones, between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. on weekdays and between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on weekends and legal holidays.

Additional noise limits and timing restrictions apply to types of equipment that create impulse sound, impact sound, or are used as impact equipment, such as pavement breakers, piledrivers, jackhammers, or sandblasting tools.

SMC Section 25.08.480 exempts sounds created by motor vehicles traveling on public roadways from the noise limits identified in Table 2.

In addition to the noise pollution control rules described above, public nuisance noises are regulated by Chapter 25.08, Subchapter V of the SMC. Public disturbance noises are unreasonable noises that disturb another person. Loud and raucous as well as frequent, repetitive, or continuous sounds made by animals, horns or sirens, musical instruments, motor vehicles, or the amplified or unamplified human voice can be considered nuisance noises.

Chapters 25.08.515 and 25.08.520 provide additional noise limits applicable to amplified sounds and sounds made by audio equipment or associated with music events.

The City exempts noise from traffic traveling on public roadways from its noise limits.

4.0 EXISTING NOISE ENVIRONMENT

The project site is located within the city limits of Seattle. Surrounding land uses, zoning, and existing noise sources in the study area are described below.

4.1 Land Use and Zoning

The project site (SWAC Upper Softball Field) is part of the SWAC. The project site is bordered to the west by A.T. Milo Park; to the north by pickleball/tennis courts, basketball courts, and indoor facilities; to the east by a parking lot; and to the south and southeast by the SWAC Baseball Field (with lighting). The SWAC also includes a pool, track and sports field/stadium, two additional ball fields (including the Lower Softball Field, with lighting), and a multi-use field. A residential neighborhood is located to the southwest, opposite Southwest Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue Southwest. The SWAC is surrounded to the southwest, west, north, and east with residences. Chief Sealth International High School is located to the northwest of the SWAC, and a commercial park is located to the south and southeast.

The SWAC and adjacent land to the north and west are zoned NR2, and land to the southwest is zoned RSL (M), both of which are neighborhood residential zones allowing detached single-family houses and attached and detached accessory dwellings.

Land to the southeast is zoned NC3-75 (M1), a mixed-use zone where both residential and commercial development are allowed.

Land to the east is zoned LR2 (M), a multifamily residential zone.

4.2 Existing Noise Sources

Existing noise sources in the study area include the following:

- Noise associated with activities at the SWAC.
 - Activities at the Upper Softball Field currently occur until dusk (5:30 p.m. during early season practices and as late as 9 p.m. in mid-June)
 - Lights at the track and field/stadium are currently on until 11 p.m.
 - Lights at the currently lit fields are on until 10 p.m. when the fields are reserved.
- Noise from vehicular traffic associated with the SWAC, the commercial area, the school, and the surrounding residences.

4.2.1 Baseline Sound Measurements

Noise measurements were conducted by Landau on Thursday, October 23, 2025. Landau conducted baseline noise monitoring at three sound level measurement (SLM) locations within the study area, as follows (shown on Figure 1):

- SLM1a and SLM1b—approximately 80 to 100 feet west (a) and south (b) of the SWAC Baseball Field (south of the Upper Softball Field; Baseball Field). The Baseball Field has lighting, so this location was used to measure sound levels associated with an evening activity.

- SLM2—approximately 240 feet west of the Upper Softball Field. This location was used to measure sound currently received by residences located west of the Upper Softball Field.
- SLM3—approximately 80 to 100 feet southwest of the Upper Softball Field. This location was used to measure sound currently received by residences located southwest of the Upper Softball Field.

Measurements were taken between 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on October 23 while a youth baseball practice was conducted at the Baseball Field. No activities were taking place at the Upper Softball Field. Landau staff noted the following activities at the Baseball Field:

- Between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m., players were at the field preparing for practice. Practice started at approximately 7:30 p.m.
- Sounds from the practice were faintly audible at SLM3 between 7:30 and 8:05 p.m. and clearly audible between 8:15 and 8:30 p.m.
- Practice ended just after 8:30 p.m.
- At approximately 8:45, the field area was closed, so SLM1 was moved from SLM1a to SLM1b (see Figure 1).
- All players and vehicles associated with the practice had departed the area by 9:00 p.m.

The resulting measurements are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. Sound Level Measurements (dBA)

Measurement Location	Players Arriving 7 – 7:30 p.m.		Active Practice 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.		Players Departing 8:30 – 9 p.m.		Post-Practice ^a 9 – 9:30 p.m.		Adjusted Post-Practice ^a 9 – 9:30 p.m.	
	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax
SLM1	44	46	46	49	46	48	54	55	45	46
SLM2	48	49	47	48	46	47	47	48	N/A	N/A
SLM3	46	48	44	45	44	45	44	45	N/A	N/A
SMC Noise Limit	55	70	55	70	55	70	55	70	55	70

Notes

- a. Sound levels during this period were observed to be primarily associated with vehicle traffic on Southwest Trenton Street. Moving the meter from SLM1a to SLM1b reduced the distance between the meter and the nearest roadway, so standard distance attenuation was used to calculate an adjusted sound level for comparison with the other measurements at SLM1 (see Section 2.0).

Abbreviations and Acronyms

dBA = A-weighted decibel
 Leq = equivalent sound level
 Lmax = maximum sound level
 N/A = not applicable
 SLM = sound level measurement
 SMC = Seattle Municipal Code

5.0 IMPACTS

Potential noise impacts associated with the addition of lighting to the SWAC Upper Softball Field were estimated by comparing existing sound levels at the Upper Softball Field (with and without activities at the Baseball Field) with similar sound levels at the Baseball Field.

5.1 Activity Noise

Noise sources associated with the SWAC Upper Softball Field include human voices and activity and maintenance work. These noises would be similar in nature to noise currently produced at the Upper Softball field during daylight hours and at the Baseball Field and Lower Softball Field during evening hours. Addition of lighting to the Upper Softball Field would extend use hours at that field from the current closing time (dusk) to 10:00 p.m. These extended hours would match the current schedule at the Baseball Field and Lower Softball Field.

As shown in Section 4.2.1, sound associated with evening activities at the Baseball Field are currently audible in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field, and sound levels associated with activities at the Baseball Field are similar to existing sound levels in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field. The sound associated with human voices and other activities on the field may be perceptible over other background noises (such as vehicular noise) due to the different character of the sounds, but it is not expected to be louder than existing sounds in the area.

All activities taking place at the SWAC, including the Upper Softball Field, are subject to the requirements of the SMC Section 25.08, discussed in Section 3.0 above. All measured sound levels at all SLM locations were well below the daytime noise limit of 55 dBA. With lighting, the Upper Softball Field would close at or before 10:00 p.m., so noise associated with the field would not be expected to extend into nighttime hours.

5.2 Vehicular Noise

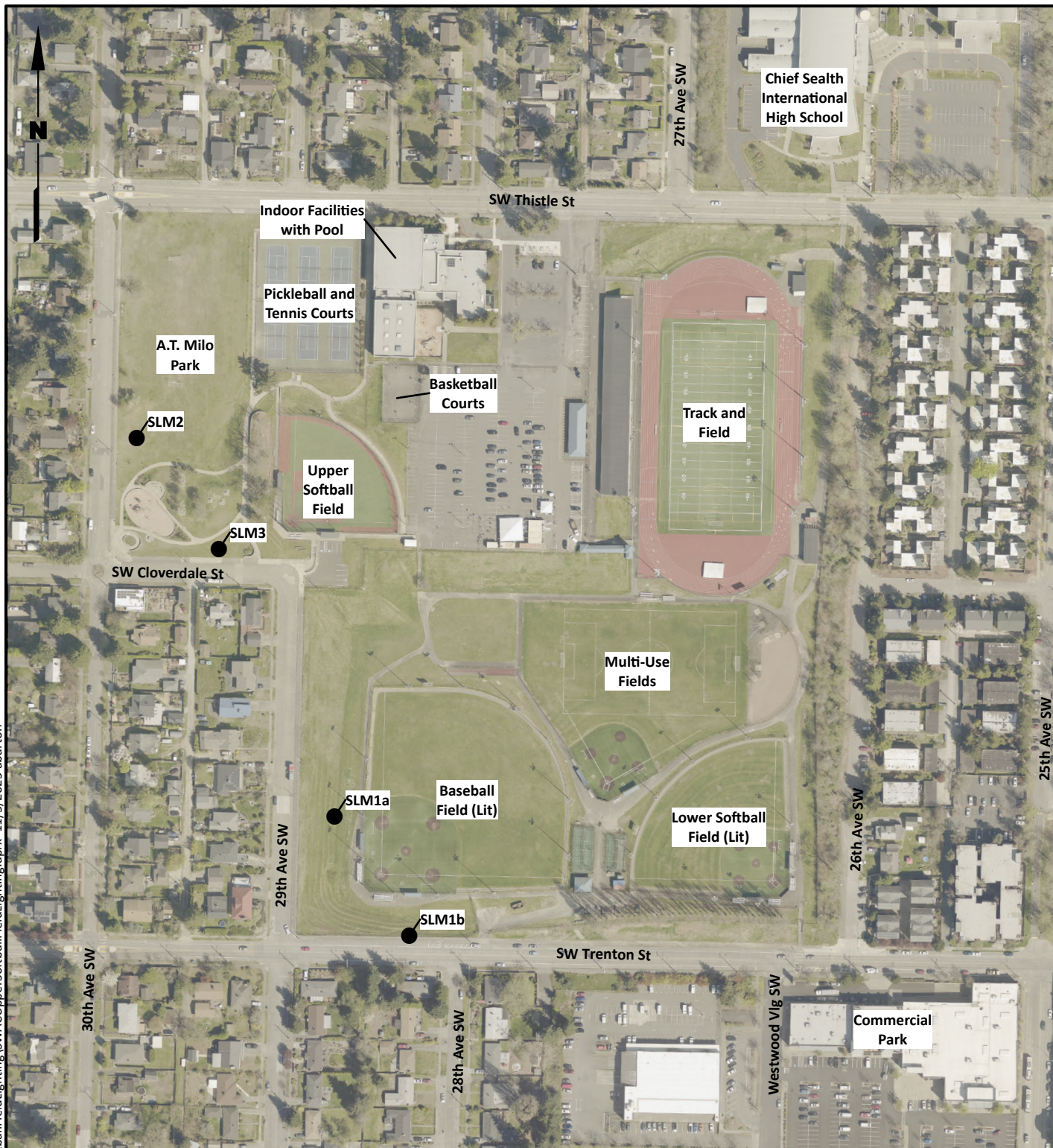
Baseline sound measured between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. included players arriving and departing the facility by foot and in vehicles. Measured sound levels during that period were within two decibels of measured sound levels between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m. when all players had departed the site, indicating that vehicular noise is not expected to increase significantly over existing vehicular noise levels.

5.3 Temporary Construction Noise

The project involves installation of lights at an existing sports field. Construction-related sounds are expected to be minimal, including sound associated with construction vehicles and light machinery. No clearing, grading, or piledriving is planned. Construction is expected to occur during daytime hours and to be temporary in nature. Any impacts are expected to be less than significant.

6.0 USE OF THIS REPORT

This report has been prepared for the exclusive use of SPS for specific application to the SWAC Noise Analytical Report. No other party is entitled to rely on the information, conclusions, and recommendations included in this document without the express written consent of Landau. Further, the reuse of information, conclusions, and recommendations provided herein for extensions of the project or for any other project, without review and authorization by Landau, shall be at the user's sole risk. Landau warrants that within the limitations of scope, schedule, and budget, our services have been provided in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the profession currently practicing in the same locality under similar conditions as this project. Landau makes no other warranty, either express or implied.

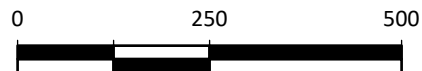


Legend

- Sound Level Measurement Location

Note

1. Black and white reproduction of this color original may reduce its effectiveness and lead to incorrect interpretation.



Scale in Feet

Data Source: King County GIS.

APPENDIX D

Light and Glare Report

Southwest Athletic Complex Softball Field Lighting



Light and Glare Report

March 6, 2026

Prepared for:

**Seattle Public Schools
Capital Projects
Seattle, Washington**

Consultant:



Proposal

The existing softball field at Southwest Athletic Complex is proposed to be lighted.

The design levels for the field lighting are proposed at a Class IV level of play. Class IV is the lowest recommended level listed in RP-8 (Recommended Practice for Sports Lighting) by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. The infield is designed to an average maintained lighting level of 49 foot-candles and the outfield is designed to an average maintained lighting level of 29 foot-candles. The lighting system is designed using a .95 design factor to achieve the initial lighting levels.

These lighting design levels meet current practices for both the City of Seattle and Seattle School District for the lighting of athletic fields. The proposed lighting levels will be consistent with recently lighted fields at Jane Addams Middle School.

Existing Codes and Policies

Section 23.51B.002 (Public schools in residential zones) of the Seattle Municipal Code limits the height of lighting standards in Single Family and Lowrise zones. Section D-6-a permits light standards up to a maximum height of 100 feet, “if the Director determines that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and that impacts from light and glare are minimized to the greatest extent practicable”. In addition, Section 23.46.020 (Light and glare standards) paragraph A of the Seattle Municipal Code also requires that “Exterior lighting be shielded or directed away from adjacent uses”. Additional City of Seattle guidelines recommend that athletic field spill light not exceed 0.8 foot-candles initial at residential property lines.

To comply with existing codes an exemption to the height limit is requested. This exemption will ensure adequate illumination and reduce the amount of impacts from light and glare into the neighborhood.

Existing Conditions

A survey of the existing site was conducted on March 4th, 2026. The site is located within a residential community south of SW Thistle Street between 26th Avenue SW and 30th Avenue SW. The field is located adjacent to residential homes on the west side of 29th Avenue SW and on the south side of SW Cloverdale Street.

The area surrounding site slopes down from west to the east. The adjacent homes to the west and south are at higher elevation than the field. The homes to the west are at a lower elevation than the field. There is some tree and vegetative screening between the field and existing homes west of the field.



View looking east from the field



View looking southwest from the field



View looking west from the field



View looking north from the field

Existing Light and Glare

A survey of the existing lighting on site and in the surrounding area was conducted on March 4th, 2026. Light readings were taken on site and on several streets surrounding the field.

The existing light sources on the site primarily consist of the lighted football stadium, lighted baseball field and lighted softball field. Additional lighting consists of grandstand, building and parking lot light poles.



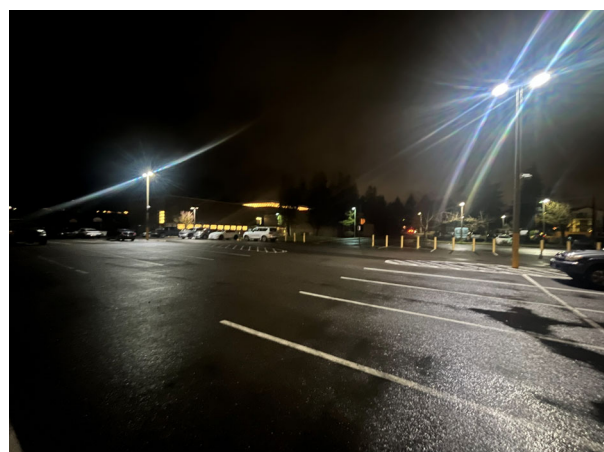
Existing Football Stadium Lighting



Existing Baseball and Softball Field Lighting



Existing Building Mounted Lighting



Existing Parking Lot Lighting

The existing light sources surrounding the site are typical for an urban\suburban residential area. The primary component of the lighting is associated with streetlights surrounding the site. The streetlights are LED cobra head style mounted to existing utility poles at an approximate height of 25’ to 30’ above grade. The balance of the lighting immediately adjacent to the site is associated with adjacent residential properties with porch\yard lights and interior lighting visible through windows.



Existing LED Streetlighting SW Trenton Street



Existing LED Streetlighting 29th Avenue SW

Various measured lighting levels onsite and surrounding the site are as follows (Foot-Candles).

Field Lighting	45.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Building Lighting	15.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Parking Lot Pole Lighting	12.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Streetlight – 29 th Avenue SW	1.5 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Streetlight – SW Trenton Street	4.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)

Proposed Equipment

The proposed lighting for the softball field consists of 18 watt shielded LED floodlights. The floodlights will be mounted on five galvanized steel poles surrounding the field. The poles will be 60’ tall. The four infield poles will have one additional ball tracking floodlight and the one outfield pole will have two additional ball tracking floodlight. The ball tracking floodlights will be mounted at a height of 16’ above grade.

Seattle Public Schools has proposed to use an athletic field lighting system designed to mitigate the negative impacts of light and glare. The proposed system consists of the latest technology available on the market for shielded LED floodlights designed for the lighting of athletic fields.

The use of high efficiency LED arrays provides more precise control of light to be delivered to the field. The reflector and shielding design further reduce the amount of light transmitted off site and into the atmosphere. The floodlights utilize an additional external visor mounted to the floodlight that extends in front of the floodlight. The floodlight design is similar to “full cutoff” style lights as they dramatically limit the amount of light that is emitted above the plane of the floodlight. The proposed lighting system is similar to the recently lighted fields at Jane Addams Middle School.



LED Floodlight used at Jane Addams Middle School

Analysis

The proposed lighting system will increase the amount of light in the area during evening hours. The primary impacts of the lighting system are direct glare, reflected glare, spill light (light trespass), and “sky glow”.

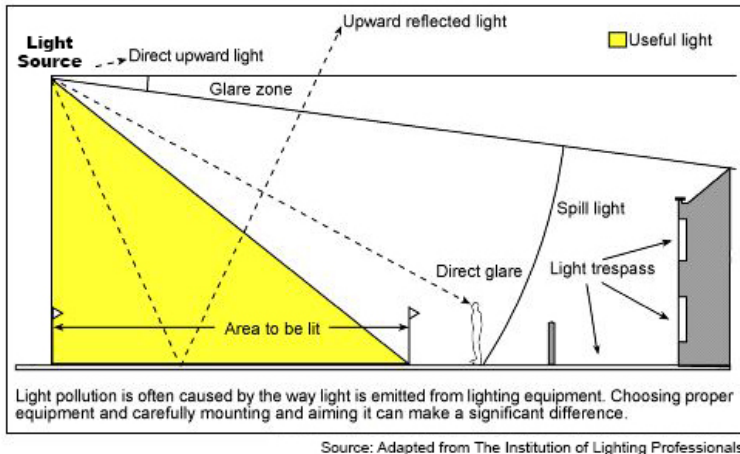


Diagram illustrating Direct-Glare, Spill Light and Light Trespass

GLARE

The athletic field lighting system will generate visible glare. The primary sources of glare from the proposed lighting system consist of direct glare from the floodlights and reflected glare (luminance) off the poles, floodlights, and surfaces around the playing fields.

The amount of glare that is present correlates directly to how much of the floodlight lamp and reflector can be observed. The intent of Seattle Municipal Code Section 23.24.020 is to have floodlight luminaires directed as far down as possible to reduce the amount of glare that is visible from off-site locations.

To reduce the amount of glare that is visible off-site the floodlights will need to be mounted higher than 30 feet. At a height of 30 feet the visibility of the high wattage LED's and reflectors from the adjacent residences is excessive. With the increased mounting heights floodlights will have steeper aiming angles resulting in more effective use of the floodlight shields. A significantly smaller portion of the floodlight reflectors and LED diodes will be visible off site with the increased height.

Direct glare would be visible from all directions overlooking the site, depending on the distance of the observer from the field, orientation of the floodlights, distribution of intervening buildings, terrain or vegetation that would block the glare. The impacts of direct glare are extremely difficult to quantify, as varying conditions such as existing ambient light levels and current atmospheric conditions will vary the impact. Elevation differences between the level of the sports field lights and the viewpoint is a key determinant in the existence of glare at any given viewing location.

To maximize glare reduction, the owner is providing additional mitigation with the use of “full cutoff” style LED floodlights that provide the most advanced light control and shielding currently available in the sports lighting industry. Additional reduction in direct glare is also provided by internal shielding of the LED diodes. The additional shielding nearly eliminates direct view of the very bright LED’s from off-site viewing locations.

Off-site exposure to minor levels of direct glare is primarily to the adjacent residential properties located south of the field. These properties are close to the fields with direct exposure to the floodlight assemblies. The direct glare visible at these residences is primarily from light bouncing off the internal polished reflecting surface of the floodlights.

The residential properties to the west and properties located farther away from the field will have minimal to no direct glare impacts.

The visible direct glare from the proposed softball field lighting will be much less than the existing reflected glare produced by the existing field lighting on site.

Reflected glare would be visible from all directions overlooking the site, depending on direct views into the site, elevation, exposure in relation to the field and track surfaces, exposure to poles, floodlights, distribution of intervening buildings, terrain or vegetation that would block the glare. Of the surfaces that are visible from off site locations, the synthetic athletic field and pavement surfaces would be the greatest contributor to reflected glare. The reflected light off the floodlight housings, floodlight visors and poles would be a lesser contributor.

The residential properties to the south overlooking the site will have low to minor exposure to reflected glare. Reflected glare will be evident to these properties that have direct exposure to the field surfaces, adjacent grass, pavement surfaces, light poles, and floodlight assemblies. The main component of the impact is the light reflected off the synthetic turf field surface and adjacent pavement surfaces.

Residential properties that are located farther away from the field or situated below the field will have minimal to no reflected glare impacts. These properties will have very limited to no direct views of the playing surface due to their location away from the fields. The reflected glare impact associated with the poles and floodlights is much less from more remote viewing points, as the impact is reduced at greater distances. This is true even though reflected glare from the floodlights and tops of the poles will be visible at greater distances due to their elevation above the field.

The visible reflected glare from the proposed softball field lighting will be much less than the existing reflected glare produced by the existing field lighting on site.

Using a pole height of 30’ tall the direct glare impacts are excessive and intolerable. The max candela exposure from the floodlights increases from a minor level of 304 candelas at the adjacent property line to a maximum of 41,033 candela. Vehicular high beam floodlights have a maximum approximate value up to approximately 75,000 candela.

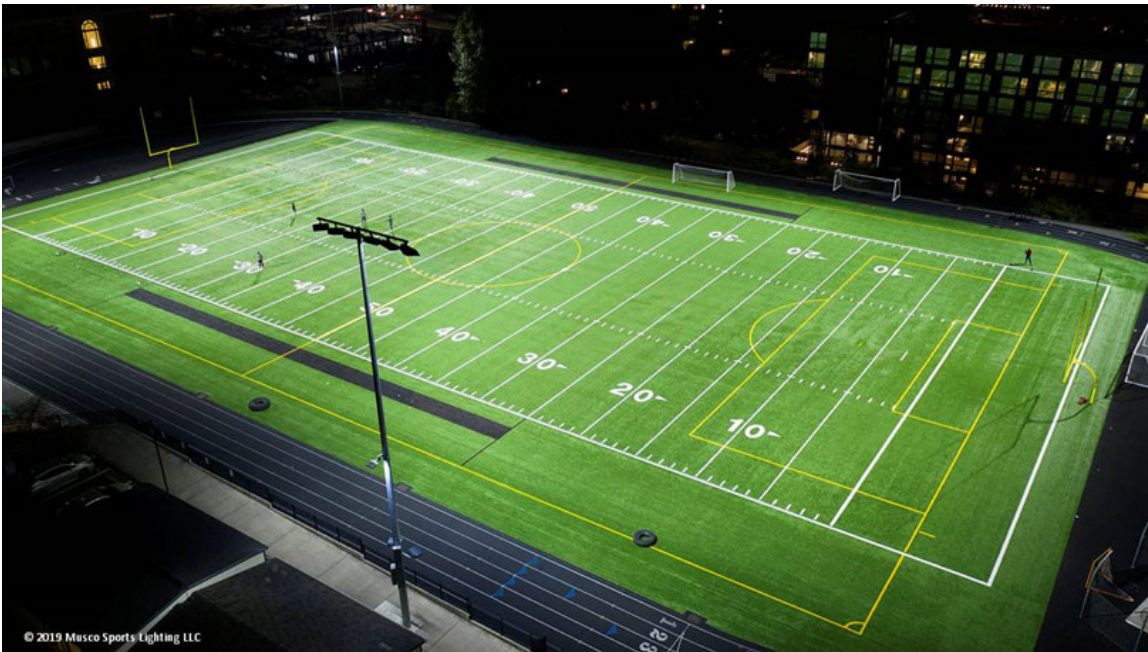


Direct glare reduction with use of advance shielded LED floodlights

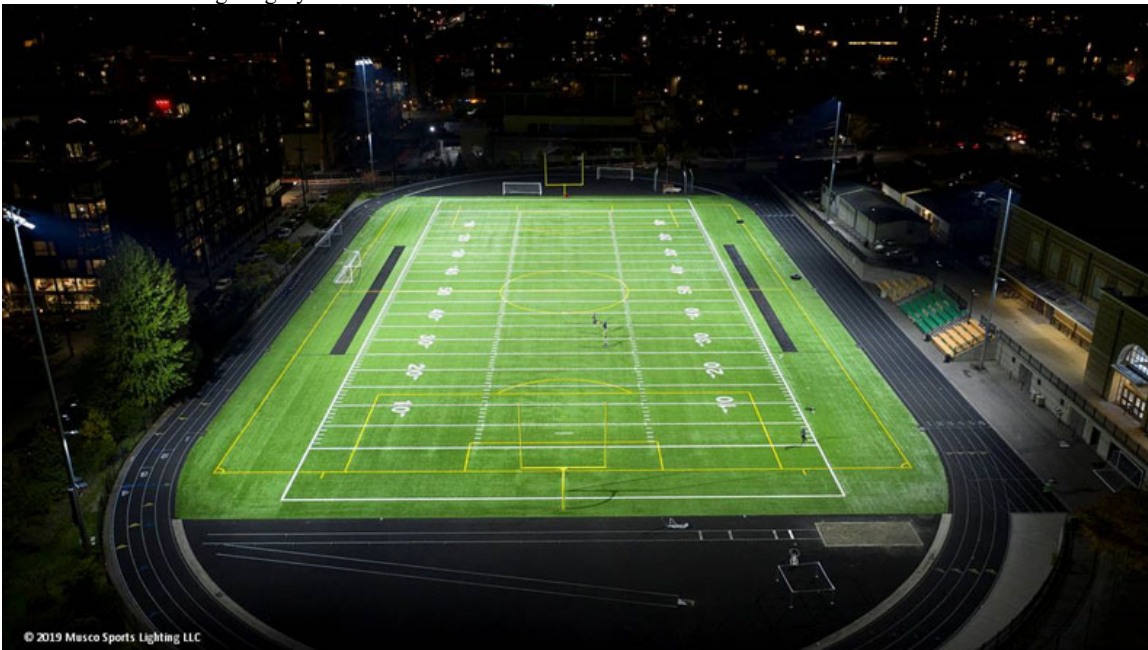
The photos below show the athletic field lighting system recently installed at Roosevelt HS. The use of the highly shielded LED floodlights dramatically minimizes lighting impacts to the surrounding properties. The shielding was adjusted post installation to further reduce spill and glare impacts into the ROW and condominiums located south of the football field.



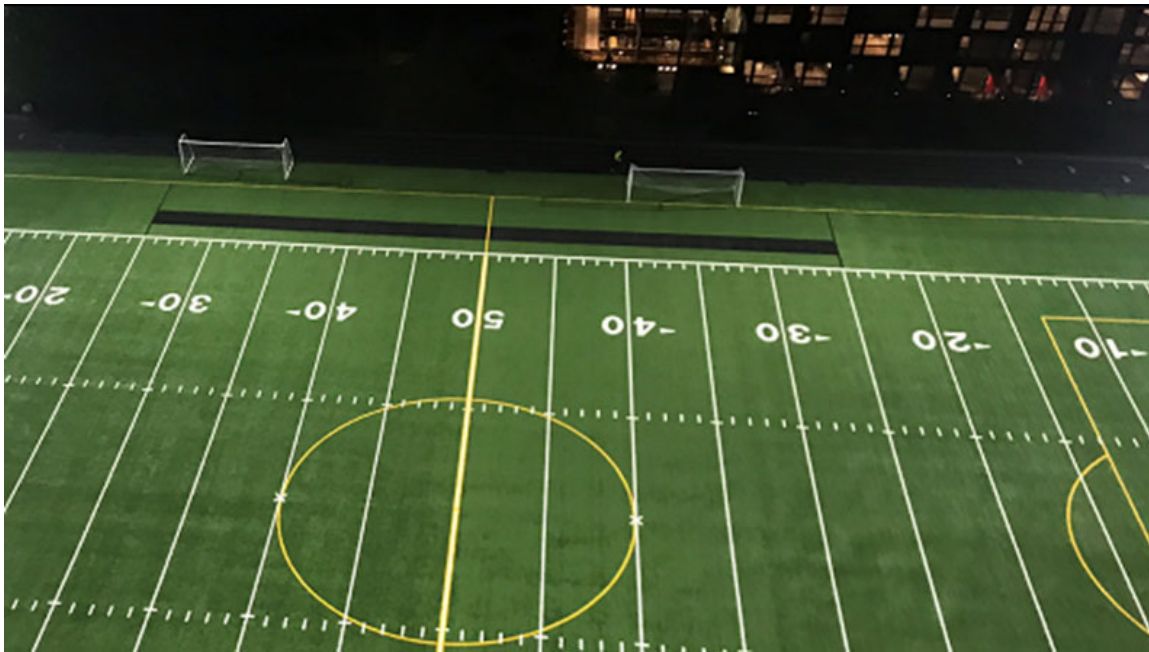
Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System

The increased mounting heights for the light poles will dramatically decrease the overall amount of direct glare visible from off-site locations as compared to using 30' pole height. The use of the latest generation of shielded floodlights will dramatically reduce the amount of visible glare compared to standard shielded and unshielded LED floodlighting systems. It is critical that taller poles are used to minimize glare as much as practical. At 30-foot mounting heights the surrounding residences will be more fully exposed to excessive levels of direct glare from the floodlights. Glare impacts will be evaluated after construction of the lighting system and adjustments to the shielding and aiming of the new softball field floodlights will be implemented as necessary.

SPILL LIGHT

The athletic field lighting system will generate minimal amounts of spill light.

The increase in pole height from 30 feet to 80 feet above the playing field will dramatically reduce the amount of spill light generated by the lighting system. The higher pole heights allow the floodlights to be aimed down to the athletic field and away from the adjacent properties. This height also provides for greater effectiveness of the internal\external shielding on the floodlights to control the emitted light and prevent light escaping beyond the site.

The increased mounting heights increase the angle of aiming below the horizontal level of the floodlights. At a mounting height of 30 feet this project would require aiming angles of 12.0 degrees (worst case) and 45.00 degrees (best case) below the horizontal plane of the floodlight. The increased mounting height to 60 feet will provide for aiming angles of 23.0 degrees (worst case) and 70.0 degrees (best case) below the horizontal plane of the floodlight.

The use of steeper aiming angles allows for less direct light to be delivered beyond the boundaries of the playing the surface. The external shielding blocks more direct light and more light is delivered to the field with the use of increased mounting heights. The proposed taller mounting heights are typical for this application and like many existing installations throughout the City. The use of shorter mounting heights is typical to the lighting of driving ranges which requires that light is delivered over hundreds of feet down range to light the back of a golf ball to distances over 300 feet.

The vertical spill light from the field lighting has been calculated along the adjacent residential property lines on the east and south sides of the site. The values are calculated at a height of three feet above field grade and are calculated in foot-candles. The calculated light readings do not account for limited quantity of existing fencing, trees and vegetation on site that will provide some screening to reduce spill light at the property lines.

At the standard mounting height of 60 feet above the field the maximum amount of measurable light delivered along the property lines is 0.01 foot-candles. At the non-standard mounting height of 30 feet above the field the maximum amount of measurable light delivered along the property lines is 0.62 foot-candles.

The increased mounting height will reduce the maximum spill light at the residential property lines as compared to using 30' pole height.

SKY GLOW

The athletic field lighting system will generate a minimal amount of “sky glow”. The “sky glow” impacts will be located at locations near the fields.

The amount of “sky glow” that is visible from a lighting system is difficult to quantify. There is no current method to calculate “sky glow” but it is recognized that there is a direct correlation to the amount of direct and reflected light that is emitted into the atmosphere. The amount of visible “sky glow” is dependent on a multitude of factors. Several factors include the amount of ambient light that exists, darkness of the night sky, amount of moonlight, atmospheric conditions, level of cloud ceiling, amount particulate matter, location of the observer and age of the observer.

To reduce the amount of “sky glow” that is visible the floodlights will need to be mounted higher than 30 feet. At a height of 30 feet the amount of direct light emitted into the atmosphere is excessive. With the increased mounting heights floodlights will have steeper aiming angles resulting in more effective use of the external shields. Most of the total light output will be directed down to the field with the increased mounting height.

To maximize “sky glow” reduction the owner is providing additional mitigation with the use of “full cutoff” style LED floodlights that provide the most advanced light control and shielding currently available in the sports lighting industry. The use of this equipment will also block a significant amount of direct light that is emitted into the atmosphere.

Based on the condition of existing moderate amounts of “sky-glow” currently evident in the general area and the limited impact expected for the project, the impact of the project on “sky-glow” in the surrounding area will be minimal. “The appearance of “sky-glow” will be very minor with heavy low overcast skies and be most prevalent during conditions of dense fog.

The increased mounting heights for the softball field lighting poles will decrease the overall amount of “sky-glow” visible as compared to using 30' pole height. The use of the latest generation of shielded floodlights will dramatically reduce the amount of direct light emitted into the atmosphere compared to the older shielded floodlighting systems. It is critical that taller poles are used to minimize “sky-glow”. The amount of “sky-glow” visible will be localized to the area above the field and immediate vicinity. The amount of “sky-glow” generated is typical of recently lighted fields using LED floodlights at Jane Addams Middle School and will be much less as compared to the amount generated using 30' poles.

Controls

The new athletic field lighting system will be connected to a fully programmable control system with remote operation. The field lights will be on a separate lighting zone with a separate switch. This will allow the field lights to be turned off after play is completed. The area lights are on a separate zone and will remain on for a short time after each event to provide ample light for egress from the site.

The athletic field lights will be only used when the fields are scheduled for use through either Seattle Public Schools or Seattle Parks and Recreation. When there are no reservations, the lights will not be on.

APPENDIX E

Transportation Technical Report

UPDATED TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL REPORT

for

Southwest Athletic Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting

PREPARED FOR:

Seattle Public Schools

PREPARED BY:



July 17, 2026

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the transportation impact analysis for the Seattle Public Schools' (SPS) proposed upper softball field lighting project at the Nino Cantu Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC). The scope of analysis and approach were based on extensive past experience performing transportation impact analyses for numerous SPS projects including athletic-facility improvements and field-lighting projects in Seattle and throughout Western Washington.

This Transportation Technical Report was prepared to support the SEPA Checklist and review of the Special Exception required for over height light poles on school property. The Special Exception involves a Type II Master Use Permit (MUP) process and its analysis requirements are outlined in Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) §23.51B.002.D.6.b.1. Those require that the applicant address and mitigate potential impacts, including but not limited to, increased traffic and parking demand. This updated report documents the existing transportation conditions in the site vicinity, presents estimates of project-related traffic, and evaluates the anticipated impacts to the surrounding transportation system. This version reflect corrections of minor typographical errors in text and in figures.

1.1. Project Description

SPS plans to install lights at the existing upper softball field at the SWAC (8402 30th Avenue SW) south of Chief Sealth High School in the Roxhill / Westwood Village neighborhood of Seattle. The following sections describe the existing SWAC site, field location, and the proposed project.

1.1.1. Existing Site

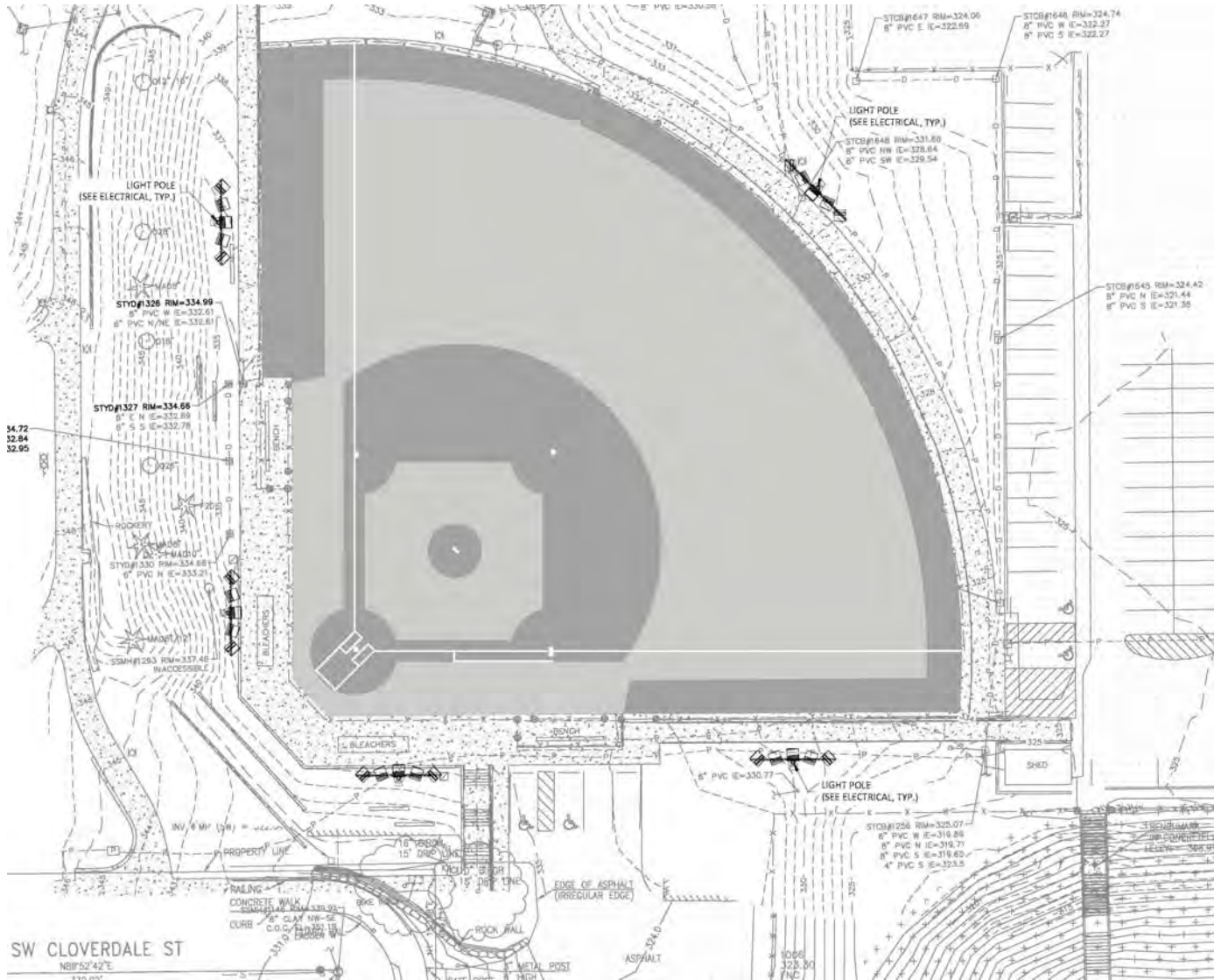
The SWAC site consists of two parcels bounded on the north by SW Thistle Street, on the south by SW Trenton Street, on the west by 29th and 30th Avenues SW, and on the east by 26th Avenue SW. The City of Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) department owns and operates the Southwest Pool and Teen Center on a parcel located at the north central area of the site. It shares access and parking with the SWAC parking lot located in the northcentral part of the site. The upper softball field has a synthetic surface and occupies the west central portion of the site. The main football / soccer field, track facility, and bleacher seating structure is located on the eastern part of the complex. There is a baseball field, a lower softball field, batting cages, and a utility field (with a softball diamond and soccer field overlaid in the outfield) at the southern portion of the complex. The northwest portion of the site has six tennis courts and A.T. Milo Park with a children's playground and a mini soccer field.

The SWAC has a main parking lot with 347 striped stalls with driveways on SW Thistle Street. In addition to the main parking lot, there is a small parking lot near the upper softball field with 8 stalls accessed from a driveway that is the east leg of the SW Cloverdale Street / 29th Avenue SW intersection. There is also a curb cut on SW Trenton Street that is gated and signed for emergency and maintenance access only located near the baseball field. There is a pedestrian stairway that connects from SW Trenton Street to a gated access at the southeast corner of the complex.

1.1.2. Proposed Changes

SPS proposes to install lights at the upper softball field to be available for use by fall 2026. Figure 1 shows the site plan with the location of the proposed lights. The main football / soccer / track, baseball field, and lower softball field at the SWAC are already lighted and used for both scholastic and non-scholastic recreational athletics. This proposal would allow increased use of the upper softball field for scholastic and non-scholastic recreational activities scheduled to end by 9:45 P.M., with lights on until 10:00 P.M. (automatically turned off) to allow egress from the site. Usage of the field is expected to increase with the added ability to hold practices and some competitive games later in the day during the school year. Although not currently planned, the lights could be used in the morning (after 7:00 A.M.) for scholastic practices.





Source: DA Hogan, Staging & Access Plan, Sheet F-1.10, January 14, 2026.

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 1
Overall Site and Lighting Plan

Based on the joint-use agreement¹ between SPS and SPR, District priority scheduling times for all athletic complexes, including SWAC, are Monday through Friday until 7:00 P.M. and Saturdays from 8:00 A.M. to noon for Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) field sports and until 4:00 P.M. for middle school field sports. Softball practices and games at SPS athletics complexes have priority on weekdays until 7:00 and 7:15 P.M., respectively. School practices, games and events that extend beyond 7:00 P.M. on District fields must be mutually agreed on by SPR and the sponsoring school(s). Based on the typical season schedules for softball (slowpitch is September-October and fastpitch is March-May) the primary increase in field use due to the lighting project would be non-scholastic recreational athletics scheduled by SPR such as youth and adult softball, occurring after school-use and until 9:45 P.M.

2. BACKGROUND CONDITIONS

This section presents the existing and future conditions without the proposed lighting project. The impacts of the proposed project were evaluated against these base conditions. Year 2027 was selected as the future horizon year for the analyses because the field lighting is scheduled to be completed by fall 2026 and athletic activities under lights would be new in late 2026 and early 2027. For comparison, and to provide an analysis of potential new traffic and parking impacts, year-2027-without-project conditions assume the existing field would remain unlit. The following sections describe the existing roadway network, traffic volumes, traffic operations (in terms of levels of service), traffic safety, transit facilities, non-motorized facilities, and parking.

The selection of the study area intersections was based on the travel routes used to access the on-site parking and nearby on-street parking. Study-area intersections include:

- SW Thistle Street / 30th Avenue SW;
- SW Thistle Street / 28th Avenue SW / Southwest Pool Driveways;
- SW Thistle Street / SWAC Driveway;
- SW Cloverdale Street / 30th Avenue SW;
- SW Cloverdale Street / 29th Avenue SW / SWAC Upper Softball Parking; and
- SW Trenton Street / 29th Avenue SW.

2.1. Transportation Network

2.1.1. Existing Network

The surrounding area consists of single-family residences to the north, east and west, with single-family, multi-family, and commercial development to the south. Key roadways that serve the site vicinity are described below. Roadway classifications were obtained from the City of Seattle's (City's) *Street Classification Maps*.² Speed limits are 25 miles per hour (mph) on arterials (unless otherwise marked) and 20 mph on local access streets. The following describes key roadways in the site vicinity. Figure 2 shows the site location and vicinity.

SW Thistle Street is a Minor Arterial that provides east-west access between 35th Avenue SW and Delridge Way SW. This roadway segment has two travel lanes (one in each direction) and parallel on-street parking on both sides along most of the street. West of 35th Avenue SW, SW Thistle Street becomes a Collector Arterial. SW Thistle Street has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. Traffic signals control its intersections with 35th Avenue SW and Delridge Way SW. There is a School Zone (20 miles per hour (mph)) near Chief Seath High School that is in effect when beacons flash. Marked and signed crosswalks are located at its intersections with 25th, 26th, 27th, and 30th Avenues SW. The crosswalks at the 30th Avenue SW intersection have flashing overhead beacons and center pedestrian refuge islands.

¹ *An Agreement for the Joint Use of Facilities between The Seattle School District No.1 and Seattle Parks and Recreation 2022 – 2027*, Jointly prepared by: Seattle Parks and Recreation and the Seattle School District No. 1, October 3, 2022.

² Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), online Street Classification Maps, accessed October 2025.





SW Trenton Street is a Collector Arterial that provides east-west access between 35th Avenue SW and Delridge Way SW. This roadway segment has two travel lanes (one in each direction) and parallel on-street parking on both sides along most of the street. West of 35th Avenue SW and east of Delridge Way SW, SW Trenton Street is a non-arterial Local Access street. SW Trenton Street has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. Traffic signals control its intersections with 35th Avenue SW and Delridge Way SW. There is a School Zone speed limit (20 mph) in the vicinity of the 30th Avenue SW intersection that is in effect when beacons flash. Marked and signed crosswalks are located at 25th and 30th Avenues SW as well as just west of 26th Avenue SW. The crosswalks at the 30th Avenue SW intersection have center pedestrian refuge islands.

30th Avenue SW is a north-south residential access street that extends past SW Kenyon Street to the north, crosses SW Thistle Street, and extends south through SW Trenton Street. It has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. 30th Avenue SW represents the western boundary of the western parcel that is part of the SWAC site. Its approaches to SW Thistle and SW Trenton Streets are stop-sign controlled.

29th Avenue SW is a north-south residential access street that extends south from SW Cloverdale Street, crosses SW Trenton Street, and extends south to SW Cambridge Street. It also extends north from SW Thistle Street. It has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides and represents the western boundary of the larger eastern parcel that is part of the SWAC site. Its approaches to SW Trenton and SW Thistle Streets are stop-sign controlled.

SW Cloverdale Street is a two-lane, east-west residential access street that connects from 29th Avenue SW west to 35th Avenue SW. It is the southern site boundary of the SPS-owned A.T. Milo Park (the former site of Denny Middle School). There are curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on both sides of the street and parking occurs on both sides. Its intersection with 29th Avenue SW (a 90-degree turn) is uncontrolled. The access driveway that serves the small parking lot for the SWAC Upper Softball field is the east leg of the intersection.

28th Avenue SW is a north-south residential access street that extends north from SW Thistle Street. There are curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on both sides of the street and parking occurs on both sides. Its approach to SW Trenton Street is stop-sign controlled.

2.1.2. Planned Improvements

Several documents were reviewed to determine if any planned transportation improvements could affect access or roadway capacity near the SWAC upper softball field site by 2027 when the field lighting project is expected to be completed and in use. In 2024, the City adopted the *Seattle Transportation Plan (STP)*,³ which outlines the City's 20-year vision plan. The *STP* replaces the City's earlier individual modal plans (including walking/rolling, biking, transit, and freight). The following describes *STP* elements and other long-range planning documents reviewed.

STP Pedestrian Element – The *STP* notes that SDOT seeks to “...implement the Safe Routes to School program to deliver engineering improvements that improve pedestrian safety within school walksheds as well as education and encouragement campaigns at public and private schools throughout Seattle.” However, there are no specific projects identified within the immediate site vicinity.

STP Bicycle and E-Mobility Element – The *STP* identifies the City's proposed Bike+ network which consists of bikeways suitable for people of all ages and abilities (AAA), including protected bike

³ Adopted April 23, 2024.



lanes, Neighborhood Greenways, Healthy Streets, and bike lanes where vehicle speeds and volumes are sufficiently low. No facilities near the project site are specifically identified for improvements.

STP Transit Element – No specific improvements to the transit network or facilities were identified in the site vicinity.

City of Seattle's Adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)⁴ – No specific improvements to the transportation network were identified in the site vicinity.

2024 Seattle Transportation Levy⁵ – This levy, approved by voters in November 2024, is an eight-year \$1.55 billion levy to maintain and modernize the City's transportation infrastructure. The levy has \$111 million for city-wide sidewalk improvements. Improvements to the pedestrian crossing at the SW Thistle Street / 28th Avenue SW intersection as well as construction of traffic calming improvements along SW Trenton Street between 35th Avenue SW and Delridge Way SW are part of SDOT's 2025 Annual Delivery Plan.⁶

Based on the above listed plans, no changes to the roadway channelization or traffic control were assumed for future (2027) conditions in the traffic operations models.

2.2. Traffic Volumes

2.2.1. Historical Traffic Volumes

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) conducted traffic counts on SW Trenton Street at several locations near the site in 2006, 2009, 2017, and 2022. These counts were compiled to determine how PM peak hour traffic volumes in the study area have changed in the past 20 years. The counts indicate stable morning peak hour volumes, modest increases in PM peak hour volumes (about 1% per year), and relatively unchanged daily volumes.

Traffic count data on SW Thistle Street (west of 24th Avenue SW) and SW Trenton Street (west of 29th Avenue SW) were also compiled to determine how volumes change by time of day on both streets. SDOT's most recent data were collected in April 2025. Figure 3 shows that the 24-hour patterns on both streets are typical of most arterials in Seattle with distinct morning and afternoon peak periods that correspond to peak commuter travel. However, the extended afternoon peak on SW Thistle Street from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M. is likely caused by traffic generated by the adjacent Chief Sealth High School, which is dismissed at 3:40 P.M. The average weekday volumes on both streets are about 3,800 vehicles per day and 380 vehicles in the peak hours (totals for both directions).

Traffic volumes decrease substantially following the commuter PM peak hour. On SW Thistle Street, the PM peak hour occurs from 4:00 to 5:00 P.M., and the traffic volume from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. is about 33% lower than the PM peak hour volume; the volume from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. is 16% lower; and the 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. volume is 46% lower. On SW Trenton Street, the volume from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. is about 8% lower than the PM peak hour volume; the volume from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. is 38% lower; and the 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. volume is over 51% lower.

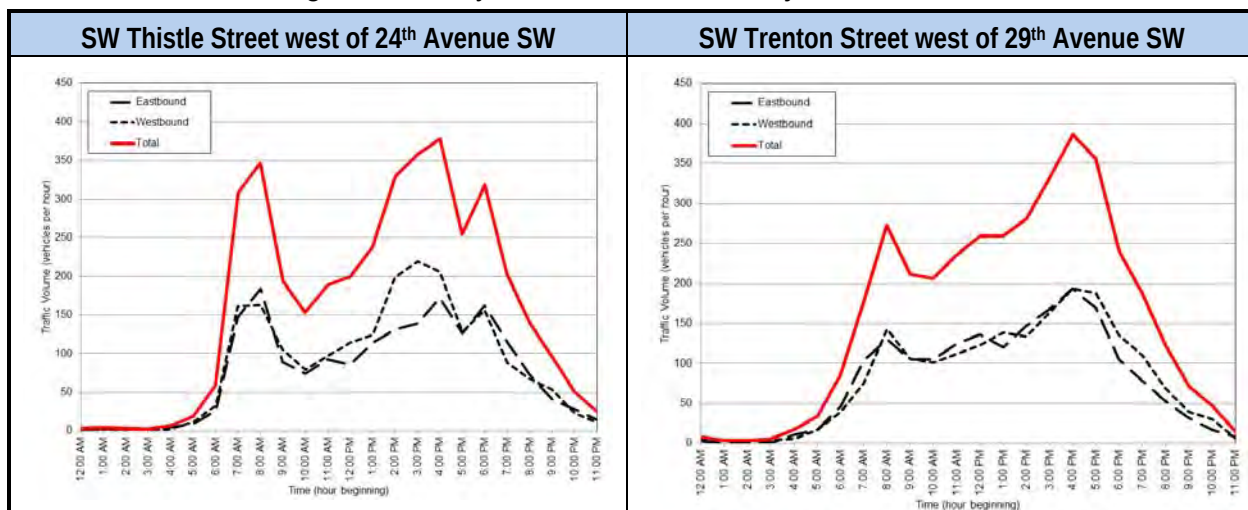
⁴ City of Seattle, online access October and December 2024.

⁵ Seattle Department of Transportation, *2024 Seattle Transportation Levy*, August 2024.

⁶ SDOT, January 31, 2025.



Figure 3. Hourly Traffic Volumes on Adjacent Arterials



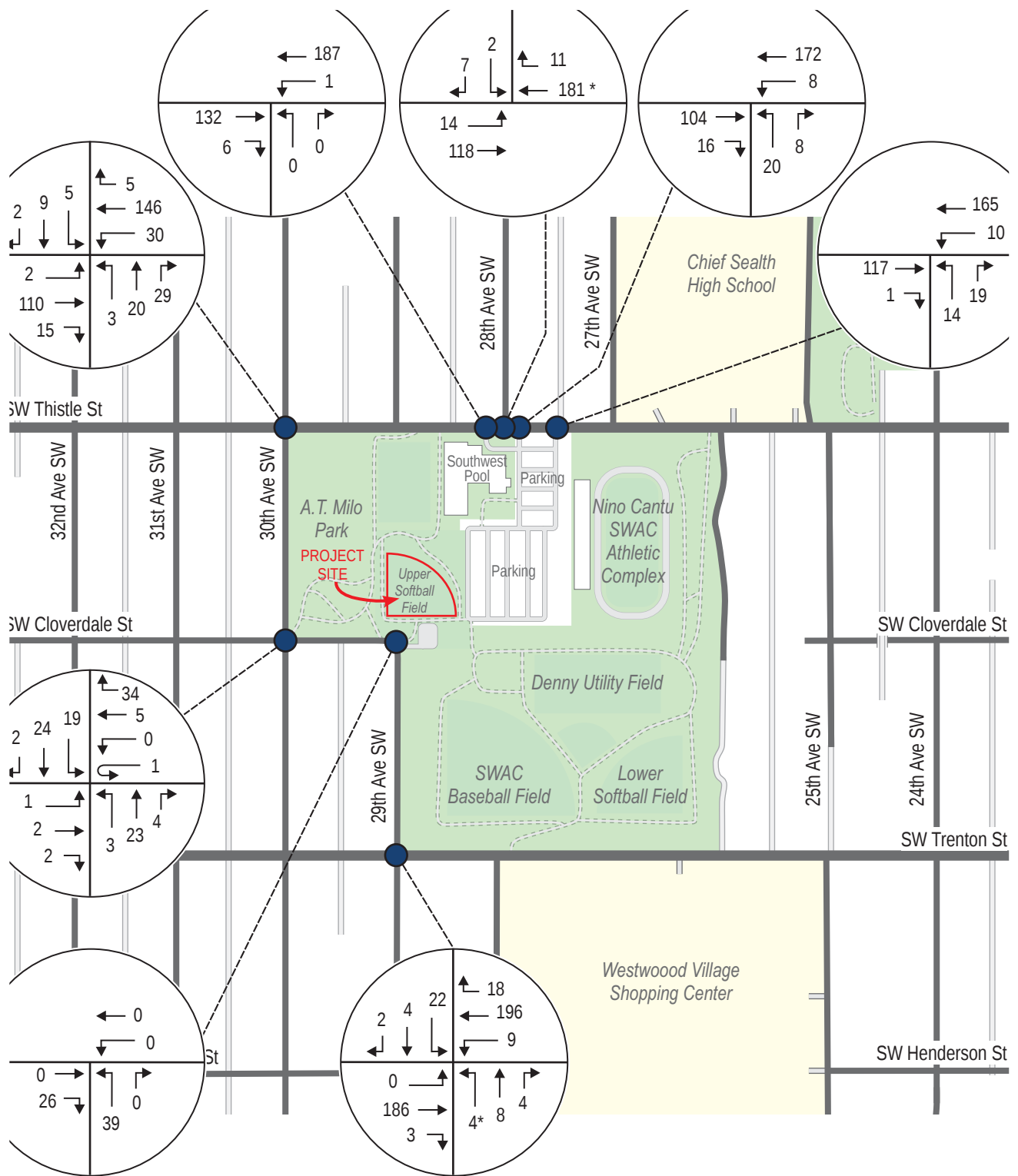
Source: SDOT Traffic Count Database, October 2025.

2.2.2. Existing Background Traffic Volumes

Weekday PM peak hour and evening turning movement traffic counts were conducted on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at the six study area intersections and two driveways on SW Thistle Street. All counts were performed from 4:00 to 8:00 P.M. and include the period in which the proposed field lights could result in increased traffic at the SWAC site. The count data indicate that the peak hourly volumes during this four-hour count period vary somewhat by location, with peaks at most intersections occurring from 4:30 to 6:00 P.M. Similar to the hourly data presented in the previous section, the turning movement counts confirm that volumes decline considerably after the commuter PM peak hour.

Based on observed traffic patterns and schedules for lighted athletic fields (including the existing lighted fields at SWAC), participants and spectators at the fields often arrive or depart the site during both the commuter PM peak hour and the 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. hour. These are often the time periods when scholastic athletics (softball games and practices) finish and non-scholastic community uses begin. Therefore, based on the count data collected for this analysis and typical lighted athletic field usage patterns, the commuter PM peak hour and the 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. hour were selected for detailed operational analysis. As noted previously, it is possible that the field lights could be used in the morning for scholastic practices; however, there are no current plans for this use. Potential traffic impacts of morning field use are expected to be minimal because of the limited participants (students only, no spectators) and limited number of days that lights would be needed.

Figure 4 presents the existing (2025) PM peak hour traffic volumes within the study area; Figure 5 presents the existing evening (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) traffic volumes.

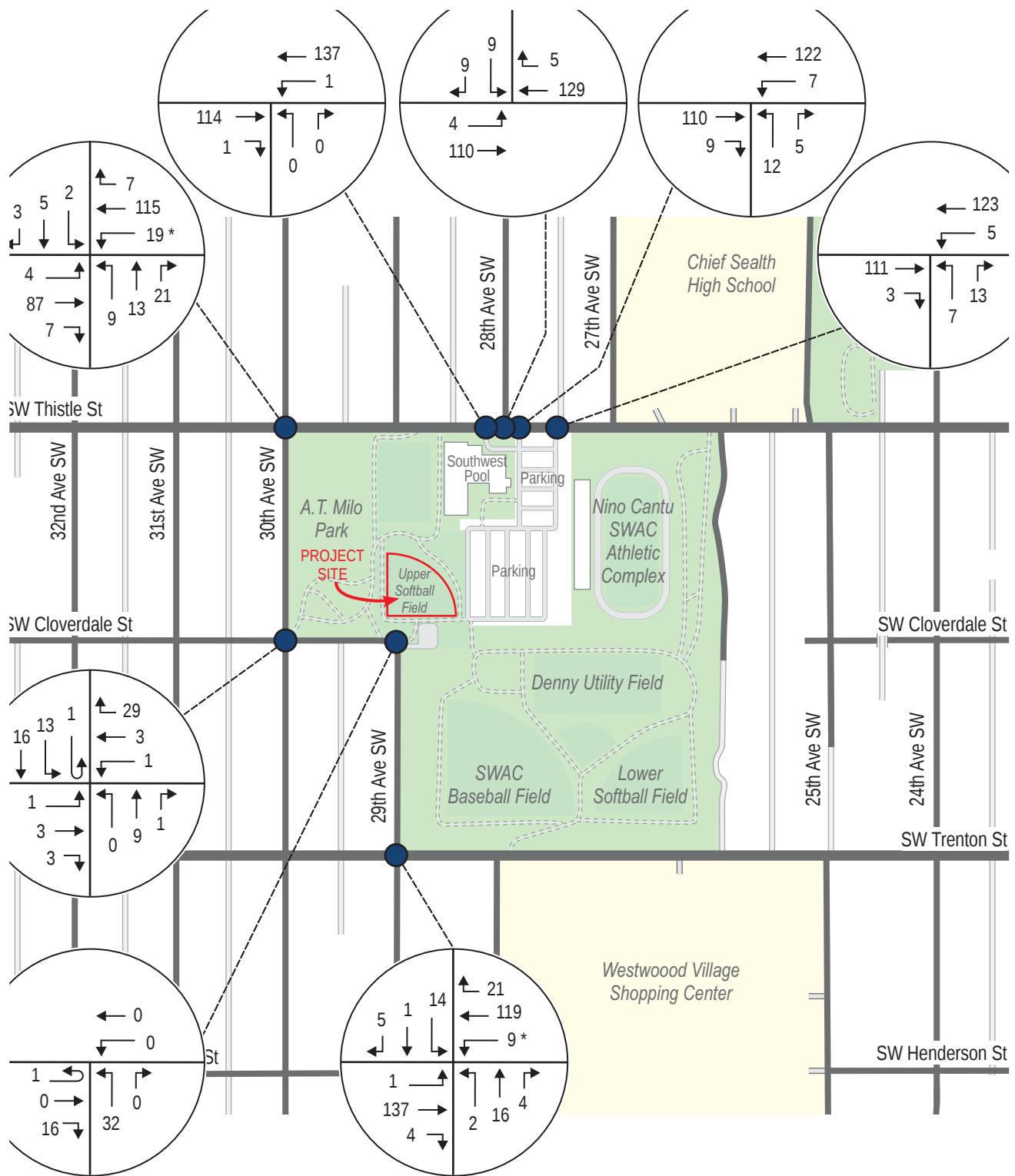


KEY

Study intersection

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 4
Existing (2025) Traffic Volumes
PM Peak Hour



KEY

- Study intersection
- ★ Includes U-turn(s)

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 5
Existing (2025) Traffic Volumes
Early Evening Hour (6:00 - 7:00 P.M.)

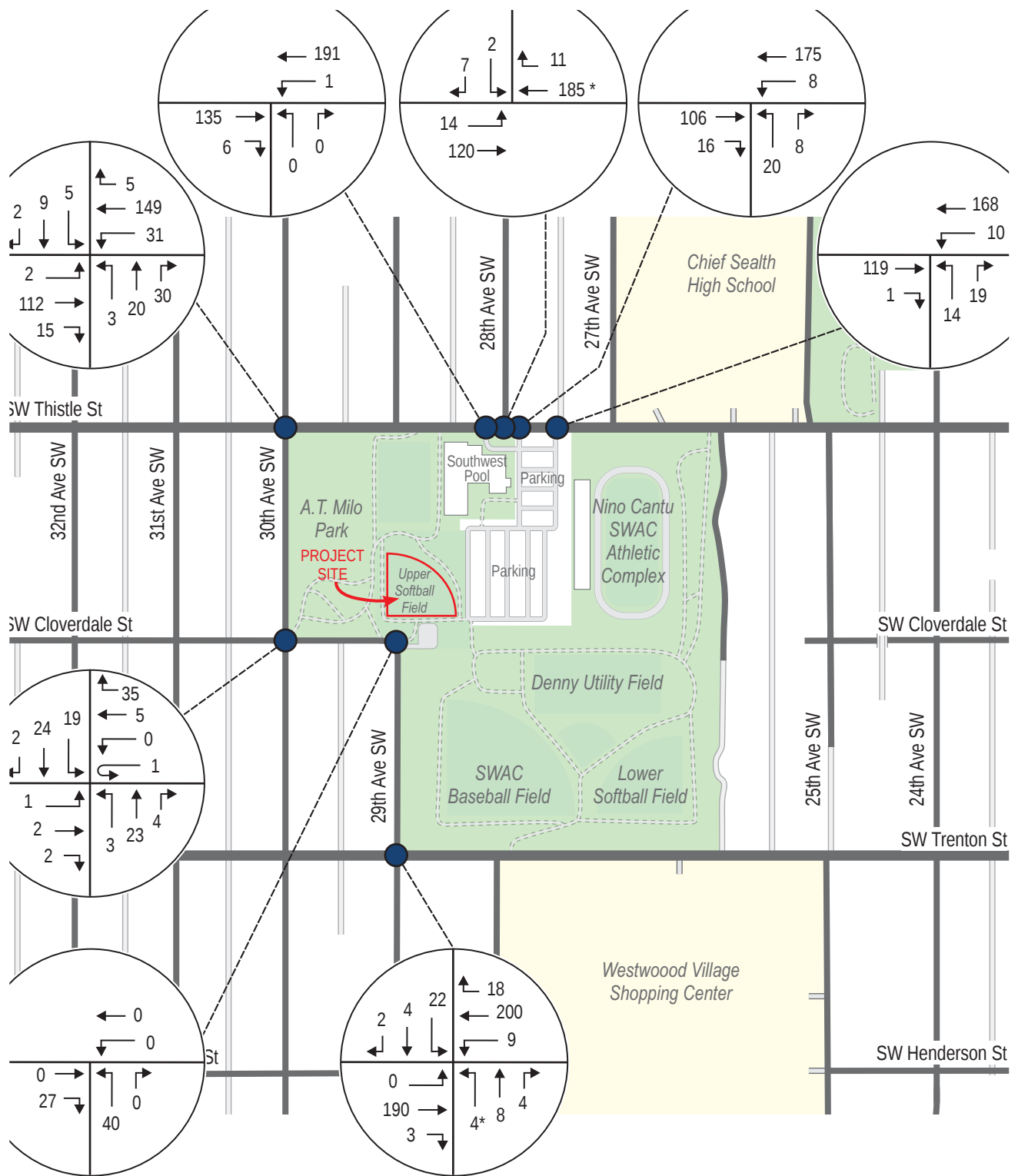


2.2.3. Existing Site-Related Traffic Volumes

The SWAC currently generates traffic during the PM peak hour and evening hour with scholastic and recreational use of the athletic facilities. Counts of the site driveways (included as part of the data collection effort described previously) reflect typical conditions with no large events at the school, but with some athletic field use. On Thursday, October 2, 2025, when the counts were taken, the SWAC lower softball field was occupied by Chief Sealth High School slow-pitch softball game (4:00 P.M. game versus Squalicum High School) and the main football / soccer field was occupied for a Chief Sealth High School girls junior varsity soccer match (3:30 P.M. game versus Nathan Hale High School). Later that evening, a second softball game was played at the lower softball field (5:30 P.M. game versus Squalicum High School). During the analysis hours, counts at the SWAC / Southwest Community Center site access driveways totaled 103 trips (61 in, 42 out) during the PM peak hour and 63 trips (37 in, 26 out) during the evening (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) hour. A portion of the driveway trips were likely generated by the community center, which shares access and parking with the SWAC. Since daylight hours permit use of the athletic fields until past 7:00 P.M. in early October (civil twilight extended to 7:16 P.M. on October 2), the count results are representative of the level of traffic generation at the site that could be expected with use of fields during the late fall, winter, and early spring months under lights. It is noted that the lower baseball field and the upper softball field were not in use during the counts.

2.2.4. Forecast Without-Project Traffic Volumes

The SWAC upper softball field lighting project is expected to be completed by fall 2026. As described in the previous section, vicinity traffic counts conducted in 2025 indicate declines in traffic compared to recent prior years; however, longer-term historical trends showed PM peak hour traffic has increased by about 1.0% per year. To account for potential vicinity traffic growth and consistent with the longer-term area growth trends, a compound annual growth rate of 1% was applied for two years to estimate volumes in 2027. Although traffic increases are primarily expected to occur along nearby arterials, including SW Thistle and Trenton Streets, this assumption was applied to all of the study area intersections. This rate accounts for possible general background traffic increases as well as traffic that could be generated by new development in the vicinity. Based on a review of SDCI's Property and Building Activity portal, no development projects permitted in the area are estimated to contribute noticeable increases in traffic at study intersections by year 2027. Figure 6 and Figure 7 show the 2027-without-project PM peak hour and evening hour traffic volumes, respectively.



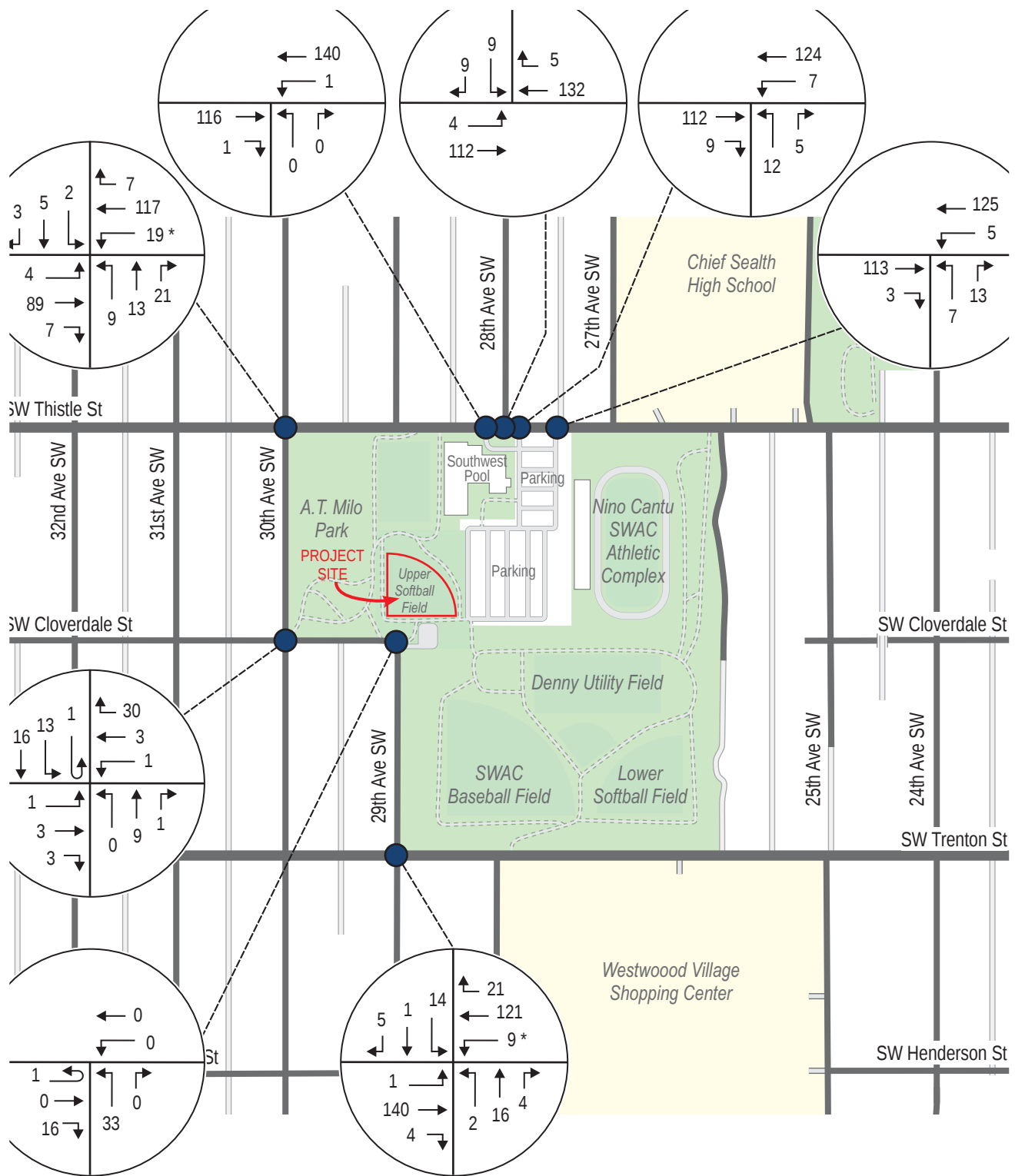
KEY

- Study intersection
- * Includes U-turn(s)

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 6
Forecast-2027-Without-Project
Traffic Volumes - PM Peak Hour





KEY

- Study intersection
- * Includes U-turn(s)

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 7
Forecast-2027-Without-Project
Traffic Volumes Early Evening Hour
(6:00 - 7:00 P.M.)



2.3. Level of Service

Traffic operations are evaluated based on level-of-service (LOS), which is a qualitative measure used to characterize intersection operating conditions. Six letter designations, “A” through “F,” are used to define level of service. LOS A is the best and represents good traffic operations with little or no delay to motorists. LOS F is the worst and indicates poor traffic operations with long delays. The City of Seattle does not have adopted intersection level-of-service standards; however, City staff have previously applied a rule-of-thumb that project-related intersection delay causing a signalized intersection to operate at LOS E or F, or increasing delay at a signalized intersection that is projected to operate at LOS E or F without the project, may be considered a significant adverse impact, if increases are greater than 5 seconds. The City may tolerate LOS E/F conditions at unsignalized locations where conversion to all-way-stop-control or signalization is not warranted or desirable.

Levels of service for the study area intersections were determined using methodologies established in the *Highway Capacity Manual (HCM)*, 7th Edition⁷ using the *Synchro 12* analysis software. Appendix A summarizes HCM level of service thresholds and definitions for unsignalized intersections. Table 1 summarizes existing and forecast-2027-without-project levels of service at the off-site analysis intersections for both the PM peak hour and evening hour conditions. As shown, all intersections currently operate at LOS A and are expected to continue at those levels in 2027 without the project. All movements at the study-area intersections operate at LOS A during both periods. The projected growth in background traffic is expected to result in negligible increases in average delays (0.0 to 0.1 second) by 2027.

⁷ Transportation Research Board 2022.



Table 1. Level of Service Summary – Existing (2025) and 2027-Without-Project Conditions

Intersections	PM Peak Hour (various ¹)				Evening Peak Hour (6:00–7:00 P.M.)			
	Existing (2025)		2027 w/o Project		Existing (2025)		2027 w/o Project	
	LOS ²	Delay ³	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
Stop Controlled								
SW Thistle St / 30 th Ave SW (overall)	A	2.9	A	2.9	A	2.5	A	2.5
Northbound Movements	B	11.2	B	11.3	B	10.6	B	10.7
Eastbound Left Turn	A	8.8	A	8.8	A	7.6	A	7.6
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	B	12.4	B	12.5	B	11.0	B	11.1
SW Thistle St / 28 th Ave SW (overall)	A	0.6	A	0.6	A	1.1	A	1.1
Eastbound Left Turn	A	7.7	A	7.7	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	A	9.9	A	10.0	A	9.8	A	9.8
SW Trenton St / 29 th Ave SW (overall)	A	1.8	A	1.8	A	1.9	A	1.9
Northbound Movements	B	12.1	B	12.1	B	11.2	B	11.3
Eastbound Left Turn	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	7.6	A	7.6
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.7	A	7.7	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	B	13.0	B	13.1	B	11.1	B	11.1
SW Thistle St / SW Comm. Ctr (overall)	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
Northbound Movements	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
SW Thistle St / SWAC West Dwy (overall)	A	1.3	A	1.3	A	1.1	A	1.1
Northbound Movements	B	10.7	B	10.8	B	10.0	B	10.1
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.5	A	7.5	A	7.5	A	7.5
SW Thistle St / SWAC East Dwy (overall)	A	1.5	A	1.5	A	1.5	A	1.5
Northbound Movements	B	10.1	B	10.1	A	9.7	A	9.8
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
Traffic Circle (Roundabout) ⁴	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
SW Cloverdale St / 30 th Ave SW (overall)	A	3.1	A	3.1	A	2.9	A	2.9
Uncontrolled ⁵	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
SW Cloverdale St / 29 th Ave SW (overall)	A	7.2	A	7.2	A	7.8	A	7.8
Northbound Movements	A	7.5	A	7.5	A	7.4	A	7.4
Eastbound Movements	A	6.5	A	6.6	A	8.3	A	8.3
Westbound Movements	A	7.1	A	7.1	A	7.0	A	7.0

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., October 2025.

1. The PM peak hour for each individual intersection was evaluated.
2. Level of service.
3. Average seconds of delay per vehicle.
4. Evaluated using HCM7 methodology for roundabouts.
5. Uncontrolled; evaluated assuming all-way-stop control.



2.4. Parking

The State of Washington adopted SEPA-related amendments on January 20, 2023 which removed parking as an element of the environment in WAC 197-11-444(2)(c)(iv) and removed the parking-related question from the environmental checklist in WAC 197-11-960(B)(14)(c). Pursuant to these amendments, the City of Seattle no longer identifies or requires analysis of parking impacts for SEPA review. However, the City relies on detailed parking analysis to support review of the Special Exception required for over height light poles on school property. The Special Exception involves a Type II Master Use Permit (MUP) process and its analysis requirements are outlined in Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) §23.51B.002.D.6.b.1. Those require that the applicant address and mitigate potential impacts, including but not limited to, increased traffic and parking demand. Therefore, on-street parking at and around the SWAC site was surveyed in October 2025 to determine the existing parking supply and occupancy. The results of those surveys were used to estimate how parking occupancy is currently affected by the SWAC and how it could be affected by the proposed project (which is presented later in Section 3.7).

The following sections describe the on-street and off-street parking supply as well as the observed parking occupancy and utilization rates. According to the City's curbside management performance measures, SDOT may examine the potential need for added parking management measures if on-street occupancy rates reach 85% or higher.⁸

2.4.1. Methodology and Study Area

A detailed on-street parking study was performed according to the methodology outlined in the City's Tip #135,⁹ which outlines the City's preferred methodology to determine the number and type of on-street parking stalls that may exist within a defined study area, and how much of that supply is currently utilized at different times of the day.

The study area for the on-street parking analysis consists of all roadways within an 800-foot *walking* distance from the project site, as typically required by the City of Seattle. The study area was measured from the edges and corners of the overall SWAC and includes all streets within an 800-foot walking distance from the SWAC site. It extends to just west of 32nd Avenue SW, just north of SW Elmgrove Street, just east of 24th Avenue SW, and just south of SW Henderson Street. The overall study area consists primarily of single-family residential land uses and a large commercial development, the Westwood Village Shopping Center, which is located to the south. Most residential properties have garages and driveways accessed via alleys; some area residents also have street facing driveways and use on-street parking.

For the purpose of evaluating the potential on-street parking impacts associated with new development, the City considers utilization rates of 85% or higher to be effectively full and may evaluate parking management strategies when utilization rates exceed 85%.

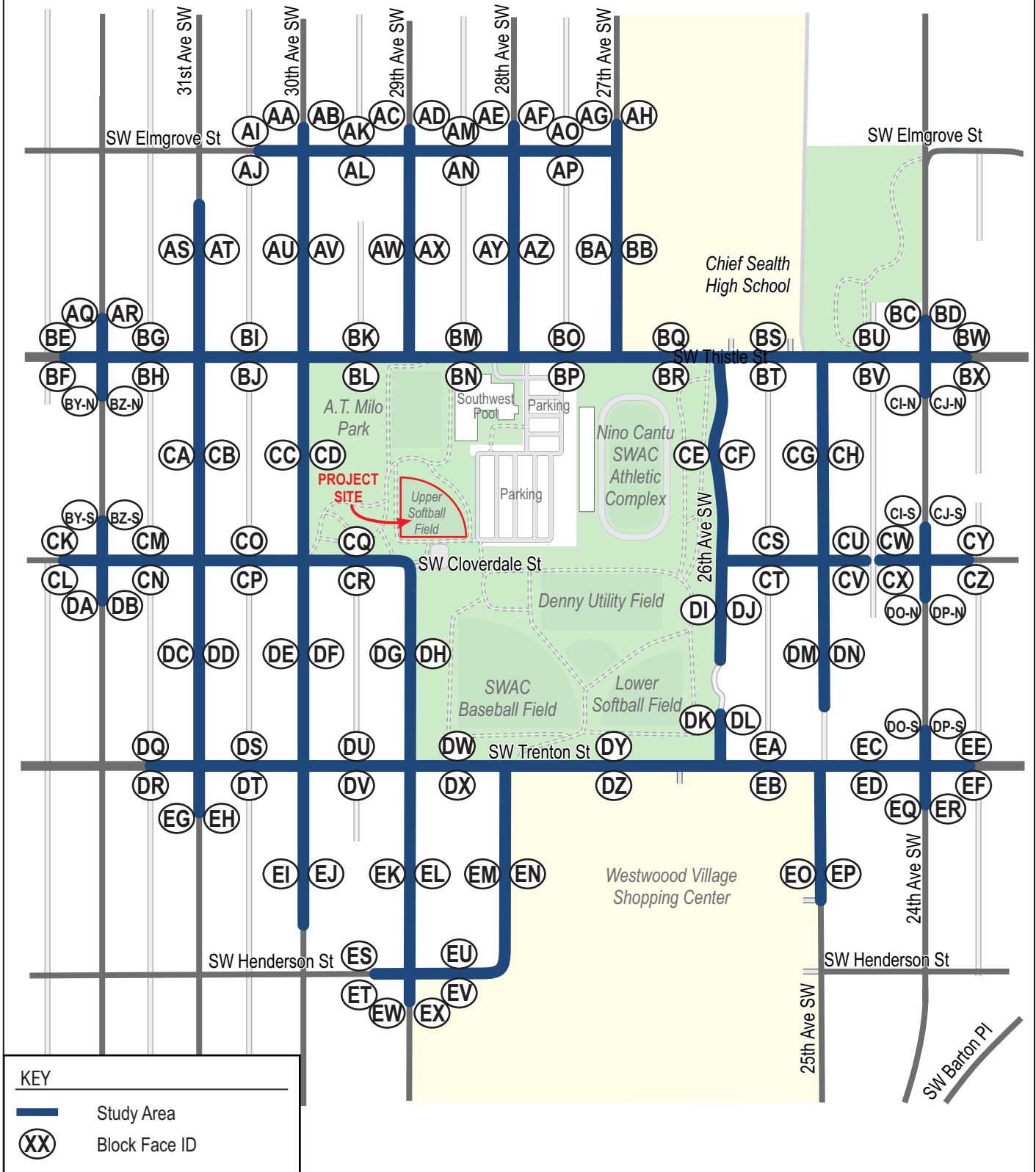
2.4.2. Existing On-Street Parking Supply

The study area was separated into individual block faces. A block face consists of one side of a street between two cross-streets. For example, the north side of SW Thistle Street, between 30th Avenue SW and 29th Avenue SW is one block face (identified as block face 'BK' for this study). The study area and block face designations are shown on Figure 8.

⁸ SDOT, Seattle Transportation Plan – Curbside Management Element, parking management occupancy goals, May 2024.

⁹ SDCI, October 5, 2022.





SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 8
Study Area for On-Street
Parking Occupancy Surveys

Each block face was measured and analyzed to determine the number of legal on-street parking spaces. First, common street features—such as driveways, fire hydrants, and special parking zones—and their buffer requirements were identified according to Seattle’s Municipal Code Regulations. The remaining unobstructed lengths between street features were converted to legal on-street parking spaces using values in the City’s Tip #135. Detailed parking supply by block face is provided in Appendix B.

The parking supply survey determined there are 1,308 on-street parking stalls in the study area; 1,253 stalls have no restrictions, 52 stalls have four-hour time limits, and 3 stalls are signed for disabled parking.

2.4.3. On-Street Parking Occupancy

Parking occupancy counts were performed during times when the future use of the lighted athletic field could generate added parking demand. The counts were conducted in the late afternoon (beginning at 4:30 P.M.) and evening (beginning at 6:00 P.M.) to reflect conditions that could be affected by new scholastic and recreational athletics under the lights. These times were selected to best reflect conditions with concurrent use of the SWAC by high school athletics and a worst-case condition for adding activities at the upper softball field. Counts were performed on Thursday, October 2 and Thursday, October 16, 2025. On both dates the SWAC hosted multiple athletic activities on other fields within the complex, but the upper softball field was not used.¹⁰ These conditions provide a comparable back-drop to analyze the potential parking impacts generated by added use of the lighted upper softball field.

The counts for each period were compiled, and on-street parking utilization was calculated using the methodology described in Tip #135, which is the number of vehicles parked on-street divided by the number of legal on-street parking stalls. Table 2 summarizes the findings for the full study area; detailed parking occupancy results by block face are provided in Appendix B.

Table 2. On-Street Parking Utilization Survey Results

Time Period Surveyed	Parking Supply	Total Vehicles Parked	Utilization Rate % Stalls Occupied
School Day Late Afternoon (beginning at 4:30 P.M.)			
Thursday, October 2, 2025 ^a	1,308	310	24%
Thursday, October 16, 2025 ^b	1,308	296	23%
Average	1,308	303	23%
School Day Evening (beginning at 6:00 P.M.)			
Thursday, October 2, 2025 ^a	1,308	333	25%
Thursday, October 16, 2025	1,308	288	22%
Average	1,308	311	24%

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., October 2025

- a. Counts reflect conditions with varsity slowpitch softball games on the SWAC lower softball field beginning at 4:00 and 5:30 P.M. (Squalicum at Chief Sealth) and a junior varsity soccer game on the northwest football/soccer field beginning at 3:30 P.M. (Nathan Hale at Chief Sealth).
- b. Counts reflect conditions with a high school football practice (Chief Sealth) on northwest football/soccer field.

¹⁰ On October 2, there were varsity slowpitch softball games on the lower softball field beginning at 4:00 and 5:50 P.M. (Squalicum at Chief Sealth) and a junior varsity soccer game on the northwest football/soccer field beginning at 3:30 P.M. (Nathan Hale at Chief Sealth). On October 16, there were football activities (game or practice) game

As shown, the surveys determined that fewer than 25% of the on-street parking stalls were occupied during all periods surveyed with between 975 and 1,020 stalls unused. If only on-street parking within 800 feet of the upper softball field were considered, instead of the entire SWAC site, the surveys determined that fewer than 21% of the 336 stalls in this subarea were occupied. These occupancy rates are well below the 85% threshold that the City would use to consider parking management measures.

2.4.4. Off-Street Parking

The SWAC site has two parking lots with a total of 355 stalls. The main lot is shared with the Southwest Pool and Teen Center and has access from SW Thistle Street, and has a total of 347 stalls. The upper softball field lot is accessed from a driveway that is the east leg of the SW Cloverdale Street / 29th Avenue SW intersection, and has 8 stalls. Chief Sealth High School has additional parking located on the north side of SW Thistle Street across from the SWAC; however, the high school parking was not included in the parking study.

Parking occupancy counts in the main lot were conducted on the same dates and times described previously for the on-street parking surveys. The upper softball field lot was gated and unoccupied during all counts. Occupancy in the main lot ranged from 20 vehicles (evening on Thursday, October 16) to 66 vehicles (late afternoon on Thursday, October 2). Some of these vehicles were likely associated with the Southwest Pool and/or Teen Center. Based on these counts, the off-street lots had between 289 and 335 unused stalls across all observations.

2.5. Traffic Safety

Collision data for the study area intersections and roadway segments were obtained from SDOT's Open Data Portal for the period from January 1, 2020 through the most recent available as of October 16, 2025 (5.75 years). The data were examined to determine if there are any unusual traffic safety conditions that could impact or be impacted by the proposed project. Unsignalized intersections with five or more collisions per year and signalized intersections with 10 or more collisions per year are considered high collision locations by the City. Table 3 below summarizes the collision data.

As shown, five of the six study-area intersections had no collisions during the study period, and all of the segments studied averaged fewer than two collisions per year. One of the reported collisions involved a pedestrian. None of the reported collisions resulted in a fatality. Overall, these data do not indicate any unusual traffic safety conditions.

Table 3. Collision Summary (January 1, 2020 through October 16, 2025)

Study-Area Intersections	Rear-End	Side-Swipe	Right Turn	Left Turn	Right Angle	Ped / Cycle	Other ^a	Total for 5.75 Yrs	Average Per Year
SW Thistle Street / 30 th Ave SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
SW Thistle Street / 28 th Ave SW / SWAC Pool driveway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
SW Thistle St / SWAC driveway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
SW Cloverdale St / 30 th Ave SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
SW Cloverdale / 29 th Ave SW / Upper softball parking driveway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
SW Trenton St / 29 th Ave SW	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.2
Roadway Segments	Rear-End	Side-Swipe	Right Turn	Left Turn	Right Angle	Ped / Cycle	Other ^a	Total for 5.75 Yrs	Average Per Year
SW Thistle St between 25 th Ave SW and 31 st Ave SW ^b	1	0	0	0	1	1	6	9	1.6
SW Cloverdale St between 29 th Ave SW & 31 st Ave SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.2
SW Trenton St between 26 th Ave SW & 30 th Ave SW ^c	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	8	1.4
30 th Ave SW between SW Thistle St & SW Cloverdale St	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.2
29 th Ave SW between SW Cloverdale St & SW Trenton St	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.3

Source: City of Seattle Department of Transportation, October 2025. Collisions that occurred within 30 days of the date the data were downloaded may not have been entered into the SDOT database.

- Other collision types included five vehicle struck fixed object, four vehicle struck parked vehicle, one vehicle struck object in the roadway, and one collision with insufficient information to determine type.
- Three of the reported collisions in this segment occurred at intersections—one each at 25th, 27th, and 29th Avenues SW.
- Four of the reported collisions in this segment occurred at the 30th Avenue SW intersection.

2.6. Transit Facilities & Service

King County Metro Transit (Metro) provides bus service directly to the SWAC site. There are Metro bus stops serving both directions immediately west of the SW Thistle Street / 28th Avenue SW intersection. These stops are served by Metro's **Route 22**, which provides weekday service between West Seattle (Alaska Junction) and Arbor Heights (with stops at Gatewood, Westwood Village, and White Center). It operates with five trips in each direction in the morning between about 6:00 A.M. and noon; it operates with eight trips in each direction in the afternoon between about noon 4:00 and 9:40 P.M. During these periods, the headways (time between consecutive buses) are about 70 minutes.

About ½-mile to the west at the SW Thistle Street / 35th Avenue SW intersection, there are stops serving both directions of Metro's **Route 21**. It operates with all day service seven days per week between Arbor Heights and Downtown Seattle (with stops at Roxhill, Westwood Village, High Point, West Seattle, and SODO). It operates from 4:45 A.M. to after 1:00 A.M. with headways of 15 to 30 minutes.



2.7. Non-Motorized Facilities

As described in the *Roadway Network* section, the non-motorized facility network is largely complete (with curbs and sidewalks) along study-area roadways. There are also several marked and signed pedestrian crosswalks on both SW Thistle Street and SW Trenton Street near the SWAC site. The crosswalks at 30th Avenue SW on both roadways have center refuge median islands. The *2025 Annual Delivery Plan*¹¹ for the *2024 Seattle Transportation Levy* indicated the crossing at the SW Thistle Street / 28th Avenue SW intersection would be improved in 2025.

¹¹ SDOT, Published January 31, 2025.



3. IMPACTS

This section describes the conditions that would exist with the SWAC upper softball field lighting project. The forecast-2027-without-project traffic volumes were increased to account for new trips that could be generated by activities associated with the proposed field lighting project. Level-of-service analyses were performed to determine the proposed project's impact on traffic operations in the study area. Potential impacts to parking, safety, and transit are also addressed.

3.1. Transportation Network

No changes to the roadway network are proposed as part of the field lighting project.

3.2. Traffic Volumes

This section describes the estimated increases in traffic that could occur as a result of increased use of the SWAC upper softball field made possible by the lighting project. As noted previously, the joint-use agreement between SPS and SPR allows for the shared use of school and park facilities throughout Seattle. Under this agreement, District priority scheduling times are Monday through Friday until 7:00 P.M. and Saturdays from 8:00 A.M. to noon for WIAA field sports and until 4:00 P.M. for middle school field sports. Softball practices and games at SPS athletics complexes have priority on weekdays until 7:00 and 7:15 P.M., respectively. Activities scheduled through SPR may occur outside of those periods.

3.2.1. Scholastic Athletics Activities

Typical Event Types, Frequency, Times, and Participation

Currently, the Upper Softball field is reserved for use by Chief Sealth High School students for daytime physical education classes, Monday through Friday from 8:45 A.M. until 3:45 P.M., as well as for athletic practices and games from 3:45 P.M. until 6:00 or 7:00 P.M. Chief Sealth High School and West Seattle High School athletic programs use the field for afterschool games and practices (slowpitch softball in September and October and fastpitch softball from March through May). Games and practices are also scheduled on Saturdays from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. The existing upper softball field has bleacher seating to accommodate spectators for practices and competitions. There are no WIAA sanctioned outdoor sports during winter months—some high schools have club activities such as ultimate, which could occur at the SWAC during winter, but are not typically held on the upper softball field.

Participation levels and attendance for these scholastic athletic activities fluctuate based on the sport, level of competition, team success, and day of week. In Spring 2015, Heffron Transportation performed observations of participants and spectators for several high-school-level games/matches for another field lighting project. During data collection for the SWAC upper softball field lighting project in October 2025, general observations of participants and spectators were also performed. Table 4 summarizes the observed scholastic sports competitions, locations, opponents, date, time, numbers of participants (total from all sites), and ranges in numbers of spectators. As shown, most activities have between 30 and 60 participants (athletes, coaches, trainers, and support staff) with between about 10 and 135 spectators.

Table 4. Scholastic Athletic Events Observed

Activity / Location / Teams	Date/Time of Observation	Participants ¹	Spectators ²	Total
Varsity Baseball / Kennedy-Tyee	April 6, 2015; 4:00-6:00 P.M.	38	55 to 69	93 to 107
Varsity Soccer / Starfire-Hazen	April 6, 2015; 6:00 -7:00 P.M.	53	104 to 133	157 to 186
Varsity Soccer / Kennedy-Highline	April 16, 2015; 4:30 -6:00 P.M.	49	75 to 125	124 to 174
Lacrosse / Kennedy-Seattle Academy	April 25, 2015; 1:00-3:00 P.M.	57	78 to 80	135 to 137
Baseball C-Team / Kennedy-Nathan Hale	April 25, 2015; 1:00-3:00 P.M.	43	33 to 38	76 to 81
Varsity Soccer / Starfire / Kennedy-Tyee	April 28, 2015; 6:00-7:00 P.M.	49	74 to 75	123 to 124
Varsity Softball / SWAC / Squalicum	October, 2, 2025 4:00 P.M.	35	15 to 20	50 to 55
Varsity Softball / SWAC / Squalicum	October, 2, 2025 5:30 P.M.	35	15 to 20	50 to 55
Junior Varsity Soccer / SWAC / Nathan Hale	October, 2, 2025 4:00 P.M.	50	15 to 20	60 to 65
Average of Observations		45	52 to 64	96 to 110

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., April 2015 and October 2025.

1. Participants include players, substitutes, coaches, support staff (e.g. trainers), referees, ticket staff, press-box personnel, and concession staff.
2. Range of spectators observed during several counts during game.

Traffic Generation

The field is already used regularly for daytime physical education and softball practices and games. However, the proposed lights would extend the hours in which the field could be used during several months of the year. This would allow some activities that are currently scheduled elsewhere, due to field conflicts and darkness, to occur at the SWAC upper softball field. SPS staff have indicated that scholastic use of the field would continue to include Chief Sealth and West Seattle High Schools for after-school practices and games in spring and fall seasons (no outdoor scholastic sports during the winter season). Seattle's high school slowpitch softball season extends from September through October while the fastpitch softball season extends from late February until May. Current start and dismissal times for high schools, result in after-school athletics beginning at 3:45 P.M. and some softball practices and/or games could require use of the lights (primarily in October, February, and March). This activity could result in new trips being generated during the commuter PM peak hour as a practice or game could end during that time and participants and spectators would leave the site. It is noted that this potential increase in activity and traffic due to the field lights would be limited to about one or two months per year, since natural lighting conditions during the remainder of the fall and spring do not require use of field lights until after scholastic activities are typically scheduled to end.

The potential for added scholastic softball games and/or practices that generate traffic during the commuter PM peak hour was evaluated for this analysis. Traffic generation observations performed at Kennedy Catholic High School during and after the games confirm the typical range of traffic generated by these types of events. Observations of post-game traffic flows at Kennedy High School indicated that the athletic events generated trips at rates ranging from about 0.30 to 0.58 trips per participant/spectator. For an average softball event, this would relate to between 25 and 55 trips leaving the site during the hour after a game. Due to the start and finish times of some games or practices, some or all of this traffic could occur during the commuter PM peak hour of the adjacent roadways.

3.2.2. Recreational (Non-Scholastic) Athletics Activities

Typical Event Types, Frequency, Times, and Participation

During times when the field is not reserved for use by Chief Sealth High School or other SPS activities, it would continue to be available to community users and would be scheduled through the SPR. Non-scholastic practices and games that currently occur include West Seattle Baseball, West Seattle Little League, Seattle Fastpitch Club, West Seattle Girls Softball, West Seattle Little League Girls Softball, and softball tournaments. The field is expected to continue to be used for these types of games and tournaments in the spring and summer. Weekday practices and games currently take place from 6:00 until about 7:45 P.M. in the early spring and extend until 6:00 P.M. in February, and by May extend until as late as 9:00 P.M. in late May and June. Weekend games also take place on the existing field beginning at 9:00 A.M. and lasting until 6:00 P.M. in early spring, and can extend as late as 9:00 P.M. by May and June.

The field lighting project is expected to result in increased usage for non-scholastic recreational activities. Youth and adult athletics could be added during late fall, winter, and spring months and scheduled after 5:30 P.M. until 9:45 P.M. Some of these activities would be new to the site. The majority of the added activities are expected for adults or older youth (since younger children's games and practices typically end by 7:30 or 8:00 P.M.) It is estimated that one youth and/or one or two adult athletic activities could be added to the field on an average weekday or weekend evening during times when natural lighting conditions do not currently allow them.

Historical spectator and participant counts performed for youth and adult athletic activities were used to estimate potential traffic generation for these activities. Counts were performed at four youth baseball games and three youth soccer matches in 2000. These counts were supplemented with counts performed at Ingraham High School in January 2017. The number of adult participants (driving age) was between 30 and 60. Based on numerous observations, adult recreational athletics (men's and co-rec soccer games) typically draw between 23 and 30 people (including participants, spectators, and referee). The observations found that youth and adult recreational athletics had an average of 44 to 48 participants and about 20 spectators with totals ranging from 50 to 60 at each activity. It is acknowledged that although soccer games are not expected to occur on the lighted softball field, the results are useful since they have similar number of participants. These results also indicate higher levels of spectators for youth games and lower levels for youth practices and adult games.

Traffic Generation

On an average day, the proposed field lighting project could allow for up to two additional non-scholastic recreational athletic activities on the field between 5:30 and 9:45 P.M. Based on data collected for adult and youth athletics, an average game or practice is estimated to generate approximately 60 vehicle trips (30 inbound and 30 outbound). This estimate assumes most adults drive to these activities in separate vehicles, which is typical for adult recreational sports and is likely conservatively high for most youth sports activities. On an average day, the project could result in approximately 120 new trips (60 inbound, 60 outbound) for the SWAC Upper Softball field. The hourly trip generation (estimated at 60 trips) would likely occur during the times between consecutively scheduled games. For example, if softball practices or games were scheduled consecutively with the first beginning at 5:30 P.M. and the next at 7:00 P.M., the highest traffic generation would be expected during the 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. hour when participants and spectators from the first activity would leave the site and the spectators and participants from the next would arrive.

3.2.3. Combined Project Trip Generation for Analysis

Based on the analysis presented in the previous sections, the field lighting project could generate between 240 and 300 additional trips per day for part of the year—primarily from about October until early March.



The estimated worst case for traffic generation during the two analysis periods—the commuter PM peak hour and the evening hour—were estimated. The worst-case increase in traffic during the commuter PM peak hour is expected to occur as a high school athletic practice or game ends (up to 55 outbound trips) and the spectators and participants of a recreational game arrive (estimated at 25 in and 5 out). In total, this would result in an estimated 85 trips during the commuter PM peak hour. During the evening hour between 6:00 and 7:00 P.M., consecutive recreational activities on the field are estimated to generate a total of 60 trips (30 in, 30 out). The estimated net increases in field-lighting-related traffic are presented in Table 5. These trips were assigned to the local roadway network based on existing traffic patterns derived from the traffic counts during each period and the locations of the most proximate off-street and on-street parking near the SWAC Upper Softball field. Figure 9 shows the resulting trip assignments.

Table 5. Net New Trip Generation from SWAC Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

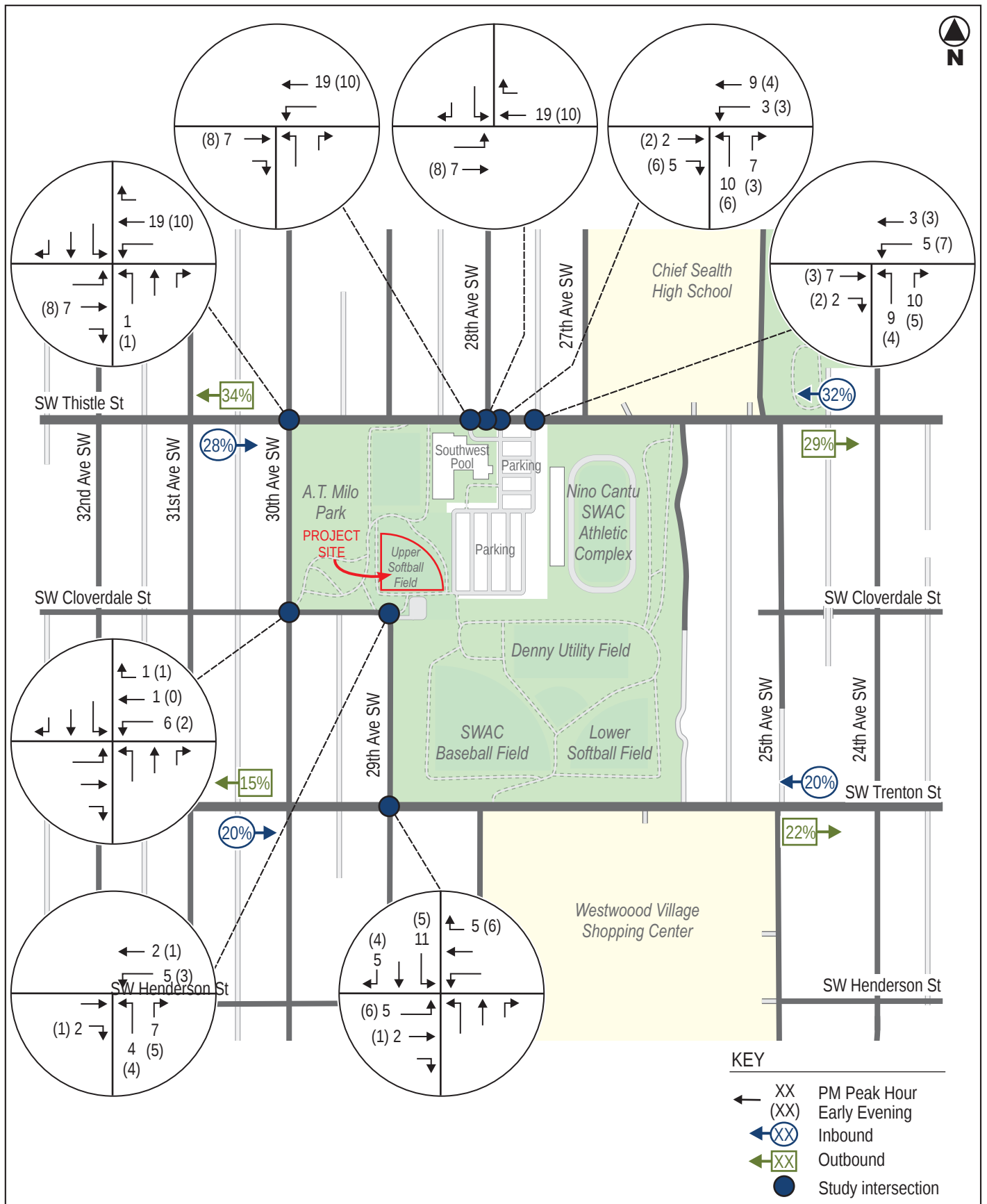
Field	Commuter PM Peak Hour			Evening Hour (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.)		
	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
Total	25	60	85	30	30	60

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., October 2025.

It is noted that these estimated increases in trips would only be new to the site and local roadways for part of the year—primarily from about October until early March. During the remainder of the year, natural lighting conditions allow for field use during these times without the need for field lights. As a result, this analysis evaluates potential impacts that are already occurring (or that could occur without the project), but would occur more frequently with the project.

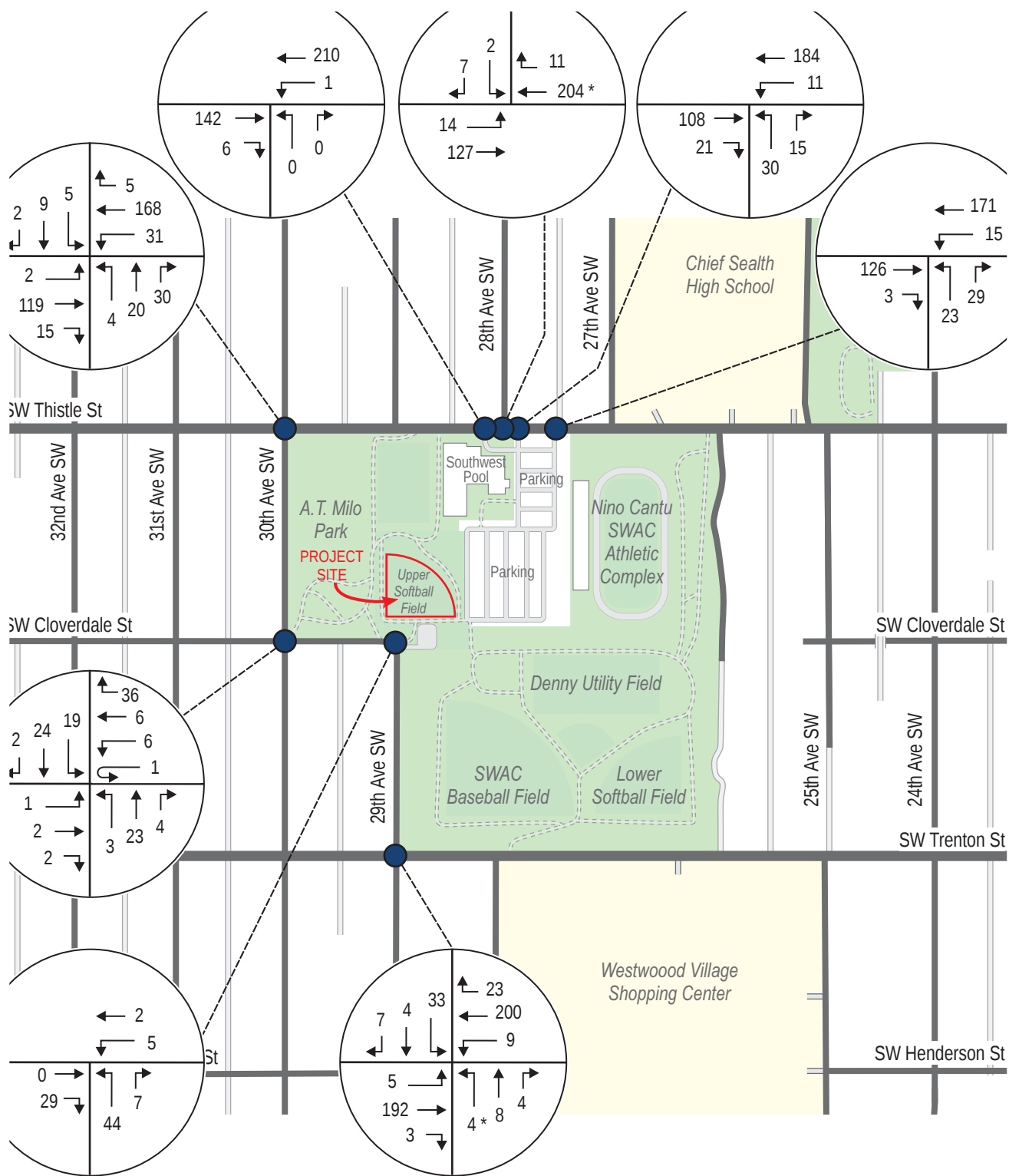
3.2.4. Forecast With-Project Traffic Volumes

The project trips described in the previous section were added to the forecast without-project traffic volumes to estimate volumes with the project for each analysis hour. Figure 10 and Figure 11 show the resulting with-project traffic forecasts for the commuter PM peak hour and the evening hour (between 6:00 and 7:00 P.M.), respectively.



SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 9
Project Trip Distribution and Assignments
PM Peak Hour and Early Evening Hour



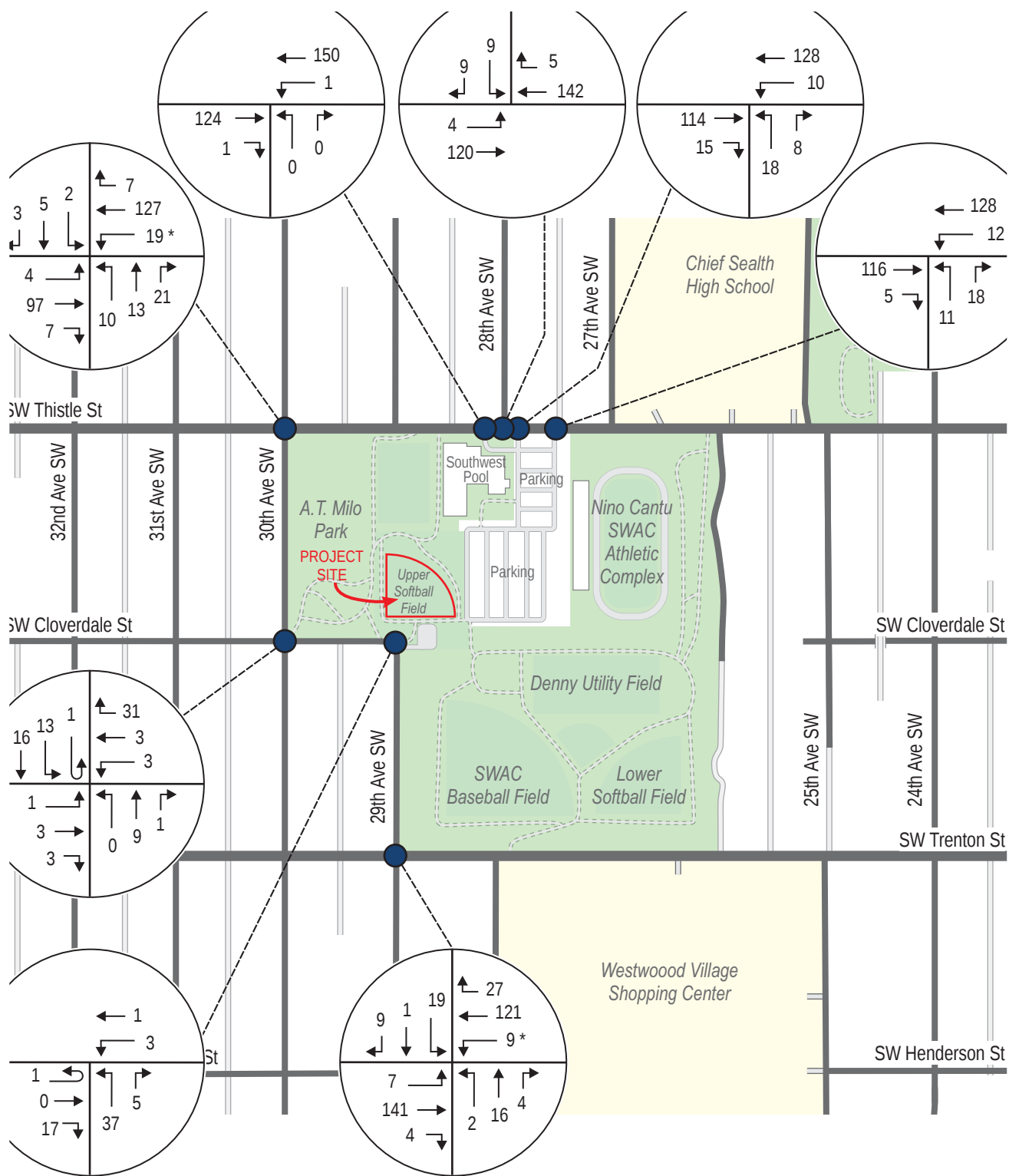
KEY

- Study intersection
- * Includes U-turn(s)

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 10
Forecast-2027-With-Project
Traffic Volumes - PM Peak Hour





KEY

- Study intersection
- ★ Includes U-turn(s)

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC COMPLEX Upper Softball Field Lighting

Figure 11
Forecast-2027-With-Project
Traffic Volumes Early Evening Hour
(6:00 - 7:00 P.M.)



3.3. Traffic Operations Impacts

Intersection levels of service for future with-project conditions were determined using the same methodology described previously for existing and future without-project conditions. Table 6 shows the results of the analysis of the off-site study area intersections; levels of service for the without-project conditions are shown for comparison.

Table 6. Level of Service Summary – Forecast 2027 Conditions Without- and With-Project

Intersections Stop Controlled	PM Peak Hour (various ¹)				Evening Peak Hour (6:00–7:00 P.M.)			
	Without Project		With Project		Without Project		With Project	
	LOS ²	Delay ³	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
SW Thistle St / 30 th Ave SW (overall)	A	2.9	A	2.8	A	2.5	A	2.4
Northbound Movements	B	11.3	B	11.5	B	10.7	B	10.9
Eastbound Left Turn	A	8.8	A	8.9	A	7.6	A	7.6
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	B	12.5	B	12.8	B	11.1	B	11.3
SW Thistle St / 28 th Ave SW (overall)	A	0.6	A	0.6	A	1.1	A	1.0
Eastbound Left Turn	A	7.7	A	7.8	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	A	10.0	A	10.1	A	9.8	A	9.9
SW Trenton St / 29 th Ave SW (overall)	A	1.8	A	2.3	A	1.9	A	2.3
Northbound Movements	B	12.1	B	12.4	B	11.3	B	11.4
Eastbound Left Turn	A	0.0	A	7.7	A	7.6	A	7.6
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.7	A	7.7	A	7.5	A	7.5
Southbound Movements	B	13.1	B	13.6	B	11.1	B	11.3
SW Thistle St / SW Comm. Ctr (overall)	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
Northbound Movements	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
SW Thistle St / SWAC West Dwy (overall)	A	1.3	A	1.9	A	1.1	A	1.5
Northbound Movements	B	10.8	B	11.1	B	10.1	B	10.3
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.5	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.5
SW Thistle St / SWAC East Dwy (overall)	A	1.5	A	2.1	A	1.5	A	2.1
Northbound Movements	B	10.1	B	10.5	A	9.8	B	10.0
Westbound Left Turn	A	7.6	A	7.6	A	7.5	A	7.6
Traffic Circle (Roundabout) ⁴	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
SW Cloverdale St / 30 th Ave SW (overall)	A	3.1	A	3.2	A	2.9	A	2.9
Uncontrolled ⁵	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
SW Cloverdale St / 29 th Ave SW (overall)	A	7.2	A	7.2	A	7.8	A	7.7
Northbound Movements	A	7.5	A	7.5	A	7.4	A	7.3
Eastbound Movements	A	6.6	A	6.6	A	8.3	A	8.3
Westbound Movements	A	7.1	A	7.3	A	7.0	A	7.2

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., October 2025.

1. The PM peak hour for each individual intersection was evaluated.
2. Level of service.
3. Average seconds of delay per vehicle.
4. Evaluated using HCM7 methodology for roundabouts.
5. Uncontrolled; evaluated assuming all-way-stop control.



As shown, the proposed project is expected to add some delay to several of the study-area intersections; however, all are expected to continue operating at LOS A overall. All movements would continue to operate at LOS B or better during both periods. The analysis shows that the project would not adversely affect traffic operations in the study area.

3.4. Traffic Safety

The project would increase traffic at the study area intersections and statistically, the potential for collisions could increase as traffic increases. However, the project does not include any changes to the roadway network that are expected to result in new safety concerns.

3.5. Transit

Although it is possible that some of the new trips generated as a result of the field lighting project could occur by transit, the number is likely to be very low and the project is not expected to adversely impact transit service or facilities in the vicinity.

3.6. Non-Motorized Facilities

Based on observations of scholastic athletic activities, participants may drive, be driven, or be bused to the site (for visiting schools) for games/matches. Spectators, such as parents or friends, typically arrive via automobile. Similarly, most of the new participants and spectators using the site for non-scholastic recreational activities are expected to arrive via automobile. However, some could arrive on foot or bicycle from nearby Chief Sealth High School, the local neighborhood, or nearby transit stops. As a result, the field lighting project proposed may result in small increases in pedestrian or bicycle activity to the site beyond what occurs at the site today. The school site vicinity has pedestrian walkways and crosswalks used by students; therefore, no adverse impacts are expected for the small number of pedestrians that could walk to the field.

3.7. Parking Demand and Supply

Scholastic use of the field, including physical education classes during the school day and softball practices and games after school, would continue to occur during fall and spring seasons. However, those activities typically end by 6:30 or 7:00 P.M. and natural lighting conditions allow them for much of the spring and fall seasons. There are no WIAA sanctioned outdoor sports during winter months.

The additional on-site scholastic athletics made possible by the field lighting project are expected to generate some additional parking demand that is not currently occurring at the site for parts of the year—mostly concentrated in late fall and early spring. For scholastic athletics, participants (including student athletes, coaches, trainers, and sometimes spectators) may walk from Chief Sealth High School or be transported to the site by bus (opposing teams). In those cases, buses are expected to be parked either in the large parking lot east of the school or on-street near the field (along 29th Avenue SW). Student and spectator parking is expected to occur on-site in the lots described or on-street near the field—primarily along 29th Avenue SW and/or SW Cloverdale Street. The most convenient and visible parking for students and spectators would be those in the two lots (main lot east of the field and small lot south of the field) that are accessed from SW Thistle Street and SW Cloverdale / 29th Avenue SW

Non-scholastic recreational athletics occur year-round and are expected to be the types of activities that occur more frequently due to the field lighting project. Adult sports and some youth club sports scheduled by SPR are expected to occur in the evenings after scholastic use ends. Similar to the trip generation

impacts described previously, peak parking demand is expected to occur during the transition period between the end of a late afternoon scholastic activity and the beginning of non-scholastic activity.

Average attendance/participation is expected to range from 40 to 110 persons per scholastic athletic event and 50 to 60 for non-scholastic athletic activities. The combined peak number of added attendees and participants on site that would occur for a short time between consecutive activities is estimated to range from 90 to 170 persons. Observations for the Kennedy High School field improvements project in spring 2015 indicated that the athletic events generate parking demand at rates ranging from about 0.6 to 0.7 vehicle per participant/spectator. At these rates, the peak demand is estimated to range from about 54 to 120 vehicles during the short 15- to 20-minute period at the end of one activity and beginning of the next (assuming consecutive scheduling). Outside of these short peak times, total demand is expected to range from 25 to about 80 vehicles. These parking demand estimates reflect parked vehicles of spectators as well as some participants (e.g., coaches, players that driver, referees/umpires, trainers, support staff, etc.).

As described in Section 2.4, the off-street parking lots at SWAC have 300 or more unused stalls on a typical evening. The on-street parking averaged about 1,000 unused stalls including over 270 unused stalls within 800 feet of the upper softball field. Even for conditions when off-street parking is available in the off-street lots, it is possible that some participants or spectators may choose to park on-street for convenience or out of habit. Due to the location of the upper softball field, it is likely that some of the new demand would occur on-street along SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW. Based on review of the on-street parking utilization around the site, there is unused parking capacity to accommodate the estimated demand.

The parking occupancy results indicate the expected level of demand from athletics typically occurring at the overall SWAC site. These counts reflect athletic activities at the main football / soccer field and the lower softball field. As shown, the off-street lots and on-street parking in the study area remained at or below 25% utilized. It is acknowledged that parking demand often occurs at locations closest to the event locations and/or access point. Even if 65% of the new demand occurs on-street rather than in the off-street lots, the overall study area required for analysis by the City of Seattle is expected to have an average utilization rate at 30% or lower with the project. Some streets closest to the upper softball field would be expected to have higher utilization while those farther away from the site would have lower utilization and no added demand from the field. Based on these results the field lighting project would not result in significant adverse impacts to parking.

4. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SPS would install field lights at the existing SWAC upper softball field and are expected to be available for use by fall 2026. The project would allow increased use of the field for scholastic and non-scholastic recreational activities. Usage levels of the facility are expected to increase with the added ability to hold practices and competitive games later in the day during the school year. High school softball practices and/or games could require use of the lights (primarily in October, February, and March). However, the primary increase in field use due to the lighting project would likely be non-scholastic recreational athletics scheduled through SPR such as youth baseball and adult softball. The field lights could increase weeknight and weekend use during winter months from sunset until 9:45 P.M. (lights would be scheduled to turn off automatically at 10 P.M. to allow egress from the site).

The potential increase in traffic during the commuter PM peak hour is estimated at 85 trips (25 in, 60 out). During the evening hour between 6:00 and 7:00 P.M., consecutive recreational activities on the field are estimated to generate a total of 60 trips (30 trips in, 30 trips out). These estimated increases in trips would only be new to the site and local roadways for part of the year—primarily from about October until early March. The increases during the commuter PM peak hour reflect traffic associated with high-school sports, which would only be expected to occur under the lights from October to early November and February to early March (there are no outdoor scholastic athletics during the winter season from mid-November to mid-February). Increases in volume during winter months are expected to be lower. During the remainder of the year, natural lighting conditions allow for field use during these times without the need for field lights. As a result, these are already occurring or could occur without the project, but would simply occur more frequently with the project.

The proposed project is expected to add negligible delay to the off-site study area intersections during part of the year and all intersections are expected to operate at without-project levels—LOS A overall and all movements at LOS B or better during both periods.

The project is expected to generate some additional parking demand that is not currently occurring at the site. The peak demand is estimated to range from about 54 to 120 vehicles during the short 15- to 20-minute period at the end of one activity and beginning of the next (assuming consecutive scheduling). Outside of these short peak times, total demand is expected to range from 25 to about 80 vehicles. The off-street parking lots at SWAC have 300 or more unused stalls on a typical evening, and there were about 1,000 unused on-street parking stalls in the neighborhood in the evening. The field lighting project is expected to generate some added on-street parking demand; however, there is unused parking capacity to accommodate the estimated demand along SW Cloverdale Street and 29th Avenue SW.

Based on the analyses presented in this report, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts to traffic or parking within the study area. It is recommended that SPS ensure that the off-street parking lots are open and available for users during all times that the field is being used. No other mitigation would be required to accommodate the project.

APPENDIX A

LEVEL OF SERVICE DEFINITIONS



Levels of service (LOS) are qualitative descriptions of traffic operating conditions. These levels of service are designated with letters ranging from LOS A, which is indicative of good operating conditions with little or no delay, to LOS F, which is indicative of stop-and-go conditions with frequent and lengthy delays. Levels of service for this analysis were developed using procedures presented in the *Highway Capacity Manual 7th Edition* (Transportation Research Board, 2022).

Unsignalized Intersections

For intersections controlled by stops signs on one or two approaches, level of service is based on the average delay per vehicle for each turning movement, which is related to the availability of gaps in the main street's traffic flow, and the ability of a driver to enter or pass through those gaps. For intersections controlled by an all-way stop or roundabout, level of service is based upon the average delay for all vehicles that travel through the intersection. Table A-1 shows the level of service criteria for unsignalized intersections from the *Highway Capacity Manual, 7th Edition*.

Table A-1. Level of Service Criteria for Unsignalized Intersections

Level of Service	Average Control Delay per Vehicle
A	0 – 10 seconds
B	> 10 – 15 seconds
C	> 15 – 25 seconds
D	> 25 – 35 seconds
E	> 35 – 50 seconds
F	> 50 seconds

Source: Transportation Research Board, *Highway Capacity Manual 7th Edition*, 2022, Exhibit 20-2.



APPENDIX B

PARKING UTILIZATION STUDY DATA



Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Parking Supply				Parked Vehicles						Parking Utilization					
				Unrestricted	4hr 7a-6p, exc sun/hol	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	4:30 PM			6:00 PM			4:30 PM			6:00 PM		
								Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average
AA	30TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	W	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AB	30TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	E	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
AC	29TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	W	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AD	29TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	E	4	0	0	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
AE	28TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	W	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	17%
AF	28TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	E	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AG	27TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	W	2	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	100%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%
AH	27TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW ELMGROVE ST	E	3	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	1	1	0%	67%	33%	0%	33%	17%
AI	SW ELMGROVE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AJ	SW ELMGROVE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	50%	0%	25%	50%	0%	25%
AK	SW ELMGROVE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	N	8	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AL	SW ELMGROVE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	S	9	0	0	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
AM	SW ELMGROVE ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	N	10	0	0	10	1	1	1	2	1	2	10%	10%	10%	20%	10%	15%
AN	SW ELMGROVE ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	S	11	0	0	11	1	2	2	2	2	2	9%	18%	14%	18%	18%	18%
AO	SW ELMGROVE ST	27TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	N	11	0	0	11	3	4	4	2	1	2	27%	36%	32%	18%	9%	14%
AP	SW ELMGROVE ST	27TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	2	5	4	2	4	3	20%	50%	35%	20%	40%	30%
AQ	32ND AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	W	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AR	32ND AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	E	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AS	31ST AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	W	12	0	0	12	1	2	2	2	3	3	8%	17%	13%	17%	25%	21%
AT	31ST AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	E	14	0	0	14	5	5	5	3	4	4	36%	36%	36%	21%	29%	25%
AU	30TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	W	23	0	0	23	2	4	3	3	4	4	9%	17%	13%	13%	17%	15%
AV	30TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	E	22	0	0	22	7	7	7	7	8	8	32%	32%	32%	32%	36%	34%
AW	29TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	W	19	0	0	19	3	5	4	4	6	5	16%	26%	21%	21%	32%	26%
AX	29TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	E	28	0	0	28	11	9	10	12	11	12	39%	32%	36%	43%	39%	41%
AY	28TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	W	19	0	0	19	5	4	5	5	5	5	26%	21%	24%	26%	26%	26%
AZ	28TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	E	22	0	0	22	7	10	9	10	12	11	32%	45%	39%	45%	55%	50%
BA	27TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	W	21	0	0	21	5	7	6	5	4	5	24%	33%	29%	24%	19%	21%
BB	27TH AVE SW	SW ELMGROVE ST AND SW THISTLE ST	E	19	0	0	19	4	4	4	0	1	1	21%	21%	21%	0%	5%	3%
BC	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	W	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BD	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW THISTLE ST	E	4	0	0	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0%	25%	13%	0%	0%	0%
BE	SW THISTLE ST	32ND AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BF	SW THISTLE ST	32ND AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BG	SW THISTLE ST	31ST AVE SW AND 32ND AVE SW	N	12	0	0	12	1	1	1	2	2	2	8%	8%	8%	17%	17%	17%
BH	SW THISTLE ST	31ST AVE SW AND 32ND AVE SW	S	12	0	0	12	2	1	2	3	1	2	17%	8%	13%	25%	8%	17%
BI	SW THISTLE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	N	3	0	0	3	2	0	1	0	1	1	67%	0%	33%	0%	33%	17%

Parking Utilization Study Data

Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Parking Supply				Parked Vehicles						Parking Utilization					
				Unrestricted	4hr 7a-6p, exc sun/hol	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	4:30 PM			6:00 PM			4:30 PM			6:00 PM		
								Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average
BJ	SW THISTLE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	S	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	25%	13%
BK	SW THISTLE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	N	6	0	0	6	1	1	1	1	2	2	17%	17%	17%	17%	33%	25%
BL	SW THISTLE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	S	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	2	Illegal	NA	Illegal	Illegal	NA	Illegal
BM	SW THISTLE ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	N	8	0	0	8	2	2	2	2	2	2	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%
BN	SW THISTLE ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	S	7	0	0	7	2	7	5	2	1	2	29%	100%	64%	29%	14%	21%
BO	SW THISTLE ST	27TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	N	9	0	0	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
BP	SW THISTLE ST	27TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	S	9	0	0	9	1	0	1	1	0	1	11%	0%	6%	11%	0%	6%
BQ	SW THISTLE ST	26TH AVE SW AND 27TH AVE SW	N	8	0	0	8	2	2	2	0	3	2	25%	25%	25%	0%	38%	19%
BR	SW THISTLE ST	26TH AVE SW AND 27TH AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	5	6	6	2	3	3	50%	60%	55%	20%	30%	25%
BS	SW THISTLE ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	N	8	0	0	8	4	3	4	0	0	0	50%	38%	44%	0%	0%	0%
BT	SW THISTLE ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	S	5	0	0	5	0	2	1	0	2	1	0%	40%	20%	0%	40%	20%
BU	SW THISTLE ST	24TH AVE SW AND 25TH AVE SW	N	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BV	SW THISTLE ST	24TH AVE SW AND 25TH AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	0	1	1	0	0	0	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%
BW	SW THISTLE ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 24TH AVE SW	N	2	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	1	0%	100%	50%	0%	50%	25%
BX	SW THISTLE ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 24TH AVE SW	S	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BY-N	32ND AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BZ-N	32ND AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	5	0	0	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	80%	60%	70%	80%	80%	80%
BY-S	32ND AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
BZ-S	32ND AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	5	0	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
CA	31ST AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	19	0	0	19	1	2	2	2	2	2	5%	11%	8%	11%	11%	11%
CB	31ST AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	19	0	0	19	2	1	2	2	1	2	11%	5%	8%	11%	5%	8%
CC	30TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	24	0	1	25	4	5	5	7	8	8	16%	20%	18%	28%	32%	30%
CD	30TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	26	0	0	26	2	4	3	5	2	4	8%	15%	12%	19%	8%	13%
CE	26TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	50%	0%	25%	50%	0%	25%
CF	26TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	54	0	0	54	14	16	15	15	19	17	26%	30%	28%	28%	35%	31%
CG	25TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	28	0	0	28	10	9	10	12	10	11	36%	32%	34%	43%	36%	39%
CH	25TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	20	0	0	20	10	9	10	11	12	12	50%	45%	48%	55%	60%	58%
CI-N	24TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	5	0	0	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	0%	20%	10%	0%	0%	0%
CJ-N	24TH AVE SW	SW THISTLE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
CI-S	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	W	3	0	0	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	33%	67%	50%	33%	67%	50%
CJ-S	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW CLOVERDALE ST	E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
CK	SW CLOVERDALE ST	32ND AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CL	SW CLOVERDALE ST	32ND AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	5	0	0	5	0	1	1	0	1	1	0%	20%	10%	0%	20%	10%
CM	SW CLOVERDALE ST	31ST AVE SW AND 32ND AVE SW	N	10	0	0	10	2	2	2	2	1	2	20%	20%	20%	20%	10%	15%
CN	SW CLOVERDALE ST	31ST AVE SW AND 32ND AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	2	2	2	0	1	1	20%	20%	20%	0%	10%	5%

Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Parking Supply				Parked Vehicles						Parking Utilization					
				Unrestricted	4hr 7a-6p, exc sun/hol	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	4:30 PM			6:00 PM			4:30 PM			6:00 PM		
								Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average
CO	SW CLOVERDALE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	N	9	0	0	9	3	1	2	3	1	2	33%	11%	22%	33%	11%	22%
CP	SW CLOVERDALE ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	S	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CQ	SW CLOVERDALE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	N	12	0	0	12	0	0	0	1	0	1	0%	0%	0%	8%	0%	4%
CR	SW CLOVERDALE ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	S	8	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CS	SW CLOVERDALE ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	N	12	0	0	12	2	1	2	2	1	2	17%	8%	13%	17%	8%	13%
CT	SW CLOVERDALE ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	S	24	0	0	24	5	6	6	7	6	7	21%	25%	23%	29%	25%	27%
CU	SW CLOVERDALE ST	DEAD END 2 AND 25TH AVE SW	N	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CV	SW CLOVERDALE ST	DEAD END 2 AND 25TH AVE SW	S	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CW	SW CLOVERDALE ST	24TH AVE SW AND DEAD END 3	N	4	0	0	4	2	2	2	1	2	2	50%	50%	50%	25%	50%	38%
CX	SW CLOVERDALE ST	24TH AVE SW AND DEAD END 3	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
CY	SW CLOVERDALE ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 24TH AVE SW	N	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CZ	SW CLOVERDALE ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 24TH AVE SW	S	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DA	32ND AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	W	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	25%	13%
DB	32ND AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	E	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DC	31ST AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	W	21	0	0	21	4	4	4	5	4	5	19%	19%	19%	24%	19%	21%
DD	31ST AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	E	19	0	0	19	3	5	4	4	5	5	16%	26%	21%	21%	26%	24%
DE	30TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	W	28	0	0	28	8	7	8	3	5	4	29%	25%	27%	11%	18%	14%
DF	30TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	E	28	0	0	28	3	7	5	2	4	3	11%	25%	18%	7%	14%	11%
DG	29TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	W	18	0	0	18	1	2	2	1	2	2	6%	11%	8%	6%	11%	8%
DH	29TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND SW TRENTON ST	E	28	0	0	28	2	2	2	1	2	2	7%	7%	7%	4%	7%	5%
DI	26TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND DEAD END 2	W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DJ	26TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND DEAD END 2	E	22	0	0	22	13	11	12	14	15	15	59%	50%	55%	64%	68%	66%
DK	26TH AVE SW	DEAD END 3 AND SW TRENTON ST	W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DL	26TH AVE SW	DEAD END 3 AND SW TRENTON ST	E	12	0	0	12	2	0	1	2	0	1	17%	0%	8%	17%	0%	8%
DM	25TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND DEAD END 3	W	33	0	0	33	10	13	12	13	14	14	30%	39%	35%	39%	42%	41%
DN	25TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND DEAD END 3	E	14	0	0	14	5	7	6	4	5	5	36%	50%	43%	29%	36%	32%
DO-N	24TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	4	0	1	5	1	1	1	2	1	2	20%	20%	20%	40%	20%	30%
DP-N	24TH AVE SW	SW CLOVERDALE ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DO-S	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW TRENTON ST	W	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DP-S	24TH AVE SW	800' BOUNDARY AND SW TRENTON ST	E	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DQ	SW TRENTON ST	31ST AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	5	0	0	5	3	4	4	3	3	3	60%	80%	70%	60%	60%	60%
DR	SW TRENTON ST	31ST AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DS	SW TRENTON ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	N	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DT	SW TRENTON ST	30TH AVE SW AND 31ST AVE SW	S	5	0	0	5	1	1	1	1	2	2	20%	20%	20%	20%	40%	30%
DU	SW TRENTON ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	N	7	0	0	7	1	0	1	1	1	1	14%	0%	7%	14%	14%	14%

Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Parking Supply				Parked Vehicles						Parking Utilization					
				Unrestricted	4hr 7a-6p, exc sun/hol	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	4:30 PM			6:00 PM			4:30 PM			6:00 PM		
								Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average	Thursday 10/2/25	Thursday 10/2/25	Average
DV	SW TRENTON ST	29TH AVE SW AND 30TH AVE SW	S	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DW	SW TRENTON ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	N	0	10	0	10	5	0	3	7	0	4	50%	0%	25%	70%	0%	35%
DX	SW TRENTON ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	5	0	3	7	1	4	50%	0%	25%	70%	10%	40%
DY	SW TRENTON ST	26TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	N	0	25	0	25	13	0	7	19	0	10	52%	0%	26%	76%	0%	38%
DZ	SW TRENTON ST	26TH AVE SW AND 28TH AVE SW	S	4	17	0	21	10	0	5	13	1	7	48%	0%	24%	62%	5%	33%
EA	SW TRENTON ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	N	9	0	0	9	8	5	7	9	6	8	89%	56%	72%	100%	67%	83%
EB	SW TRENTON ST	25TH AVE SW AND 26TH AVE SW	S	10	0	0	10	7	5	6	8	9	9	70%	50%	60%	80%	90%	85%
EC	SW TRENTON ST	24TH AVE SW AND 25TH AVE SW	N	11	0	0	11	1	2	2	2	1	2	9%	18%	14%	18%	9%	14%
ED	SW TRENTON ST	24TH AVE SW AND 25TH AVE SW	S	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	17%
EE	SW TRENTON ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 25TH AVE SW	S	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EF	SW TRENTON ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 25TH AVE SW	S	6	0	0	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0%	17%	8%	0%	0%	0%
EG	31ST AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
EH	31ST AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EI	30TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	14	0	0	14	1	2	2	2	1	2	7%	14%	11%	14%	7%	11%
EJ	30TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	13	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EK	29TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND SW HENDERSON ST	W	16	0	0	16	12	9	11	12	9	11	75%	56%	66%	75%	56%	66%
EL	29TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND SW HENDERSON ST	E	16	0	1	17	11	8	10	11	6	9	65%	47%	56%	65%	35%	50%
EM	28TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND SW HENDERSON ST	W	17	0	0	17	4	2	3	5	3	4	24%	12%	18%	29%	18%	24%
EN	28TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND SW HENDERSON ST	E	18	0	0	18	7	4	6	9	5	7	39%	22%	31%	50%	28%	39%
EO	25TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	8	0	0	8	2	4	3	1	5	3	25%	50%	38%	13%	63%	38%
EP	25TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	16	0	0	16	11	12	12	11	6	9	69%	75%	72%	69%	38%	53%
EQ	24TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	50%
ER	24TH AVE SW	SW TRENTON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ES	SW HENDERSON ST	29TH AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ET	SW HENDERSON ST	29TH AVE SW AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
EU	SW HENDERSON ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	N	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	1	0%	0%	0%	14%	0%	7%
EV	SW HENDERSON ST	28TH AVE SW AND 29TH AVE SW	S	11	0	0	11	0	1	1	0	1	1	0%	9%	5%	0%	9%	5%
EW	29TH AVE SW	SW HENDERSON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	4	0	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	0%	50%	25%	0%	0%	0%
EX	29TH AVE SW	SW HENDERSON ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
TOTAL				1253	52	3	1308	310	296	303	333	288	311	24%	23%	23%	25%	22%	24%

APPENDIX F

Public Comments and Responses

Southwest Athletic Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project

SEPA Public Comments and Responses

SEPA regulations recommend that public comments on draft Checklists be considered and responded to but provides flexibility in how the comments are presented. The comment period on the Draft SEPA Checklist for the Southwest Athletic Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project was from June 1, 2026 to July 1, 2026. Five (5) individual comment letters, emails, or postcards were received from the five individuals listed below.

1. Burczyk, Dawid
2. Farmer, Bill
3. Jackins, Chris
4. Anonymous
5. Anonymous

For efficiency, the comments have been summarized and similar comments have been grouped together and responded to below. Following each comment, the numbers in brackets refer to the commenter number (above) who submitted a similar comment. The original comment letters are on file with Seattle Public Schools (SPS).

SEPA Public Comment Summary and Responses

- 1. Determination of Significance (DS)/EIS Preparation. The project has significant adverse environmental impacts. Further detailed environmental review should be provided through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (Commenters 3, 4 and 5)**

The SPS SEPA Responsible Official is reviewing the revised SEPA Checklist and taking all comments received on the Draft SEPA Checklist into consideration in making a determination of the significance of impacts from the Southwest Athletic Complex Upper Softball Field Lighting Project.

- 2. Request to extend the comment period. (Committer 3)**

Although public comment periods are not required for SEPA Checklists, Seattle Public Schools provided a 30-day comment period which is consistent with previous Seattle Public Schools projects.

- 3. Request for a public meeting. (Committer 3)**

Public meetings are not a requirement for SEPA Checklists under WAC 197-11. While not required by the SEPA Rules, a public comment period was included as part of the issuance of the Draft Checklist to solicit comments from the public, agencies, and organizations.

- 4. Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project. (Commenters 3, 4 and 5)**

SPS will provide future notifications to all parties who live within a two-block radius of the project, and who have requested to be included on future notifications.

- 5. The city requires the district to hold a meeting to discuss requesting an exception to Seattle Municipal Code for 60-foot light poles. (Committer 3)**

As stated in Section 11 (Light and Glare) of the SEPA checklist, Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas. However, SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6) provides provisions to allow light poles for athletic fields on new and existing schools sites to exceed the maximum

permitted height, up to 100 feet if it is determined that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and impacts from light and glare are minimized to the greatest extent practicable. A special exception to the height limit will be requested from the City of Seattle to comply with existing codes and ensure adequate field illumination and minimize light and glare impacts. Seattle Public Schools will continue to work with the City on the special exception process which includes a meeting.

- 6. There are multiple impacts from the project and whether or not these impacts are individually considered significant, they together add up to significant adverse impacts. (Commenter 3)**

The SEPA Checklist describes the proposed project as it relates to the 16 environmental elements listed in the Checklist and identifies potential impacts and applicable mitigations.

- 7. Recreation: Playfield demand is huge and often unmet in the Seattle area. Adding lights to this softball field will significantly increase playtime at this existing field especially during the darker fall, winter, and spring seasons. (Commenter 2)**

These comments are noted, and Seattle Public Schools considered these comments in making a final SEPA determination for the project.

- 8. Recreation: Softball participation is on the increase and girls often play on lower quality fields. Better playfields are wanted and welcome. (Commenter 2)**

These comments are noted, and Seattle Public Schools considered these comments in making a final SEPA determination for the project.

- 9. Recreation: The Joint Athletic Field Development Plan promotes lighting existing fields as an easier solution for increasing capacity of the existing playfield inventory. (Commenter 2)**

These comments are noted, and Seattle Public Schools considered these comments in making a final SEPA determination for the project.

10. Recreation: The proposed project would reduce informal uses of the field.

As described in Section B.12 of the SEPA Checklist, the proposed project would not displace any existing recreational uses and the provision of field lighting would allow for extended use of the field into late fall, winter, and early spring. As under existing conditions, informal use of the field would continue during times when scheduled activities are not taking place.

11. Transportation: An increase of “240 to 300 additional trips per day for part of the year, primarily from October until early March. ...peak volumes are estimated at approximately 85 trips per hour in the PM...” [B.14.e, page 30] These are adverse impacts from the project.” (Commenter 3)

This comment partially restates text and values presented in the referenced SEPA Checklist and Transportation Technical Report (**Appendix E**). The technical report goes on to state that the project trips described were added to the forecast without-project traffic volumes to estimate volumes with the project for each analysis hour. Intersection levels of service for future with-project conditions were determined. As described in Section 3.3 Traffic Operations Impacts (pg 29) of the referenced Transportation Technical Report “...the proposed project is expected to add some delay to several of the study-area intersections; however, all are expected to continue operating at LOS A overall. All movements would continue to operate at LOS B or better during both periods.” As shown in Table 6 of the referenced technical report, traffic generated by the project is forecast to add less than one second of delay to all movements except one—the eastbound left-turn from SW Trenton Street to 29th Avenue SW. That movement is forecast to have five project-related trips added in the PM peak hour, but would still operate at LOS A. The added delays would be negligible and likely not perceptible by drivers. As stated in the report, “The analysis shows that the project would not adversely affect traffic operations in the study area.”

12. Noise: An increase in noise with the project is an adverse impact. (Commenter 3)

An analysis of noise with the project is provided in Section B.7 and the Noise Analytical Report (**Appendix C**). Potential noise impacts associated with the addition of lighting to the Upper Softball Field were evaluated by comparing the measured existing sound levels at the Upper Softball Field (with and without activities at the Baseball Field) to the similar sound levels at the Baseball Field during a sporting event. Sound associated with evening activities at the Baseball

Field are audible in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field, and sound levels at the Baseball Field are similar to the existing sound levels in the vicinity of the Upper Softball Field. All sound levels at the four measurement locations were well below the daytime noise limit of 55 dB(A) and it would be anticipated that noise associated with evening activities with the proposed project would be similar to those measured for activities at the Baseball Field.

Although sounds associated with human voices and other activities on the field may be perceptible over other background noises (such as vehicular noise) due to the different character of the sounds, based on the sound level measurements, it is not expected to be louder than existing sounds in the area which are predominantly from vehicle traffic. In addition, an increase in noise of 3 dBA or less is generally not discernable in active outdoor environments, such as in the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, the sound level associated with the proposed project would be anticipated to be below the noise limits and would not be considered to have a significant impact.

13. Cultural/Historic Resources: Chief Sealth International High School is recorded on the NRHP and the proposed light poles would affect the viewshed of the building.

It is noted in Section B.13 of the SEPA Checklist that Chief Sealth International High School is recorded on the NRHP and is located approximately 0.15 miles to the northeast of the project site. As described in that section, while the proposed light poles may be visible from the Chief Sealth International High School, due to the distance, topography, existing trees, and existing developments (utility poles with overhead lines, street light poles, and parking lot light poles) the proposed project would not notably alter the viewshed of Chief Sealth International High School and therefore no significant impacts are anticipated.

14. Cultural/Historic Resources: Request for a cultural resources assessment and Discovery Protocols be added to the checklist. (Commenter 3)

As noted in Section B.13, the proposed project includes highly localized ground disturbance in five specific locations around the perimeter of the existing field. The Upper Softball Field area has experienced significant prior development and soil disturbance that would have removed near surface soils and sediments that could have had potential to contain cultural deposits. Substantial ground disturbing activities at the site have included the construction of Denny Middle School in 1952, the demolition of the Denny Middle School building in 2011, and the development of the currently existing Upper Softball Field in 2012.

In addition, consistent with these previous ground disturbing activities, the Geotechnical Report for the project conducted subsurface explorations which identified that the site is underlain by up to approximately 20 feet of existing fill which further indicates that substantial ground disturbing activities have historically occurred on the site and that native, near-surface soils are not likely to be present. Therefore, considering the extensive construction development activities that have previously occurred at the site, and the minimal, highly localized ground disturbance of the proposed project, it would be anticipated that the proposed project would have a low potential to encounter significant archaeological materials.

Inadvertent Discovery Protocols are noted in Section B.13 as mitigation measures and would be utilized in the event of an inadvertent discovery.

15. Light and Glare: Tall light poles are an adverse impact and the need for a conditional use permit indicates expected adverse impacts. There is concern surrounding potential for light and glare spill outside of the field complex. (Commenters 1 and 3)

The proposed project does not require a conditional use permit and the need for a conditional use permit would not indicate that a project would have significant adverse impacts. As stated in Section B.11 (Light and Glare) of the SEPA checklist, the proposed athletic field lighting system would generate minimal amounts of spill light. The increase in height from 30 feet to 60 feet above the playing surface would dramatically reduce the amount of spill light generated by the lighting system. The higher pole heights allow the floodlights to be aimed down to the athletic field and away from adjacent properties. The taller height also allows for increased effectiveness of the internal and external shielding on the floodlights to control the emitted light and prevent light from escaping beyond the site.

The use of steeper aiming angles allows for less direct light to be delivered beyond the boundaries of the field. The external shielding blocks more direct light and more light is delivered to the field with the increased mounting heights. The proposed taller mounting heights are typical for this type of use and similar to many existing lighting systems in the City of Seattle and at SPS facilities.

- 16. Lighting: Modern lighting including LED fixtures for minimizing energy demand, maximizing fixture longevity, and minimizing potential light spill and glare. The taller light poles will aim the light onto the field where it is needed and minimize potential light spill and glare. (Commenter 2)**

These comments are noted, and Seattle Public Schools considered these comments in making a final SEPA determination for the project.

- 17. Aesthetics/Views: The proposed light poles would adversely impact views and aesthetics of the site. (Commenter 3)**

SEPA Checklist Section B.10 acknowledges that the light poles would be visible from certain locations surrounding the site but would not obstruct any views. No publicly protected views would be affected by the project. The proposed lighting poles are designed to minimize size and bulk, and reduce the quantity and size of the lights. Views of the light poles would not be considered a significant aesthetic impact.

- 18. Public Services: Increasing visitors to the site could result in the need for increased police presence at the site. (Commenter 3)**

As described in Section B.15 of the SEPA Checklist, increased use of the field could result in some level of additional need for standard police or fire/emergency medical services. However, that potential increase would be expected to be minimal and would not generate a significant increase in the need for public services.

- 19. Artificial turf should not be installed due to concerns for PFAS and forever chemicals, which will be an adverse impact from the project. (Commenter 3)**

The upper softball field already includes an existing synthetic turf surface. The current synthetic turf surface is at the end of its lifespan and is scheduled to be replaced as part of regular SPS field maintenance by the end of September 2026 as part of a separate project to ensure the safety of field users. The new synthetic turf surface will utilize sand and cork infill as opposed to crumb rubber material and the manufacturer of the new synthetic turf maintains that no PFAS chemicals are utilized in the manufacturing of its products. Seattle Public School's practice of regularly inspecting the performance of its synthetic turf fields also lowers the risk of wear to the turf.

**20. Longfellow Creek is not considered in the surface water section.
(Commenter 3)**

This comment is noted. Section B.3 of the SEPA Checklist states that there are no surface water bodies on or immediately adjacent to the site and indicates that the nearest surface water body is the Thistle Street Greenspace and associated wetland areas (0.25 miles from the site).

21. The checklist states there is not further activity proposed for the site but it appears that the artificial turf at the field will be replaced. (Commenter 3)

This comment is noted. The synthetic turf surface is scheduled to be replaced by the end of September 2026 as part of a separate project. The existing synthetic turf surface is at the end of its lifespan and requires replacement as part of SPS's regular field maintenance ensure the safety of field users. Replacement of existing synthetic turf surface with new synthetic turf surface is not subject to SEPA review and is fully independent from the proposed project.