Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Final State Environmental Policy Act Checklist

Seattle Public Schools is committed to making its online information accessible and usable to all people, regardless of ability or technology. Meeting web accessibility guidelines and standards is an ongoing process that we are consistently working to improve.

While Seattle Public Schools endeavors to only post documents optimized for accessibility, due to the nature and complexity of some documents, an accessible version of the document may not be available. In these limited circumstances, the district will provide equally effective alternate access.

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

Conrad Plyler
Project Manager
caplyler@seattleschools.org

While the Eckstein Middle School Athletic 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, Vicinity Map - Eckstein Middle School, Seattle, Washington**
  Figure 1 is an aerial map of the Eckstein Middle School site and the surrounding neighborhood within an approximately one half-mile radius. The project area is outlined in blue.

- **Figure 2, Site Plan – Eckstein Middle School, Seattle, Washington**
  Figure 2 consists of a site plan showing the work proposed. The plan shows the location of the four light poles, numbered S1 to S4.

- **Appendix A: Environmental Noise Assessment**
  Appendix A is an environmental noise assessment prepared by The Greenbusch Group, dated June 11, 2026. The assessment documents existing evening noise conditions and presents the results of noise monitoring and technical analysis of potential environmental noise impacts associated with implementation of the athletic field lighting project. It includes the methodology used to gather information, a description of the existing noise environment, anticipated noise and potential effects, and concludes with the results of the noise assessment. The report includes tables which organize noise measurement data that illustrate the report's findings. Figures and photos show the locations of monitoring collection sites.

- **Appendix B: Revised Light and Glare Report**
  Appendix B is the Light and Glare Report, prepared by Stantec, Revised September 14, 2026. The report describes existing conditions, existing sources of light and glare in and around the Eckstein Middle School area, as well as the lighting equipment proposed for this project. It discusses glare, spill light, and skyglow and their potential environmental impacts, and explains how the proposed lighting will be controlled. The report includes photographs to illustrate and support discussions in the text portion of the report, as well as spill light sheets that show the modeled light levels at the site and adjacent properties for both the proposed 80-foot pole height and at 30-foot pole height.

- **Appendix C: Updated Transportation Technical Report**
  Appendix C consists of a report titled, "Updated Transportation Technical Report for Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting" prepared by Heffron Transportation, Inc., dated August 4, 2026. The report provides a project description; background conditions related to the transportation network, traffic volumes, level of services, 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. The report includes Appendix A, "Level of Service Definitions," and Appendix B, "Parking Utilization Study Data." Figures and tables throughout this report and appendices visually present and organize data supporting the report's findings.

- **Attachment 1: Draft SEPA Checklist Comments and Responses**
  Attachment 1 contains an alphabetized list of the individuals who submitted comments on the Draft SEPA checklist, followed by a summary of the comments by topic and a response to each comment type.

- **Attachment 2: Draft SEPA Checklist Correspondence**
  Attachment 2 contains copies of all the correspondence (emails, letters and postcards) received on the Draft SEPA checklist.

This concludes the Final SEPA checklist.

DATE: October 14, 2026

TO: Recipients of the State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Nonsignificance (SEPA DNS) for Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

FROM: Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, SEPA Official

Seattle Public Schools (SPS) has determined that the final SEPA checklist dated October 2026 meets our environmental review needs for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic 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 date of DNS issuance, defined as the date the DNS is first made publicly available, is scheduled for November 10, 2026.

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 July 1, 2026, through July 31, 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 Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project 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

WAC 197-11-970 Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Date of issuance: November 10, 2026
Lead agency: Seattle School District No. 1 (Seattle Public Schools)
Location of proposal: Eckstein Middle School, 3003 NE 75th St., Seattle, Washington, 98115
(SE Quarter of Section 4, Township 25 North, Range 4 East)

Description of proposal: The proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project would install new fielding lighting at the existing Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field, located in the southern portion of the school campus. The campus is located at 3003 NE 75th St., in the Ravenna neighborhood of Seattle (see Figures 1 and 2 in the SEPA Environmental Checklist).

The proposed lighting would allow for extended use of the existing athletic field in late fall, winter, and early spring by Seattle Public Schools (SPS), as well as Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks), and other community groups. Unilluminated, evening use currently occurs on the field during summer months, and the proposal would extend that availability during late fall through early spring. Informal use of the field would continue to be permitted during times when scheduled activities are not taking place.

The proposed project would consist of four, 80-foot-tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field. Two galvanized steel lighting poles would be installed on the north side of the field and two on the south side. Each pole would be equipped with shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top. In addition, the north poles would each include a lower wattage area lighted area mounted 20 feet above grade. 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 is designed to an average maintained lighting level of 28-foot candles using a 0.9 design factor to achieve initial lighting levels.

Light and Glare
The City of Seattle Design Standards for Athletic Field Lighting (Design Standard No. 26 56 68) restrict light spill at residential property lines to not exceed 0.8 foot-candles. To meet this requirement, a special exception to the 30-foot height limit is required per SMC 23.51B. This exception will ensure adequate illumination for safe play and reduce the impacts from light and glare into the neighborhood.

According to the Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Light and Glare Report prepared by Stantec (Revised September 14, 2026), the lighting system would comply with the maximum allowable spill light requirement with 80-foot-tall light poles. The maximum calculated light level at the residential property line south of the field would be 0.57 foot-candles (Stantec, 2026). Compared to 30-foot poles, the increased mounting height would reduce spill light at surrounding residential property lines and ensure compliance with the City of Seattle's maximum limit of 0.8 foot-candles.

Noise
The Greenbusch Group prepared an Environmental Noise Assessment (June 2026) to evaluate noise impacts associated with the proposal. The Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) identifies maximum permissible sound levels

independent of existing sound levels. In addition to identifying sound limits, the SMC also lists specific types of noise and activities which are public disturbances. In addition to assessing compliance with the SMC, The Greenbusch Group evaluated the proposal against guidelines presented in Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines (Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region X, 1973).

SMC 25.08.100 defines noise districts based on land use zones, including residential, commercial, and industrial areas. The project site and all nearby properties are within residential noise districts. Modifications to the SMC sound limits are outlined in SMC 25.08.420 and include a 10 decibels (dBA) reduction at properties within residential districts between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays and 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. on weekends and legal holidays.

Because the field lights would be turned off before 10 p.m., the project would be subject to the City's residential noise limit of 55 dBA, measured as an average noise level over one hour (Leq). Brief peak noises (Lmax), such as whistles and cheering, may be louder but could not exceed 70 dBA.

Sound levels were measured near the east and south property lines of the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field as these locations are adjacent to the nearest residential properties. Measurements were conducted at the east and south property lines in April 2026, to document existing noise conditions and evaluate noise generated by athletic events.

Measurements of athletic events currently held at the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field indicate athletic events will typically comply with SMC sound limits, with only a single hour exceeding the SMC by less than 1 dBA at the south property line. Although sound levels from athletic events are expected to typically comply with SMC sound limits, there would be short term, transient events, lasting a few seconds, that may exceed SMC limits.

Adult soccer matches are expected to be the primary athletic events occurring after 8 p.m. Fewer spectators typically attend adult athletic events, which are expected to result in reduced sound levels during these games. As a result, evening activities are expected to produce less noise than the daytime events measured by The Greenbusch Group and therefore would result in smaller increases in surrounding sound levels.

Traffic

Heffron Transportation prepared a Transportation Technical Report (August 2026) that evaluated trip generation and parking impacts associated with the proposal. This analysis included an evaluation of on-site and on-street parking occupancy. Effective January 2023, parking was removed as an element of the environment evaluated under SEPA environmental review (WAC 197-11-444(2)(c)(iv)). Pursuant to these amendments, the City of Seattle no longer identifies or requires analysis of parking impacts for SEPA review. However, the City continues to rely on detailed parking analyses to support review of the Special Exception required for over-height light poles on school property.

The proposal could potentially increase traffic during the commuter PM peak hour by approximately at 85 trips (25 in, 60 out). During the evening period between 6-7 p.m., consecutive recreational activities on the field are estimated to generate a total of 60 trips (30 trips in, 30 trips out).

These increases in traffic would occur during part of the year, primarily between October and early March, when field lighting would be needed. The estimated increases during the PM peak hour are associated with school sports activities, which are expected to occur under the lights from October through early November and from February through early March. No outdoor scholastic athletics occur during the winter season from mid-November through mid-February.

Traffic increases during the 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 could occur more frequently with the project.

The proposed project is expected to add negligible delays to off-site study area intersections, and all intersections are expected to continue operating at existing levels, maintaining Level of Service D (LOS D) or better, which indicates acceptable traffic flow with some congestion and delay during peak periods.

Operations after Completion
Installation is proposed to occur during summer 2027, with operations beginning in fall 2027. Upon completion of the project, existing uses of the field by SPS, City of Seattle Parks, and other community organizations would continue, including school-related athletic programs such as soccer, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee, and track and field.

Field lighting would allow for extended use of the field for scholastic activities, such as girls' soccer, co-ed ultimate, boys' soccer, and co-ed track and field. The primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private-school and non-SPS recreational athletic programs, such as soccer, ultimate frisbee, and lacrosse) that would occur after SPS use.

SPS and Parks propose scheduling events on the lighted field from dusk until 10 p.m. The proposal would not change the school enrollment or any other facilities on the site. Instead, it would allow increased use of the athletic fields for scholastic and non-scholastic recreational activities. Scheduled activities would end by 9:45 p.m., and the lights would automatically turn off at 10 p.m.

In setting the cutoff time for lights, SPS considered the Parks Policy No. 060-P 7.1.1, Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Athletic Facilities, which became effective on July 1, 2002. Under this policy, play at lighted fields is generally scheduled until 10:45 p.m., except on fields where residences adjoin two or more sides of the field, unless arterials, significant topography, and/or other buffers separate the field and adjacent residences. Fields that meet these criteria are scheduled until 10 p.m. In addition, unless separate security lighting is available, l field lights will be turned off 15 minutes after the end of scheduled play to allow players to leave the site safely (Policy No. 060-P 7.7.1, Section 4.3.3). Because residences adjoin Eckstein Middle School on two sides, events at those fields would be scheduled until 9:45 p.m.

Installation is proposed to occur during summer 2027, with operations beginning in fall 2027.

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 November 25, 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 November 25, 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 of School Operations, Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0636
Address: MS 22-183, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1165

Date: Oct. 14, 2026 **Signature:** 

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

for the proposed

Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

prepared for

Seattle Public Schools

by

Confluence Environmental Company
Heffron Transportation, Inc.
Stantec
Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, LTD
The Greenbusch Group, Inc.

OCTOBER 2026

Table of Contents

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST 1
A. Background 1
B. Environmental Elements 4
1. Earth 4
2. Air 5
3. Water 6
4. Plants 8
5. Animals 9
6. Energy and natural resources 9
7. Environmental health 10
8. Land and shoreline use 13
9. Housing 14
10. Aesthetics 15
11. Light and glare 15
12. Recreation 17
13. Historic and cultural preservation 18
14. Transportation 19
15. Public services 22
16. Utilities 22
C. Signature 23
REFERENCES 24
FIGURES 25
Figure 1. Vicinity Map 26
Figure 2. Site Plan 27
APPENDIX A: Environmental Noise Assessment
APPENDIX B: Revised Light and Glare Report
APPENDIX C: Updated Transportation Technical Report
ATTACHMENT 1: Draft SEPA Checklist Comments and Responses
ATTACHMENT 2: Draft SEPA Checklist Correspondence

SEPA[1] Environmental Checklist

A. Background

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

   Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

2. **Name of applicant:**

   Seattle Public Schools

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

   Conrad Plyler, PLA

   Project Manager

   Capital Projects and Planning

   Seattle Public Schools

   MS 22-332

   2445 3rd Ave S

   Seattle, WA 98134

   Phone: 206.252.0662

4. **Date checklist prepared:**

   October 6, 2026

5. **Agency requesting checklist:**

   Seattle Public Schools

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

   The Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting 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 plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity are related to this proposal.

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:

   •Athletic Lighting at Eckstein Middle School (DA Hogan, May 5, 2026)

[1] Source: WAC 197-11-960 (September 2023 version) https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance

•Subsurface Exploration and Limited Geotechnical Engineering Study (Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (AESI), January 21, 2026)

•Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Revised Light and Glare Report (Stantec, Revised September 14, 2026)

•Cultural Resources Review Technical Memorandum (Willamette Cultural Resources, February 18, 2026)

•Updated Transportation Technical Report (Heffron Transportation, Inc., August 4, 2026)

•Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project–Environmental Noise Assessment (The Greenbusch Group, June 11, 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.

No pending governmental approvals of other proposals are affecting the property.

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:

•Master Use Permit and Special Exception for Lighting Pole Height

•Building Permit

•Electrical Permits

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project would install new fielding lighting at the existing Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field which is located in the southern portion of the school campus. The school campus is located at 3003 NE 75th Street, in the Ravenna neighborhood of Seattle (see Figures 1 and 2).

The proposed lighting would allow for extended use of the existing athletic field in the late fall, winter, and early spring by Seattle Public Schools, 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.

<u>Existing Site</u>

The existing Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field is comprised of a synthetic turf field that is surrounded by a narrow, rubberized running track. Historically, the athletic field has been utilized by the school for recreation activities and as part of their physical education programs and athletic programs. Pursuant to the 2022-2027 joint-use agreement (JUA) between Seattle Public Schools (SPS) and Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks), Seattle Public Schools-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 8:00AM 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 historically used the athletic field for soccer, football, and ultimate practices and games for a variety of age levels.

The site currently includes onsite parking in two existing parking lots, accessible from NE 75th Street and 30th Ave NE. A total of 190 parking spaces are included within these onsite parking lots.

Proposed Project

The proposed project would consist of four, 80-foot-tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field. The galvanized steel lighting poles would be installed with two poles on the north side and two poles on the south side of the field edge. Each of the poles would contain shielded LED floodlights mounted to the top of the poles, as well as one additional lower wattage area light on the two north poles mounted at 20-feet above grade. 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 is designed to an average maintained lighting level of 28-foot candles using a 0.9 design factor to achieve initial lighting levels.

Current City of Seattle guidelines recommend that athletic field lighting systems minimize light and glare impacts and spill light not exceed 0.8 foot-candles initial at residential property lines. To meet this requirement a special exception to the 30' height limit is required per SMC 23.51B. This exception will ensure adequate illumination for safe play and reduce the impacts from light and glare into the neighborhood.

With the completion of the project, historic uses of the field would continue from SPS, Parks and other community organizations, including school-related athletic programs such as soccer, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee ("ultimate"), and track. Lighting of the field could allow for extended use of the field for scholastic activities including girls' soccer, co-ed ultimate, boys' soccer, and co-ed track. The primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private-school and non-SPS recreational athletics (soccer, ultimate, and/or lacrosse) that would occur after SPS use.

SPS and Parks propose to schedule events at the lighted field from dusk until 10 PM. The proposal would not change the school enrollment or any other facilities on the site, but would allow increased use of the athletic fields for scholastic and non-scholastic recreational activities schedules to end by 9:45 PM, with lights automatically turned off at 10:00 PM. In setting the cutoff time for lights, SPS considered the following:

Parks has adopted Policy # 060-P 7.1.1, Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Athletic Facilities, which became effective on July 1, 2002. For lighted fields, Parks' policy is to schedule play until 10:45 PM, except on fields where residences adjoin the length of the field on two or more sides (unless arterials, significant topography, and/or other buffers are found between the field and adjacent residences on one or both sides). Fields that

meet these criteria are scheduled until 10:00 PM. Unless security lighting is available, lights at all fields will be turned off 15 minutes after the end of scheduled play to allow players to leave the site safely (Policy # 060-P 7.7.1, Section 4.3.3). Because residences adjoin Eckstein Middle School on two sides, events at those fields would be scheduled until 9:45 PM.

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.**

    Eckstein Middle School is located at 3003 NE 75th Street, Seattle, Washington, 98115. The athletic field is located on the southern portion of the campus. A single family residential neighborhood is located adjacent to the southern and eastern boundaries of the site. The proposal is located in Southeast Quarter of Section 4, Township 25N and Range 4E. See the attached site plan (Figure 2).

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

The athletic field portion of the site is flat. The site is situated at approximately the same elevation as the sites to the south and slightly higher than sites to the east and west. Mature vegetation to the east and west of the field provides screening from adjacent sites. Grassy and wooded steep slopes are present along a portion of its southwestern and western edges.

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

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

The steepest slopes on the site are located on the grassy and wooded slopes on portions of the western and southwestern edges. These slopes are approximately 20 to 40 percent or greater.

In accordance with SMC 25.09.080 and 25.09.090, a steep slope buffer of 15 feet would extend from the top of the slope to the east and onto the school campus. Based on the proposed plans for the project, the proposed light pole locations would be located more than 15 feet from the campus site boundary and outside of the steep slope buffer.

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.

A geotechnical report was completed by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (AESI) as a part of the field lighting project. The report included four site exploration borings as part of the onsite investigations. Borings were completed to a depth of 16.5 feet deep. Soils encountered on the site consisted of fill of loose to medium thickness overlaying medium dense to very dense Vashon advance outwash (Associated Earth Sciences, Inc., 2026).

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

According to the City of Seattle GIS database, no areas in the immediate vicinity including the project site are identified as known landslide locations. There is also no evidence of unstable soils on or near the site. This database does identify portions of the western and eastern edges of the site as steep slope critical areas requiring SEPA review; however no site work is occurring in these areas as part of the project.

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.

No grading would be required as a part of the project. A minimal amount of excavation would be required to install the foundations for each of the four proposed light poles.

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

Erosion is possible as a part of any construction activity. Site work would expose soils, but the implementation of a Temporary Erosion Sedimentation Control Plan (TESC) plan would 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)?

Each light pole footing would add no more than 10 square feet of impervious surface area (36 inch diameter borings), for a total of approximately 40 square feet (10 square feet x 4 light poles) of impervious surface added to the site after project construction.

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 Temporary Erosion and Sedimentation Control (TESC) Plan and Best Management Practices (BMPs).

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 Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project could result in temporary increases in localized air emissions associated with particulates and

construction-related vehicles and equipment. It is anticipated that the primary source of temporary, localized increases in air quality emissions would result from particulates and emissions associated with the proposed light pole installation. However, minimal amounts of excavation would be required for the project and 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. Increases in vehicle traffic are expected to be minimal and 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.

No off-site sources of emissions or odor exist that may affect the proposal.

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

No significant air quality impacts are anticipated as a result of the construction or operation of the proposed project. 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).

3. Water

a. Surface:

1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

No surface water bodies are located on or in the immediate vicinity of the site.

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No surface water bodies are located on or in the immediate vicinity of the site; therefore, no work will occur within any surface water bodies.

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 and dredge material will be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands.

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

No surface water withdrawals or diversions are proposed.

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

   No. The proposal does not lie within a 100-year floodplain.

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.**

   No discharges of waste materials to surface waters are proposed for the project.

b. Ground:

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 will be withdrawn from a well.

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.**

   No waste materials will be discharged into the ground.

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 principal source of runoff will be rainwater and snow melt from the site's semi-pervious and impervious surfaces including the athletic field and related paved areas. Stormwater from the athletic fields and impervious areas will be collected in the existing drainage system present under the turf and directed to the existing storm drains downstream of the site, and will then be discharged into a City of Seattle dedicated storm system. All inlets downstream of the site within 300 feet of the project limits would have catch basin protection installed during construction per the TESC plan (DA Hogan, May 5, 2026).

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

   During construction, accidental spills of hazardous materials could enter into ground or surface waters. Existing catch basins downstream of the site within 300 feet of the project limits would have protection installed to filter potential waste materials entering these waters. Due to the minimal amount of new impervious surface added to the site, the stormwater system will remain unchanged after the project is completed.

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

No, the proposal would not alter or affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site due to the limited site modifications and small amount of additional impervious surface area.

d. 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 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.

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?

Light pole installation are expected to generate no more than 10 square feet of disturbance per pole (4 total). To the extent feasible, existing grass areas will be returned to their original conditions upon the completion of the proposed project. Additional vegetation would be added at the time of construction should additional disturbance be measured on site. There are no existing trees that would be affected or removed by the installation of the proposed lighting poles.

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

No threatened or endangered plant species are known to occur in the project area.

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

While disturbance from construction is expected to be minimal, any existing grass areas disturbed during construction will be replanted in-kind.

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

Noxious weeds or invasive species that may be present in the vicinity of the site include giant hogweed, policeman's helmet, rush broom, 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.

A site survey has not been conducted for the project, but the following species are likely to be on or near the site as they are typical urban Puget Sound species:

Reptiles: typical urban Puget Sound area small reptiles including garter snakes and lizards.

Birds: robins and other songbirds, crows, seagulls, finches, wrens, starlings, pigeons and other typical urban Puget Sound area bird species.

Mammals: typical urban Puget Sound area small mammals including squirrels, racoons, mice, shrews, gophers, moles and opossum.

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

The following are federally-listed threatened, endangered or candidate species are listed as potentially being present in the vicinity based on data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: marbled murrelet, yellow-billed cuckoo, Northwestern pond turtle, bull trout, monarch butterfly, and Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (U.S. Fish and Wildlife, 2026). However, it should be noted that none of these species have been observed at the site and due to the urban location of the site and lack of habitat, it is unlikely that any of these species are present on or near the site.

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

No, the proposed project site is not within a specific migration route. However, the entire Puget Sound basin is located within the Pacific Flyway for migrating waterfowl.

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

Because the proposed project is not anticipated to result in any adverse impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitat, no mitigation measures are proposed.

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

Common invasive animal species in King County that are likely to be on or near the site include European starling, house sparrow, and eastern gray squirrel. Other invasive species in King County that are less widespread in urban environments, but could be present on the site, include American bullfrog (U.S. Fish and Wildlife, 2026).

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 lighting project.

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 project includes the following measures would be provided 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 to the athletic field when compared with traditional LED light 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. 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, the construction activities for the proposed project would require limited excavation and few vehicles/equipment, so 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.

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

The Washington State Department of 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.

2. Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

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

3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

   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.

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

   No special emergency services beyond standard police, fire, and medical emergency services from the City of Seattle would be needed for either construction or operation of the project.

5. **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)?**

   An Environmental Noise Assessment was prepared by The Greenbusch Group (June 11, 2026) for this project and the results are summarized in this section. For further details on the Environmental Noise Assessment, please refer to Appendix A of this Checklist.

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 Code (SMC, Chapter 25.08), maximum sound levels in residential communities shall not exceed 55 dBA. However, per SMC 25.08 and based on the Neighborhood Residential 3 zoning for the site, construction activities are allowed to exceed the maximum noise levels between 7 AM and 10 PM on weekdays and 9 AM to 10 PM on weekends. 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 (SMC, Chapter 25.08) 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 Seattle Public Schools to abide by them.

Long-Term Noise

The project will not change the uses of the site, but the new field lighting will enable expanded use of the field in the evenings during the winter months. The project will comply with the adopted policy that allows for field activities until 9:45 PM. 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 Leq 55 dBA during daytime hours and Leq 45 dBA during nighttime hours. Unamplified sounds originating from officially sanctioned parades and other public events are exempt from SMC sound limits during daytime hours (7 AM to 10 PM on weekdays and 9 AM to 10 PM on weekends and legal holidays) under SMC 25.08.540.A.2. Because the field lights would only be active during daytime hours, sounds created by the project are exempt from the sound limits identified in the SMC. Since amplified music is prohibited during events held at the project site, field lights will be turned off prior to 10 PM, and unamplified voices are exempt from SMC sound limits, the project will not be considered a public disturbance and will comply with the SMC. Residents on the east and south sides of the field are likely to experience increased noise levels during the darker months from dusk to approximately 10 PM when the fields are in use as a result of the field lighting, however, these noise levels are consistent with existing uses.

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 Ordinance (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 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM. However, similar to other SPS projects, construction would generally occur between 7 AM and 5 PM on weekdays. The use of the field would comply with City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Policy #060-P7.1.1, which allows 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 is restricted per SMC 18.12.170.
- In the event that specific individual activities may cause noise issues, the City of Seattle maintains a 24-hour noise complaint hotline ((206) 625-5011) 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 site is currently an actively used, multi-purpose athletic field facility. Its main athletic field is used for soccer, lacrosse, and ultimate. An adjoining area contains court facilities used for basketball. The perimeter running track and adjoining areas are used as track and field event practice areas. Both scheduled and unscheduled games and practice activities occur on the site.

Eckstein Middle School and the associated field site are located in a single family residential neighborhood. The site is bordered by NE 75th Street on the north, 33rd Avenue NE on the east, 30th Avenue NE on the west, and by the street ends of 31st Avenue NE and 32nd Avenue NE to the south.

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 nonforest use?

The site has been used for athletic field related purposes for many decades. There is no evidence of prior agriculture or forestry use.

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

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

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are no existing buildings or significant structures on the field site. Minor structures include perimeter fencing and goal posts.

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

No structures will be demolished as a part of the project.

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

The current zoning is Neighborhood Residential 3 (NR3) (City of Seattle, 2026).

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

The current comprehensive plan designation is Neighborhood Residential (City of Seattle, 2026). The One Seattle comprehensive plan update (adopted in 2025, advanced in 2026) designates the intersection of 35th Ave NE and NE 75th Street in the project area as a Neighborhood Center, a type of urban village aimed at concentrating housing, retail, and community facilities in a walkable area (City of Seattle, 2026).

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

Not applicable. The site is not within a shoreline environment.

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

Yes. The City of Seattle's GIS database has designated portions of the eastern and western steep sloped edges of the site as critical areas requiring SEPA review (City of Seattle, 2026). Field lighting at the site will not occur in the steep slopes or any critical areas.

i. 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.

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

The project would not displace any people.

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

The project would not displace any people, therefore no mitigation measures are proposed.

l. 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. 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. The proposed project includes lighting poles that would be approximately 80 feet in height and a special exception to the height limit would be requested to comply with existing codes and ensure adequate field illumination and minimize light and glare impacts. A further discussion of light and glare is provided in Subsection B.11.

m. 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 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 would be provided by this proposal.

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

No housing would be eliminated by this proposal.

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

Impacts to housing are not anticipated, therefore mitigation measures are not proposed.

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?

Each of the four light poles would be 80 feet tall. The principal material of the poles, brackets and floodlights is galvanized steel.

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 obstruct any views. Views across the athletic field site would change to reflect the four new lighting poles on the site; however, this change would be minor and would not represent a significant aesthetic impact.

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 for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project was prepared by Stantec (Stantec, March 2026) and is included as Appendix B to this SEPA Checklist.

The proposed lighting for the field would include twenty-eight 900 watt shielded LED floodlights mounted on four galvanized steel poles. The poles would be 80 feet tall. The two poles on the north side of the field would have one additional lower wattage area light mounted at 20 feet above grade.

The sports field lighting would be designed to a Class IV lighting level, as prescribed by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) standard Recommended Practice for Sports Lighting (RP)-8. The field would be lit to an average-maintained lighting level of 28 foot-candles using a 0.9 Light Loss Factor.

The lighting system would operate from dusk to the pre-set curfew time. The lighting system would be operated by a fully programmable control system with remote operation. The area lights would be on a separate zone and would remain on for a short time after each event to provide ample light for egress from the site following the completion of scheduled field use each evening.

The new lighting system would increase the overall light and glare in the area during evening hours. The proposal would produce direct glare, reflected glare, spill light (light trespass) and sky glow. A definition of the terms used is as follows:

- glare is the sensation produced by luminance within the visual field that is sufficiently greater than the luminance to which the eyes are adapted to, causing annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility.
- direct glare describes when an observer can see directly into a luminaire's light source, where the lamp or the reflector are visible.
- foot candles is a measurement of the light intensity, the illuminance being a one-square foot surface from a uniform source of light.
- luminance refers to direct glare and reflected glare.
- reflected glare describes when light reflected from a surface causes disability glare. It is assumed that the surface is not intentionally a light source. Surfaces attributable to reflected glare will have a higher luminance than adjacent or nearby surfaces.
- spill light is light from a source, which does not strike the area intended for illumination. Spill light can be characterized by foot-candles (fc) calculated or measured in a horizontal or vertical plane.
- light trespass is when spill light extends beyond the property line of the owner of a light source, and onto or above another owner's property.
- sky glow is the haze or glow of light emitted above the lighting installation and reduces the ability to view the darkened night sky. This is a combination of light emitted directly from the light source, light reflected upward from the illuminated surface, and light reflected from airborne particles between the light source and the illuminated surface.

Depending on the viewpoint location, direct glare could be visible from all directions overlooking the field. Due to their proximity to the field, the adjacent properties to the south and east of the field would be exposed to low levels of direct glare. These properties are close to the fields 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 would have minimal to no exposure to direct glare because of the greater setbacks 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.

Exposure to reflected glare would primarily affect the adjacent properties to the south and east of the field. The greatest contribution to reflected glare would be from the synthetic turf field. These properties are close to the field with potential direct views of the soccer field and surrounding surfaces. There is significant fence and vegetative screening along these property lines that block views of the synthetic turf surface. The residences located to the west are at a lower elevation and have no view of the field and

would have minimal exposure to reflected glare. The residences located further away would also have minimal to no exposure to reflected glare because of the greater setbacks eliminating direct views of the field surfaces. The minor impacts at greater distances would be from light reflecting off the poles and floodlights. See Appendix B for additional discussion and nighttime site photos.

The lighting system complies with the maximum allowable spill light requirement at a pole height of 80' with a maximum calculated light level of 0.57 foot-candles at the residential property line south of the field. The increased mounting height will dramatically reduce the maximum spill light at the residential property lines as compared to using 30' pole height. Increased mounting height also reduces spill light to meet the recommended practice of a maximum of 0.8 foot-candles set by the City of Seattle. The project would comply with the conditions set forth in SMC Chapter 23.51B.002. Refer to Appendix B for the Electrical Spill Light Plan.

The athletic field lighting system would generate a minimal amount of "sky glow" at locations in close proximity to the fields. Sky glow would be very minor during heavy low overcast skies and small amounts of sky glow would be evident during conditions of low to heavy fog.

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:

The lighting systems selected for the proposed athletic fields are designed to minimize light and glare impacts. To reduce the amount of glare, spill light and sky glow that is visible off-site the floodlights would need to be mounted higher than the 30 feet permitted by City code (SMC 23.76). The increased mounting height to 80 feet would reduce the maximum spill light at the residential property lines and meet recommended practice of maximum of 0.8 foot-candles set by the City of Seattle (Refer to Appendix B, Sheet ESP-1.0).

12. Recreation

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

In addition to the previously described recreational uses provided by the site itself, Dahl Playfield located northwest of the site includes designated recreational facilities including a playground, wading pool, skateboard park, basketball court, and several baseball and soccer fields with existing field lighting.

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

No permanent displacement of any significant existing recreational use on the site would occur.

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

The proposal's installation of field lighting would provide enhanced recreational opportunities for the local community. New field lighting would provide opportunities for greater use of the field for recreation purposes.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, Ltd. (WillametteCRA) prepared a *Cultural Resources Review for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project Technical Memorandum* (Alsobrook and Kunas 2026) and the results have been summarized in this section.

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 in the Project Area. The Nathan Eckstein Middle School, more commonly referred to as the Eckstein Middle School, is located to the north of the Project Area. Completed in 1950 as the Nathan Eckstein Junior High School, the school was renamed as the Nathan Eckstein Middle School in 1971. The school was designated as a City of Seattle Landmark on June 17, 1981. The school is recorded on historic property inventory form 46489 but the building has not been evaluated for its potential eligibility to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Alsobrook and Kunas, 2026). SPS is currently negotiating a Seattle Landmark controls and incentives (C&I) agreement that will allow the installation of the field lighting. Final approval is pending.

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 Project Area is within the traditional lands of the Duwamish, a Southern Coast Salish group. The Duwamish are part of the group of tribes that speak the Lushootsheed language, which was spoken by groups ranging from Samish Bay in the north to the Puget Sound and its river basins. The nearest ethnographic place name recorded near the Project Area is DutLEc, which refers to Green Lake (1.5 miles west). There are no ethnographic place names recorded within the Study Area (Alsobrook and Kunas, 2026).

No previously recorded archaeological sites, cemeteries, or traditional cultural properties are located within the Project Area. WillametteCRA considers the Project Area to have low risk for containing subsurface precontact-era archaeological resources due to past development of the Project Area (Alsobrook and Kunas, 2026).

The construction of four athletic field lighting poles near the Eckstein Middle School would not alter or destroy the integrity of significant historic character defining features of the landmarked building. Additionally, a review of the light spread analysis report

prepared by Stantec (March 6, 2026) indicates that there would be no increase in ambient light intensity levels at the portion of the landmarked school building closest to the athletic fields. Therefore, the proposed installation of the athletic field lighting would have no impacts on the landmarked school building.

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.

Work proposed at the site includes very limited excavation on a site that has been previously disturbed. WillametteCRA completed a literature review and reviewed the geotechnical report. The Study Area examined for this literature review included the tax parcel containing the Eckstein Middle School and athletic field and also included the immediately adjacent tax parcels. Information reviewed included any previous archaeological survey reports, ethnographic studies, historic maps, government landowner records, aerial photographs, regional histories, geological maps, soils surveys, and environmental reports. These records were reviewed in order to determine if there were any potentially significant cultural resources, including Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs), within the Project Area. Relevant documents were reviewed on the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), online, and within the WillametteCRA research library (Alsobrook and Kunas, 2026).

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.

No impacts to historic or cultural resources are anticipated. WillametteCRA recommends that SPS's standard use of an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) is appropriate to address the low potential for encountering archaeological resources during construction. The IDP sets forth procedures and protocols to follow in the event of an archaeological resources discovery, including discovery of human remains. The IDP stipulates pre-construction briefings and on-call response if required. SPS would provide tribal representatives, including those of the Duwamish Tribe, with one-week advance notification of the project schedule and invite them to observe construction. Based on the results of the cultural resources technical memorandum, no on-site archaeological monitoring is recommended during project construction.

14. Transportation

A *Transportation Technical Report* (Heffron Transportation, Inc., 2026) 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 C of this Checklist.

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 Eckstein Middle School site consists of one parcel bounded on the north by NE 75th Street, on the west by 30th Avenue NE, and on the south and east by single-family residential parcels. The athletic field has a synthetic surface and occupies the southeast portion of the site.

Eckstein Middle School has a primary access driveway on NE 75th Street located about 90 feet east of the 32nd Avenue NE intersection. This driveway connects to a large paved surface that currently has four marked ADA parking stalls near the main school building. Another 28 stalls have historically been marked on the east side of the building in the center of this area; however, striping has faded and/or is no longer visible. Based on field observations and reviews of historical aerial imagery, the hard-surface area has accommodated 190 or more parked vehicles for events or after-hours use of the site and playfield. In addition, there are two paved parking areas located along the western portion of the site adjacent to 30th Avenue NE. Those two areas each have one-way circulation loops with entry at the south and exit to the north. The northwestern lot has 25 marked angled spaces, while the southwestern lot is unstriped, but can accommodate up to 26 angle-parked vehicles. These western parking lots are located at a lower grade than the main school building and athletic field. Those who park here use stairs to access the school and field.

The proposed field lighting project would not change access to 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 directly to the Eckstein Middle School site. There are Metro bus stops serving both directions at the NE 75th Street / 31st Avenue NE intersection (the westbound stop is east of the intersection and the eastbound stop is west of the intersection). These stops are served by Metro's Route 79, which provides weekday service between the Green Lake Park-and-Ride, Roosevelt, Wedgwood, Hawthorne Hills, Ravenna, and the University District. It operates from about 5:30 AM to 10:00 PM with headways (time between consecutive buses) of about 60 minutes for most of the day. It allows for transfers to numerous other routes including Route 65, 75, as well as twelve other routes and the 1 Line (light rail) at the U-District Station.

About 0.15-mile to the east at the NE 75th Street / 35th Avenue NE intersection, there are stops serving both directions of Metro's Route 65. It operates with all day service seven days per week between Shoreline Station / 148th Station and the University District (with stops at Lake City, Wedgwood, and Laurelhurst). It operates from 5:00 AM to 3:00 AM with headways of about 15 minutes. About ¼-mile to the west at the NE 75th Street / 25th Avenue NE intersection, there are stops serving both directions of Metro's Route 372. It operates with all day service seven days per week between

Bothell and the University District (with stops at Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, and Lake City). It operates from 5:00 AM to 1:40AM with headways of about 10 to 30 minutes.

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

The project would not add or eliminate any parking spaces.

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

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

e. 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.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

The field lighting project could generate between 240 to 300 additional trips per day for part of the year—primarily from about October until early March. Peak volumes (estimated at about 85 trips per hour associated with scholastic athletics) added due to the field lights could occur in PM peak hour as a middle 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.

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).

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

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.

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

Based on the analyses presented in the referenced Transportation Technical Report, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts to traffic within the study area. It is recommended that the District ensure that the off-street parking lots are open and

available for users during times that the field is scheduled for use. No mitigation would be required to accommodate the project.

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.

The completed project would not result in an increased need for public services.

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

No measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services are proposed, as the completed project would not result in an increased need for public services.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: <u>electricity,</u> <u>natural gas</u>, <u>water</u>, <u>refuse service</u>, <u>telephone</u>, <u>sanitary sewer</u>, septic system, other:

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

The proposed field lighting system would require additional electricity for operation. Seattle City Light provides electrical service to the site.

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.

X Conrad Plyler

Type name of signee: Conrad Plyler

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

Date submitted: October 6, 2026

REFERENCES

Adam S. Alsobrook and Julia Kunas. *Cultural Resources Review for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project Technical Memorandum.* February 18, 2026.

Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. *Subsurface Exploration and Limited Geotechnical Engineering Study Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Addition.* January 21, 2026.

City of Seattle. *SDCI Property Information Map (GIS)*. https://seattlecitygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f822b2c6498c4163b0cf908e2241e9c2. Accessed January 2026.

City of Seattle. *City of Seattle Municipal Code.* Accessed February 2026.

DA Hogan. *Athletic Field Lighting at Eckstein Middle School*. May 5, 2026.

Heffron Transportation, Inc. *Updated Transportation Technical Report for Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting.* August 4, 2026.

Seattle School District. *Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Improvements SEPA Checklist.* October 2006.

Seattle School District and Seattle Parks and Recreation. *Agreement for the Joint Use of Facilities Between Seattle School District and Seattle Parks and Recreation – 2022-2027.*

Stantec. *Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Light and Glare Report.* Revised September 14, 2026.

The Greenbusch Group. Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project–Environmental Noise Assessment. June 11, 2026.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. *IPaC.* https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/location/index. Accessed February 2026.

Washington State Department of Ecology. *Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.* Accessed February 2026.

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board. *Noxious Weed List.* *https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/printable-noxious-weed-list.* Accessed February 2026.

FIGURES

Figure 1. Vicinity Map



Figure 2. Site Plan



Source: DA Hogan, 2026

APPENDIX A: Environmental Noise Assessment

THE GREENBUSCH GROUP, INC.

Memorandum

DATE: *June 11, 2026*

TO: *Lisa Adolfson – Confluence*

FROM: *Justin Morgan, INCE*

RE: *Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project–Environmental Noise Assessment*

INTRODUCTION

The intent of this memorandum is to provide an assessment of potential noise effects resulting from the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (Project), located at 3003 Northeast 75th Street in Seattle, Washington. The Project would install lights at the existing Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field, allowing for athletic events to occur after sunset.

REGULATORY CRITERIA

The Project is located within the City of Seattle, therefore sounds produced by the Project are regulated by the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC). The SMC identifies maximum permissible sound levels independent of existing sound levels. In addition to identifying sound limits, the SMC also lists specific types of noises and activities which are considered a public disturbance. For the purposes of this evaluation, potential noise impacts are evaluated based on compliance with the SMC.

In addition to assessing compliance with the SMC, guidelines presented in the document entitled "Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines" (Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region X, 1973) were used to assess the potential noise effects within the community.

Seattle Municipal Code

SMC Section 25.08.410 specifies permissible sound levels within the City of Seattle based on the noise districts of the sound source and receiver. SMC 25.08.100 defines noise districts based on land use zones, including Residential, Commercial, and Industrial.

The Project and all nearby properties are within Residential noise districts. Modifications to the SMC sound limits are outlined in SMC 25.08.420 and include a 10 dB reduction at properties within Residential districts between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays and 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. on weekends and legal holidays. Since the field lights will turn off before 10 p.m., the resulting hourly L_{eq} sound limit for the Project would be 55 dBA. During any measurement interval, L_{max} sound levels may exceed the exterior sound level limits by no more than 15 dBA, resulting in an L_{max} sound limit of 70 dBA.

In addition to specifying sound limits, SMC 25.08.500 lists activities and noises which are considered a public disturbance. Activities identified in SMC 25.08.500 which could be applicable to the Project include:

- SMC 25.08.500.D prohibits loud, raucous, frequent, repetitive, or continuous sounds created by a musical instrument, or other device capable of producing sound when struck by an object, a whistle, or a sound amplifier or other device capable of producing, or amplifying, or reproducing sound.
- SMC 25.08.500.E – prohibits loud, raucous, frequent, repetitive, or continuous sounds made by the amplified or unamplified human voice between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Since amplified music is prohibited during events held at the Project site and field lights will be turned off prior to 10 p.m., the Project will not be considered a public disturbance under the SMC.

Environmental Protection Agency

To assess the potential noise effects within the community, this analysis relies on guidelines presented in the document entitled "Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines" (EPA Region X, 1973.) In this document, increases in noise are discussed in relation to expected community response to the introduced sound source. These responses are described as follows:

- Up to a 5 dB increase – few complaints, if gradual increase
- 5 to 10 dB increase – more complaints, especially during sleeping hours
- Over 10 dB increase – substantial number of complaints

The EPA guidelines are not standards and do not have the force of law but do serve as useful indicators for potential noise effects.

METHODOLOGY

To assess potential noise effects within the community, existing sound levels were measured at two locations near the Project. Measurements were also made of athletic events held during daytime hours at the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field to assess sound levels within the community from athletic events.

SOUND LEVEL MEASUREMENTS

Sound levels were measured near the east and south property lines of the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field to document existing sound levels and measure athletic events. Measurements were made at the east property line between Tuesday April 7, 2026, and Wednesday April 8, 2026, as well as the south property line between Thursday April 2, 2026, and Sunday April 6, 2026.

Temperatures during the measurements at the east property line ranged between 36 and 60 degrees Fahrenheit and wind conditions were calm. During the measurements at the south property line temperatures ranged between 40 and 69 degrees Fahrenheit and wind speeds were typically calm. There was no precipitation during the measurements.

Equipment used during the measurements are listed in Table 1. All equipment was calibrated at a certified laboratory within one year of the measurement dates. Field calibrations were also made before and immediately after the measurements were completed. The locations of the measurements are shown in Figure 1. Photos of the measurement equipment are shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

Table 1. Measurement Equipment

Location	Make and Model	Description	Serial Number
East Property Line	Svantek 979	Sound Level Analyzer	46177
	Svantek SV17	Preamplifier	57824
	G.R.A.S. 40AE	Microphone	575378
	Larson Davis CAL200	Acoustic Calibrator	16828
South Property Line	Svantek 971	Sound Level Analyzer	72542
	Svantek SV18	Preamplifier	72239
	Aco Pacific 7052E	Microphone	68284
	Larson Davis CAL200	Acoustic Calibrator	16827

Figure 1. Locations of Sound Level Measurements



Figure 2. East Property Line



Figure 3. South Property Line



The range of existing ambient hourly L_{eq} sound levels at the Eckstein Middle School between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., during athletic events, and ambient sound levels at the same times as athletic events (but when events were not occurring) are shown in Table 2. Sound levels reported between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. are used to represent sound levels after sunset, when field lights could affect future sound levels.

Ambient sound sources present during the measurements between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at the Eckstein Middle School included vehicle traffic on nearby roadways, nature sounds, and aircraft noise. Aircraft flyovers were the most prevalent sound source during the measurements and resulted in approximately 1-minute of elevated sound levels during each flyover. Vehicle noise was constant and quieter than aircraft noise. Children were also playing on the field during the 8 p.m. hour the evenings of April 5th through April 7th. Elevated sound levels from children yelling typically lasted approximately 1-second but would often occur several times in close succession.

Soccer games held at the Eckstein Middle School field were measured at the south property line between 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Thursday April 2, 2026, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday April 4, 2026, and 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Sunday April 5, 2026. Events were also measured at the east property line between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday April 7, 2026. Dominant sound sources from athletic events were shouting, cheering, and referee whistles. These sound sources were all transient in nature, occurring for a few seconds at a time.

Sound levels were also assessed during similar times of athletic events on days events were not occurring. To minimize the variability in sound levels from outside sound sources, such as traffic, sound levels were used from similar days and times as the athletic events.

Table 2. Measured Sound levels, Hourly L_{eq}, dBA

Type of Measurement	Location	Time Range	Range of Sound Levels, Low – High (Median)
Evening Sound Levels without Athletic Events	East Property Line	8 p.m. to 10 p.m.	39 – 49 (44)
	South Property Line	8 p.m. to 10 p.m.	44 – 52 (46)
Daytime Sound Levels without Athletic Events	South Property Line	Weekdays 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	51 – 51 (51)
		Weekend 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	43 – 46 (46)
		Weekend 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.	49 – 49 (49)
Daytime Sound Levels from Athletic Events	East Property Line	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	51 – 51 (51)
	South Property Line	Weekday 5 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	56 – 56 (56)
		Weekend 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	51 – 55 (54)
		Weekend 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.	50 – 50 (50)

ASSESSMENT AND RESULTS

Measurements of athletic events currently held at the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field indicate athletic events are typically in compliance with the SMC sound limits, with only a single hour exceeding the SMC by less than 1 dB at the south property line. Although sound levels from athletic events are expected to typically comply with SMC sound limits, there would be short term, transient events, lasting a few seconds, that may exceed SMC limits.

The potential increase to existing sound levels near the project from future nighttime athletic events were evaluated by combining the existing sound levels between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. and sound levels measured during athletic events. The sound levels from athletic events, combined sound levels from the events and ambient sound levels, and the resulting increase to sound levels are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Increase to Existing Sound Levels between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., dBA

Location	Sound Levels, minimum-maximum (median)			
	Existing[1]	Event	Combined[2]	Increase
East	44	51 – 51 (51)	52 – 52 (52)	8 – 8 (8)
South	46	50 – 56 (54)	52 – 56 (55)	6 – 10 (8)

1. Median existing hourly L_{eq} sound levels between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.
2. Combined levels are calculated from the median existing hourly L_{eq} between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. and range of hourly L_{eq} sound levels measured during athletic events.

As shown in Table 3, athletic events are anticipated to increase sound levels between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. by between 6 and 10 dB with a median increase of 8 dB using the median sound levels from athletic events. However, the expected community response used in the EPA guidelines is based on a new source being introduced into the community. The Project would not introduce new noise sources but would extend the hours the field would be in use. Sound levels produced by athletic events held at the field after sunset are expected to be consistent with those already occurring during daytime hours. Furthermore, at the time of this report, there have been no complaints received from the community regarding noise created from athletic events held at Eckstein Middle School.

Adult soccer matches are expected to be the primary athletic events occurring after 8 p.m. Fewer spectators typically attend adult athletic events, which may reduce sound levels produced during these games. This may result in quieter events than those measured during daytime hours and shown in Table 2, therefore reducing the increase to sound levels resulting from evening events.

As shown in Table 2, sound levels measured during evening hours (8 p.m. to 10 p.m.) are similar to those during daytime hours, when athletic events are not occurring. Because these sound levels are similar, the increase in sound levels created by athletic events after sunset is anticipated to be equivalent to the increase in sound levels currently occurring during daytime hours.

Although sound levels are likely to increase after sunset and changes to the types of sounds in the area may be perceptible at nearby residences, sound levels would be consistent with those already received from athletic events currently held at the field. These levels are expected to typically comply with SMC sound limits, with the exception of specific, transient, short-term events, which are typically a few seconds in duration. Because sound levels from athletic events are anticipated to generally comply with SMC sound limits, noise impacts are not anticipated at nearby residences as a result of the Project.

APPENDIX B: Revised Light and Glare Report

Eckstein Middle School
Field Lighting

Light and Glare Report (Revised)

September 14, 2026

Prepared for:

Seattle Public Schools
Capital Projects
Seattle, Washington

Consultant:

Stantec

Proposal

The existing field located within the running track at Eckstein Middle School 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 soccer\football field 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 Van Asselt.

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 January 28th, 2026. The school site is located within a residential community south of NE 75th Street between 30th Avenue NE and 33rd Avenue NE. The field is located adjacent to residential homes on the west side of 33rd Avenue NE and homes located at the dead end of 31st Ave NE and 32nd Avenue NE.

The area surrounding site slopes down to the west. The adjacent homes to the east and south are at the same elevation of the field. The homes to the west are at a lower elevation than the field. There is some tree and vegetative screening along with screening from existing fences to the south and east sides of the field. The existing school building provides screening from the field to the north of the site.


View looking southeast from the field


View looking south 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 1st, 2026. Light readings were taken on site and on several streets surrounding the field.

The existing light sources on the school site primarily consist of school building entry lighting and parking lot light poles located on the west side of the site.


Existing HID building lighting


Existing LED pole mounted 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 school. 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 30th Avenue NE



Existing LED Streetlighting 30th Avenue NE



Existing LED Streetlighting NE 75th Street



Existing LED Streetlighting 33rd Avenue NE

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

School Door Entry Lighting	4.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Parking Lot Pole Lighting	50.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Streetlight – NE 75th Street	4.5 ft-c (Max Horizontal)
Streetlight – 30th Avenue NE	6.0 ft-c (Max Horizontal)

Proposed Equipment

The proposed lighting for the football field consists of 28 watt shielded LED floodlights. The floodlights will be mounted on four galvanized steel poles surrounding the field. The poles will be 80' tall. The two poles on the north side of the field will have one additional low wattage "full cutoff" area light mounted at a height of 30' 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 field at Roosevelt High School.



LED Floodlight used at Roosevelt High 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".

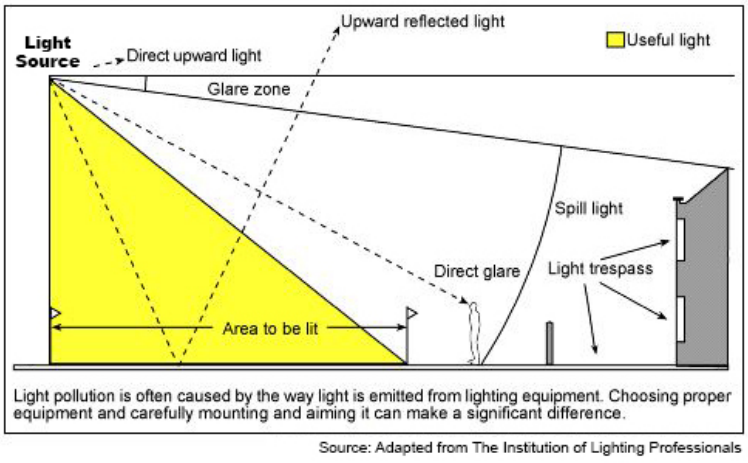


Diagram illustrating Direct-Glare, Spill Light and Light Trespass

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 low levels of direct glare is primarily to the adjacent residential properties located directly east and directly 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. There is existing evergreen and deciduous trees and vegetation located between the field and these properties that will provide additional reduction in visible direct glare.

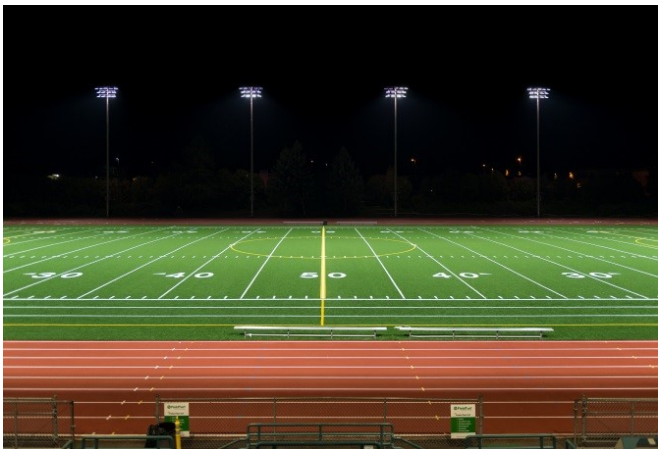
Residential properties that are not adjacent to the field and properties located farther away from the field will have minimal to no direct glare impacts.

Reflected glare would be visible from all directions overlooking the site, depending 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 rubberized track 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 east and 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\track 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. The existing vegetative screening and existing fence screening between the field and these properties limit direct views of the field from these locations.

Residential properties that are located farther away from the field or situated below the field will have low to minimal 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.

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 low level of 3,790 candelas at the property line to a maximum of 244,000 candela. Vehicular high beam floodlights have a maximum approximate value up to approximately 75,000 candela.

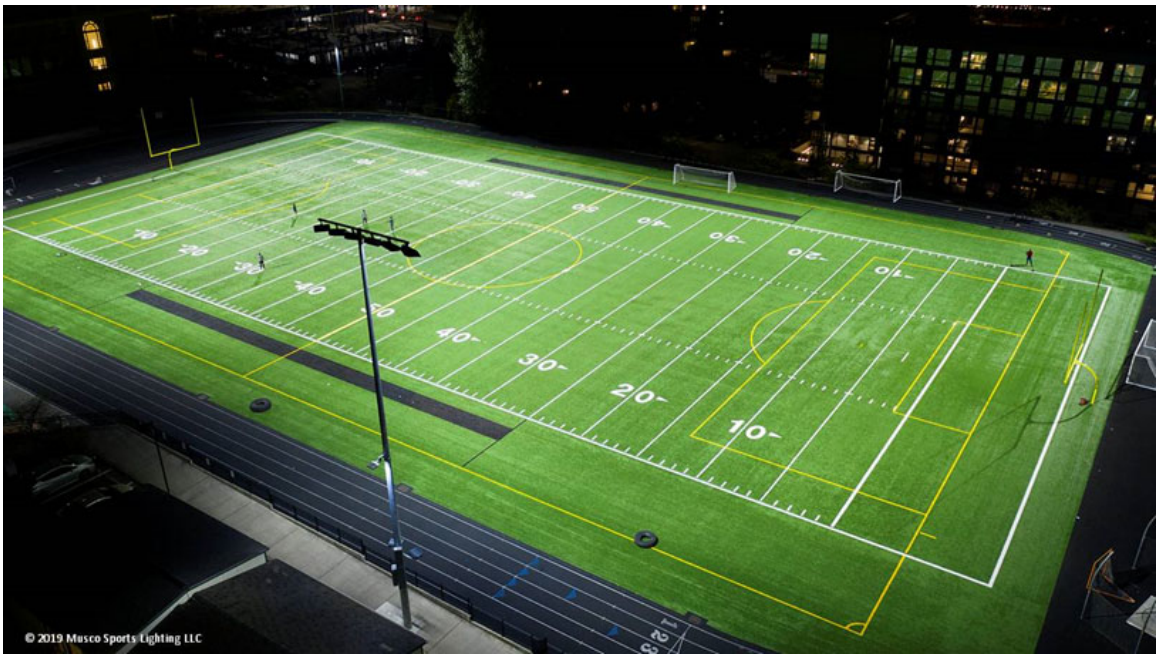


Direct glare reduction with use of advance shielded LED floodlights

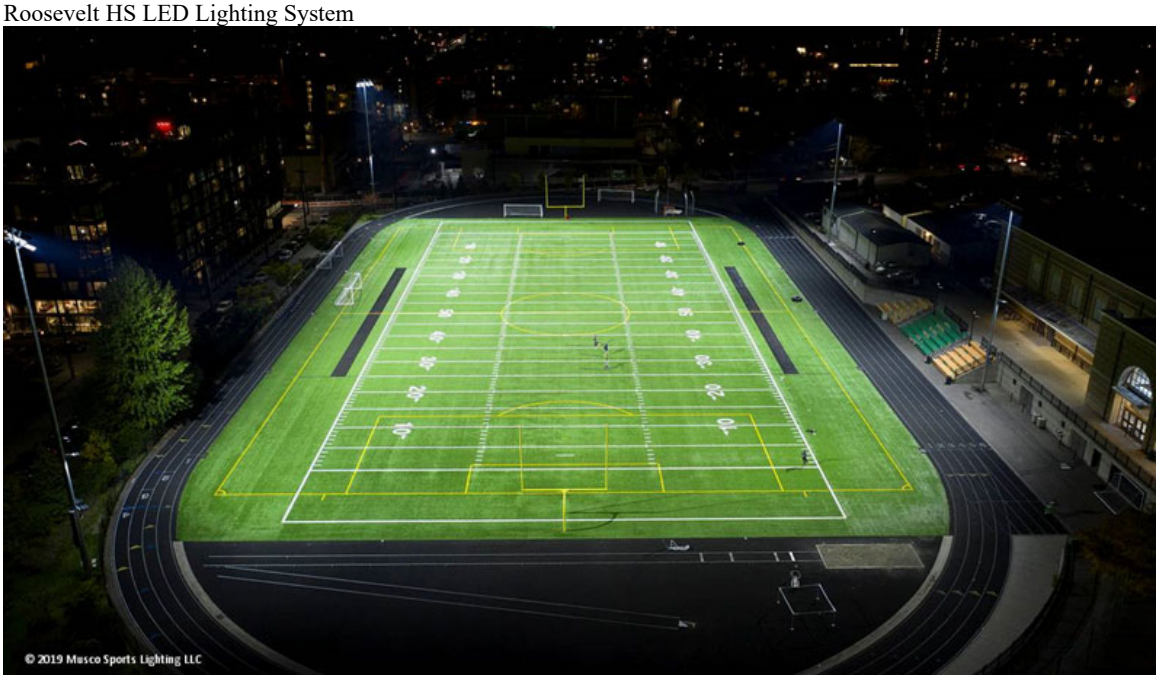
The photos below show the athletic field lighting system recently installed at Roosevelt HS. The use of the highly shielded LED floodlights dramatically minimizes lighting impacts to the surrounding properties. The shielding was adjusted post installation to further reduce spill and glare impacts into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



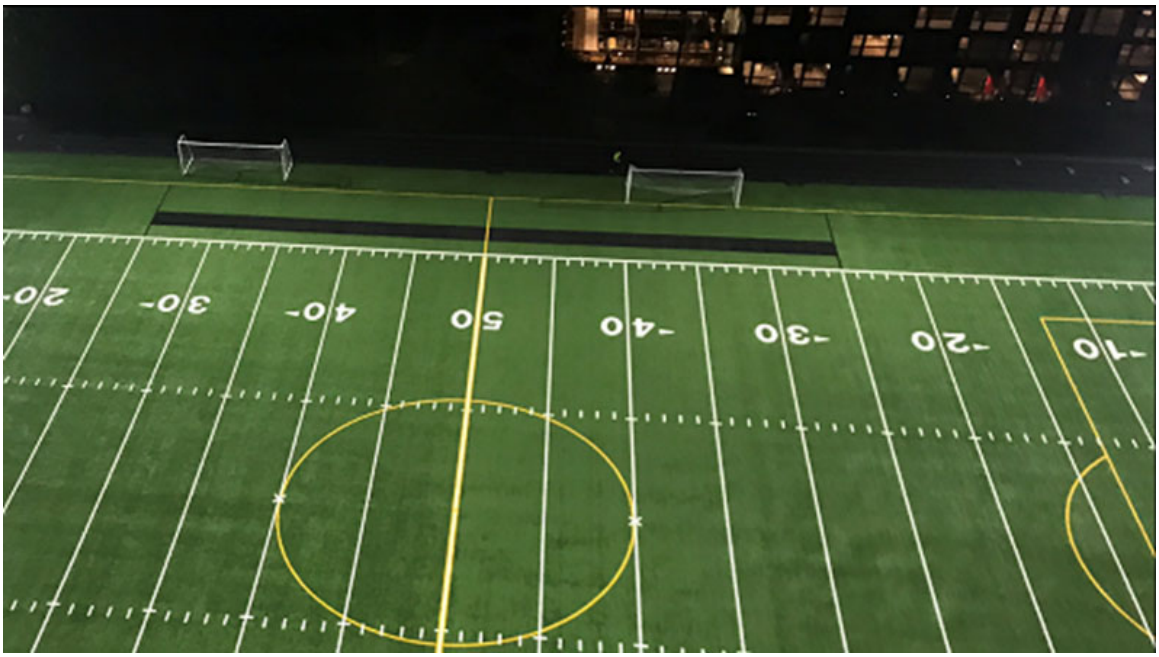
Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System



Roosevelt HS LED Lighting System

The increased mounting heights for the field light poles will dramatically decrease the overall amount of 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 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 additional pole height is also necessary to comply with the recommended maximum spill light of 0.8 vertical foot-candles.

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 10.0 degrees (worst case) and 31.00 degrees (best case) below the horizontal plane of the floodlight. The increased mounting height to 80 feet will provide for aiming angles of 23.0 degrees (worst case) and 57.0 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 80 feet above the field the maximum amount of measurable light delivered along the property lines is 0.57 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 6.33 foot-candles.

[Upon review and comment by adjacent neighbors an additional spill light calculation was provided on spill light plans ESP-1.0 and ESP-1.1. Spill light was calculated at the approximate location of the back of homes east of the fields at the approximate height of the second story windows (see key note #4 on sheet ESP-1.0). The calculations show a further reduction in spill light at this location down to a max of 0.01 foot-candles. At a 30' pole height the spill light at this location increases to a maximum of 1.71 foot-candles (see key note #4 on sheet ESP-1.1)]

The increased mounting height will dramatically reduce the maximum spill light at the residential property lines as compared to using 30' pole height. Increased mounting height also reduces spill light to meet recommended practice of maximum of 0.8 foot-candles set by the City of Seattle.

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 athletic 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.



KEY NOTES:

1. CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READING SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE HORIZONTAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.
2. ISO FOOT-CANDLE LINE SHOWING LIGHTING LIMIT OF 0.8 FOOT-CANDLES.
3. PROPERTY LINE CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READING SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE VERTICAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.
4. BACK OF HOME CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READINGS AT APPROXIMATE HEIGHT OF SECOND FLOOR SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE VERTICAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.

LEGEND

- ▲ SHIELDED LED FLOODLIGHT, 900 WATT, 4500K, 480 VOLT
- ■ AREA LUMINAIRE, 550 WATT SHIELDED LED FLOODLIGHT, 4500K, 480 VOLT, DIMMED DOWN TO 25%

POLE AND FLOODLIGHT SCHEDULE

POLE	HEIGHT	FLOODLIGHTS	AREA LUMINAIRE
S1	80'-0"	7	1
S2	80'-0"	7	1
S3	80'-0"	7	1
S4	80'-0"	7	1
TOTAL		28	4

ELECTRICAL SPILL LIGHT PLAN

SCALE: AS INDICATED

0 20 40 80 120

1 inch plotted — Feet

If measurement is other than 1 inch then the plot is reduced.

REVISION	DATE
1 ADDITIONAL SPILL LIGHT CALCULATION	09/01/2026

SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

DA HOGAN
1450 114th Ave. SE, Suite 225
Bellevue, WA 98004
p. 206.285.0400
www.dahogan.com

Stantec
3400 188th Street SW Suite 285
Lynnwood Washington 98037-4772
(206) 667-0555

CHRISTOPHER B. FOREMAN — STATE OF WASHINGTON — 31353 — REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
03/06/26

DESIGN DOCUMENTS

DATE	01-14-26
SCALE	AS INDICATED
DRAWN	AAU
CHECKED	CBF

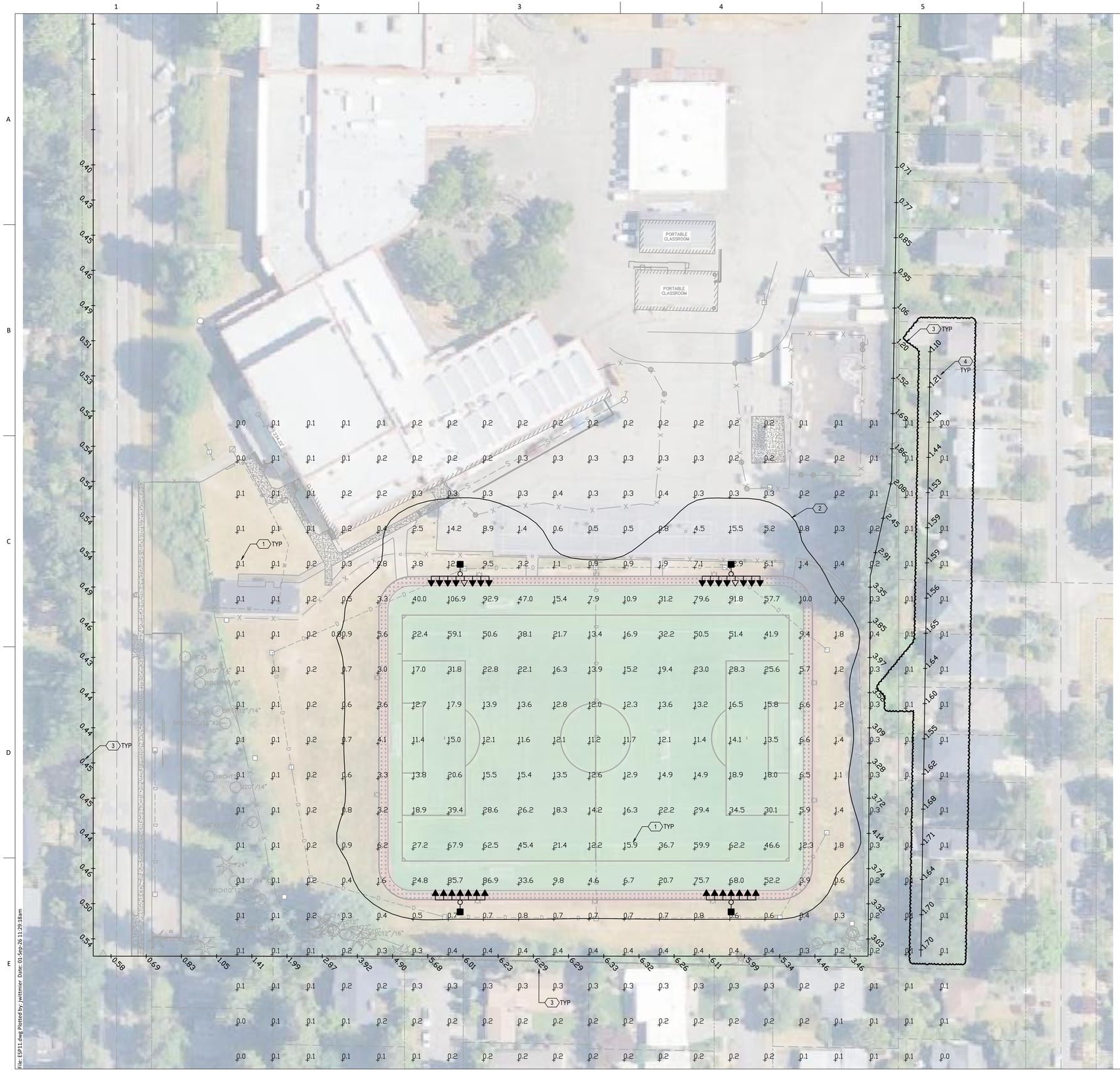
COPYRIGHT © 2025 D.A. HOGAN & ASSOCIATES

ELECTRICAL SPILL LIGHT PLAN

SHEET

ESP-1.0

U:\204230\82D_WORKING_FILES\10_ELECTRICAL\01_CAD\01_SHEETS\ESP10 Sep 01, 2026 11:29 AM By JWITTMER
File: ESP10.dwg Plotted by: jwittmer Date: 01-Sep-26 11:29:16am



KEY NOTES:

1. CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READING SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE HORIZONTAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.
2. ISO FOOT-CANDLE LINE SHOWING LIGHTING LIMIT OF 0.8 FOOT-CANDLES.
3. PROPERTY LINE CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READING SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE VERTICAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.
4. BACK OF HOME CALCULATED SPILL LIGHT READINGS AT APPROXIMATE HEIGHT OF SECOND FLOOR SHOWN IN FOOT-CANDLES. LIGHT READING IS CALCULATED IN THE VERTICAL PLANE AT 3'-0" ABOVE FIELD ELEVATION.

LEGEND

- ▲ SHIELDED LED FLOODLIGHT, 900 WATT, 4500K, 480 VOLT
- △ SHIELDED LED FLOODLIGHT, 550 WATT, 4500K, 480 VOLT
- ■ AREA LUMINAIRE, 550 WATT SHIELDED LED FLOODLIGHT, 4500K, 480 VOLT, DIMMED DOWN TO 25%

POLE AND FLOODLIGHT SCHEDULE

POLE	HEIGHT	FLOODLIGHTS	AREA LUMINAIRE
S1	30'-0"	8	1
S2	30'-0"	8	1
S3	30'-0"	7	1
S4	30'-0"	7	1
TOTAL		30	4

ELECTRICAL SPILL LIGHT PLAN

SCALE: AS INDICATED

0 20 40 80 120

1 inch plotted — Feet

If measurement is other than 1 inch then the plot is reduced.

REVISION	DATE
1 ADDITIONAL SPILL LIGHT CALCULATION	09/01/2026

SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

DA HOGAN
1450 114th Ave. SE, Suite 225
Bellevue, WA 98004
p. 206.285.0400
www.dahogan.com

Stantec
3400 188th Street SW Suite 285
Lynnwood Washington 98037-4772
(206) 667-0555

CHRISTOPHER B. FRANK — STATE OF WASHINGTON — 31353 — REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
03/06/26

DESIGN DOCUMENTS

DATE	01-14-26
SCALE	AS INDICATED
DRAWN	AAU
CHECKED	CBF

COPYRIGHT © 2025 D.A. HOGAN & ASSOCIATES

ELECTRICAL SPILL LIGHT PLAN - 30'-0" POLE

SHEET

ESP-1.1

U:\204230\02D_WORKING_FILES\10_ELECTRICAL\01_CAD\01_SHEETS\ESP11 Sep 01, 2026 11:29 AM By JWITTMER
File: ESP11.dwg Plotted by: jwittmer Date: 01-Sep-26 11:29:18am

APPENDIX C: Updated Transportation Technical Report

UPDATED
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL REPORT

for

Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting

PREPARED FOR:

Seattle Public Schools

PREPARED BY:

heffron transportation inc

6544 NE 61st Street, Seattle, WA 98115
ph: (206) 523-3939 ◆ www.hefftrans.com

August 4, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION 1
1.1. Project Description 1
2. BACKGROUND CONDITIONS 3
2.1. Transportation Network 3
2.2. Traffic Volumes 6
2.3. Level of Service 13
2.4. Parking 15
2.5. Traffic Safety 18
2.6. Transit Facilities & Service 19
2.7. Non-Motorized Facilities 19
3. IMPACTS 20
3.1. Transportation Network 20
3.2. Traffic Volumes 20
3.3. Traffic Operations Impacts 27
3.4. Traffic Safety 28
3.5. Transit 28
3.6. Non-Motorized Facilities 28
3.7. Parking Demand and Supply 28
4. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS 30

APPENDIX A – Level of Service Definitions

APPENDIX B – Parking Utilization Study Data

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Overall Site and Lighting Plan 2
Figure 2. Site Location and Vicinity 4
Figure 3. Hourly Traffic Volumes on NE 75th Street (2011 and 2025) 7
Figure 4. Existing (2025) Traffic Volumes – PM Peak Hour 8
Figure 5. Existing (2025) Traffic Volumes – Evening (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) 9
Figure 6. Forecast-2027-Without-Project Traffic Volumes – PM Peak Hour 11
Figure 7. Forecast-2027-Without-Project Traffic Volumes – Evening Hour (6:00 – 7:00 P.M.) 12
Figure 8. Study Area for On-Street Parking Occupancy Surveys 16
Figure 9. Project Trip Assignments – PM Peak Hour and Evening Hour 24
Figure 10. Forecast-2027-With-Project Traffic Volumes – PM Peak Hour 25
Figure 11. Forecast-2027-With-Project Traffic Volumes – Evening Hour (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) 26

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Level of Service Summary – Existing (2025) and 2027-Without-Project Conditions 14
Table 2. On-Street Parking Utilization Survey Results 17
Table 3. Collision Summary (January 1, 2020 through November 24, 2025) 18
Table 4. Scholastic Athletic Events Observed 21
Table 5. Trip Generation from Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project 23
Table 6. Level of Service Summary – Forecast 2027 Conditions Without- and With-Project 27

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the transportation impact analysis for the Seattle Public Schools' (SPS) proposed field lighting project at Eckstein Middle School. 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 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 reflects corrections of minor typographical errors in figures.

1.1. Project Description

SPS plans to install lights at the existing athletic field at Eckstein Middle School (located at 3003 NE 75th Street) in the Ravenna neighborhood of Seattle. The following sections describe the existing site, field location, and the proposed project.

1.1.1. Existing Site

The Eckstein Middle School site is bounded on the north by NE 75th Street, on the west by 30th Avenue NE, and on the south and east by single-family residential parcels. The athletic field has a synthetic surface and occupies the southeast portion of the site.

Eckstein Middle School has a primary access driveway on NE 75th Street located about 90 feet east of the 32nd Avenue NE intersection. This driveway connects to a large paved surface that currently has four marked ADA parking stalls near the main school building. Another 28 stalls have historically been marked on the east side of the building in the center of this area; however, striping has faded and/or is no longer visible. Based on field observations and reviews of historical aerial imagery, the hard-surface area has accommodated 190 or more parked vehicles for events or after-hours use of the site and playfield. In addition, there are two paved parking areas located along the western portion of the site adjacent to 30th Avenue NE. Those two areas each have one-way circulation loops with entry at the south and exit to the north. The northwestern lot has 25 marked angled spaces, while the southwestern lot is unstriped, but can accommodate up to 26 angle-parked vehicles. The two western parking lots are located at a lower grade than the main school building and athletic field and users must climb stairs to access the school and field. In total, the Eckstein Middle School site can accommodate 240 or more parked vehicles in the three off-street parking areas.

1.1.2. Proposed Changes

SPS proposes to install lights at the Eckstein Middle School athletic field and plans to complete the project for use by fall 2027. Figure 1 shows the site plan with the location of the proposed lights. This proposal would allow increased use of the field for scholastic and non-scholastic recreational activities scheduled to end by 9:45 P.M., with lights automatically turned off at 10:00 P.M. The lights will be off if the field is not scheduled for use. 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, March 2026.

ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

Figure 1

Overall Site and Lighting Plan

heffron transportation inc

Based on the joint-use agreement[1] between SPS and Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR), District priority scheduling times for all athletic fields, including Eckstein Middle School, 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. Based on the typical schedules for middle school outdoor athletics, scholastic activities that could make use of the extended field hours are limited, but could include girls' soccer and co-ed ultimate (Frisbee) in the fall season and boys' soccer and co-ed track in the spring season. The primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private-school and non-SPS recreational athletics (soccer, ultimate, and/or lacrosse) that would occur after SPS school-use and until 9:45 P.M.

2. BACKGROUND CONDITIONS

This section presents the existing and future conditions without the proposed field 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 2027 and athletic activities under lights would be new in late 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:

- NE 75th Street / 25th Avenue NE;
- NE 75th Street / 30th Avenue NE;
- NE 75th Street / 31st Avenue NE;
- NE 75th Street / 35th Avenue NE;
- NE 75th Street / Eckstein MS Driveway;
- Eckstein MS North Lot Exit / 30th Avenue SW;
- Eckstein MS North Lot Entry / 30th Avenue SW;
- Eckstein MS South Lot Exit / 30th Avenue SW; and
- Eckstein MS South Lot Entry /30th Avenue SW.

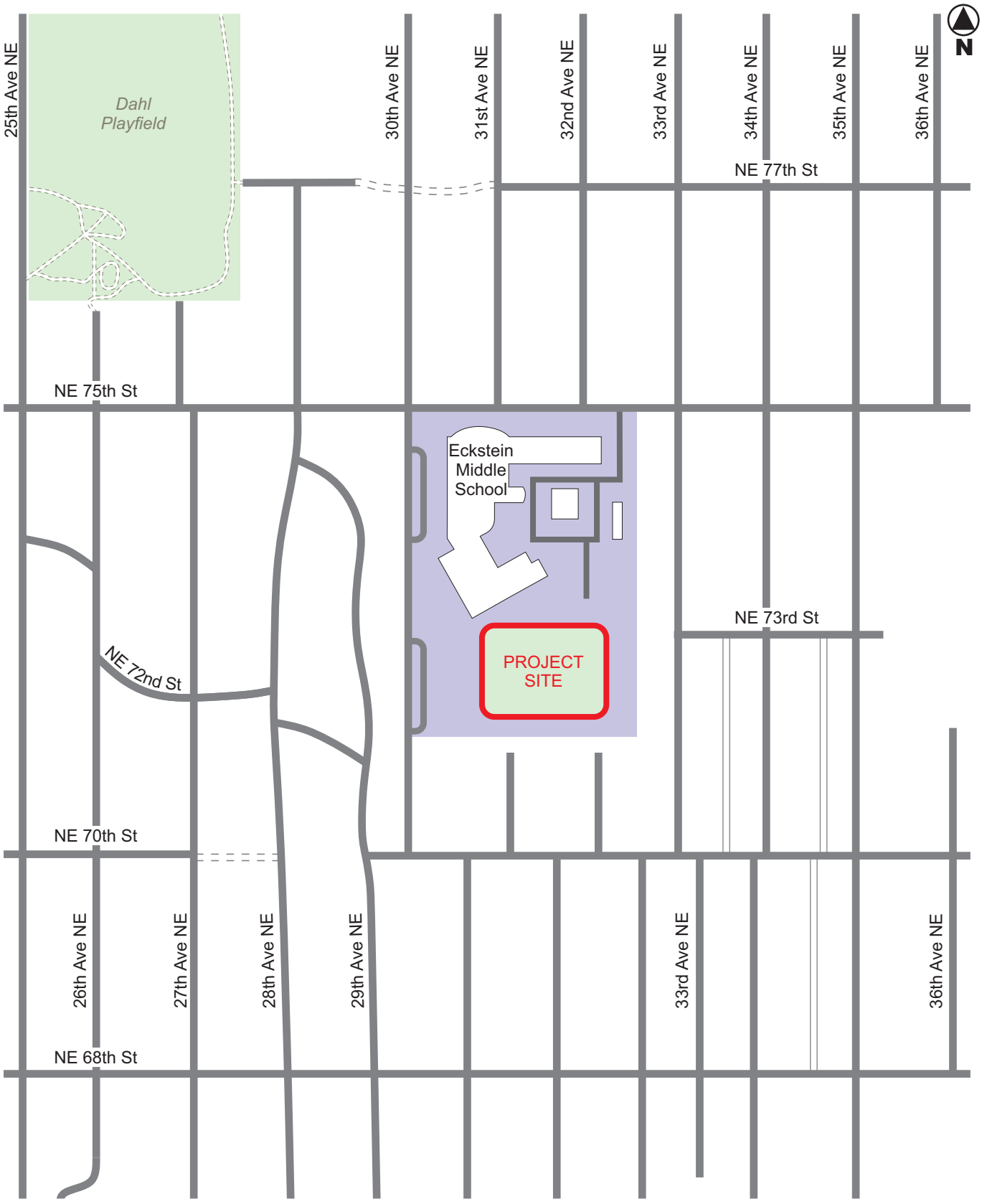
2.1. Transportation Network

2.1.1. Existing Network

The surrounding area consists of single-family residences with commercial uses along the 35th Avenue NE corridor. 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. Figure 2 shows the site location and vicinity.

[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 December 2025.



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

Figure 2

Site Location and Vicinity

heffron transportation inc

NE 75th Street is an east-west arterial that extends from 8th Avenue NE on the west to 55th Avenue NE on the east. Close to the school, the segment between 25th and 35th Avenues NE is designated as a Minor Arterial. West of 25th Avenue NE, it is a Principal Arterial, and east of 35th Avenue NE, it is a Collector Arterial. For most of the segment between 25th and 35th Avenues NE, the roadway has two travel lanes (one in each direction), a center-two-way-left-turn lane, and bike lanes on both sides. Adjacent to the school (between about 30th and 33rd Avenues NE), the roadway has no center turn lane. Instead, the south curb-side area is designated for five-minute school-load only from 8:00 to 10:00 A.M. and 3:00 to 5:00 P.M.; it is used for unrestricted parking at other times. The inside portion of this curbside area is shared with eastbound bicycles. NE 75th Street has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. Traffic signals control its intersections with 25th and 35th Avenues NE, and both of those intersections have signalized pedestrian crosswalks on all legs of the intersection. A marked crosswalk across NE 75th Street just east of 31st Avenue NE is controlled by a pedestrian signal. There is also a marked crosswalk (unsignalized) crossing NE 75th Street at 28th Avenue NE. A photo-enforced school zone (20 miles per hour (mph)) near the school is in effect when beacons flash.

25th Avenue NE is a Principal Arterial that provides north-south access between Montlake Boulevard NE on the south and Ravenna Avenue NE on the north. In the vicinity, the roadway has two travel lanes (one in each direction) and parallel on-street parking on both sides along most of the street. Approaching the NE 75th Street intersection, it has five lanes (two in each direction and center-left-turn lanes). 25th Avenue NE has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. A traffic signal controls its intersection with NE 75th Street, where there are marked crosswalks with pedestrian signals on all legs.

35th Avenue NE is a Principal Arterial that provides north-south access between NE 45th Place on the south and NE 135th Street on the north. In the site vicinity, the roadway has two travel lanes (one in each direction) with a center-two-way-left-turn lane and parallel on-street parking on the east side. Approaching the NE 75th Street intersection, there are left-turn lanes in both directions. 35th Avenue NE has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. A traffic signal controls its intersection with NE 75th Street, where there are marked crosswalks with pedestrian signals on all legs.

30th Avenue NE is a north-south residential access street that extends from NE 70th Street (the southwest corner of the Eckstein site) north to just beyond NE 95th Street. Its approaches to NE 75th Street are stop-sign controlled; its intersection at NE 70th Street is uncontrolled. Near the school site, it has curbs on both sides and paved sidewalk on the east side. Adjacent to the school, the east curb area is designated for school bus only from 7:00 to 10:00 A.M. and 3:00 to 5:00 P.M.; it is used for unrestricted parking at other times. The west side of this street segment is signed for "No Stops" at all times. The speed limit is 20-mph, with additional 20-mph school zone signs. The street also has several speed humps.

31st Avenue NE is a north-south residential access street that extends north of NE 75th Street to NE 85th Street. While there is a segment of 31st Avenue NE south of the school site, it is a dead-end and has no connection to the site. North of the school, 31st Avenue NE has curbs, gutters, and paved sidewalks on both sides. Unrestricted parking occurs on the west side; no parking is permitted on the east side. The speed limit is 20-mph, with additional 20-mph school zone signs. There is a signalized pedestrian crossing of NE 75th Street on the east leg of the intersection; however, southbound vehicular traffic is stop-sign controlled. Eastbound left turns are prohibited (by an overhead sign) from 7:00 to 9:00 A.M. and from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M.

2.1.2. Planned Improvements

Several documents were reviewed to determine if any planned transportation improvements could affect access or roadway capacity near Eckstein Middle School 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]

[3] Adopted April 23, 2024.

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 the *STP* elements and other long-range planning documents reviewed.

STP Pedestrian Element – The *STP* notes that the Seattle Department of Transportation (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 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.

City of Seattle's Proposed 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) [5] – No specific improvements to the transportation network were identified in the site vicinity.

2024 Seattle Transportation Levy[6] – 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. No vicinity improvements were identified in in SDOT's *2025 Annual Delivery Plan.*[7]

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

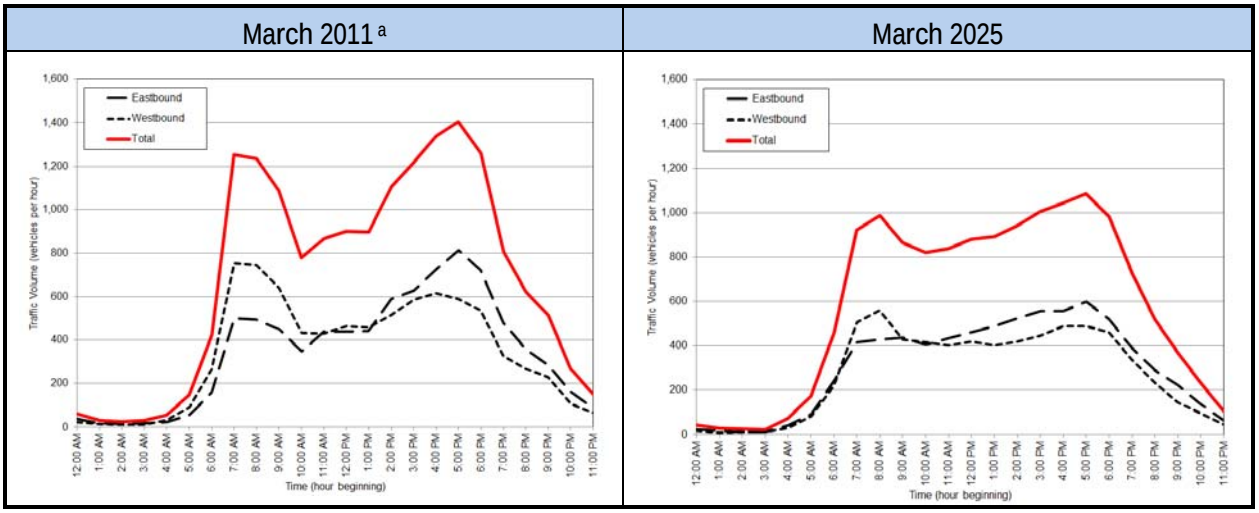
SDOT conducted traffic counts on NE 75th Street in the site vicinity in March 2011 and March 2025. These counts were compiled to determine how volumes have changed over the past 14 years. The counts indicate that total daily traffic has declined by about 15% and peak hour volumes (AM and PM) have declined by about 20%. It is noted that NE 75th Street was re-channelized in 2013 from its former four-lane configuration to three lanes.

The traffic count data on NE 75th Street were also compiled to determine how volumes change by time of day. Figure 3 shows that the 24-hour patterns in 2011 and 2025 are typical of most arterials in Seattle with distinct morning and afternoon peak periods that correspond to peak commuter travel. However, the directional peaks in 2025 are less pronounced than they were in 2011. Note that traffic volumes decrease substantially following the commuter PM peak hour, which occurs on NE 75th Street from 5:00 to 6:00

4 City of Seattle, December 2024.
5 City of Seattle, September 2025.
6 Seattle Department of Transportation, *2024 Seattle Transportation Levy,* August 2024.
7 SDOT, January 31, 2025.

P.M. In 2025, the traffic volume from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. was about 10% lower than the peak hour volume, while the 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. volume was 33% lower.

Figure 3. Hourly Traffic Volumes on NE 75th Street (2011 and 2025)



Source: SDOT Traffic Count Database, accessed November 2025.

a. SDOT, Count of NE 75th Street between 27th and 28th Avenues NE conducted March 24 -30, 2011. Data reflect average of Tuesday through Thursday.

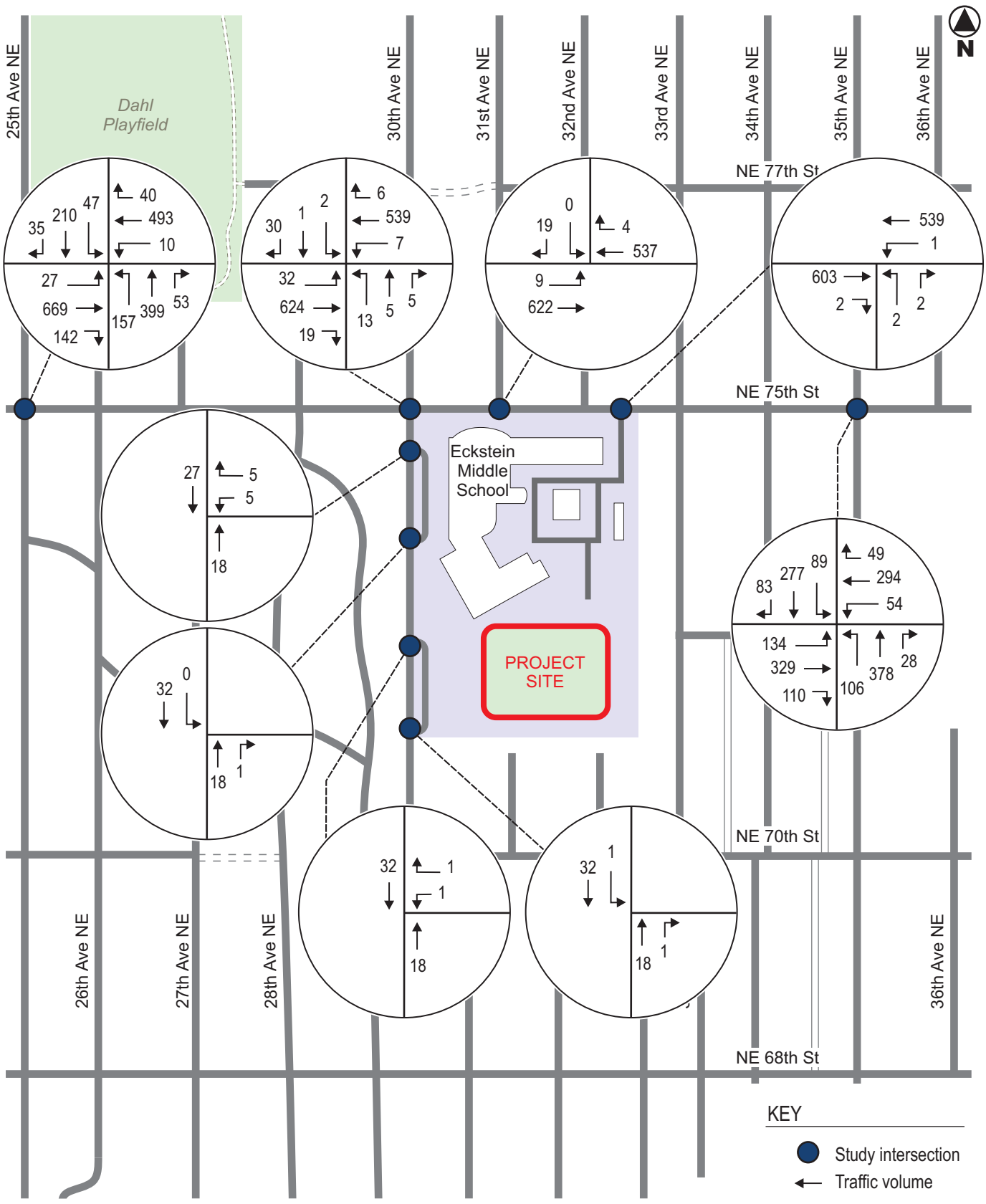
b. SDOT, Count of NE 75th Street between 32nd and 33rd Avenues NE conducted March 22 -28, 2025. Data reflect average of Tuesday through Thursday.

2.2.2. Existing Background Traffic Volumes

Weekday PM peak hour and evening turning movement traffic counts were conducted on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at the off-site study area intersections and all school site driveways (one on NE 75th Street and four on 30th Avenue NE). 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 Eckstein Middle School. The count data indicate that the peak hourly volumes during this four-hour count period occurs from 4:45 to 5:45 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 other lighted athletic fields on SPS sites in Seattle, 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 (e.g., middle school soccer 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 were not evaluated since they are expected to be minimal because of the limited participants (students only, no spectators) and limited number of days that lights would be needed.

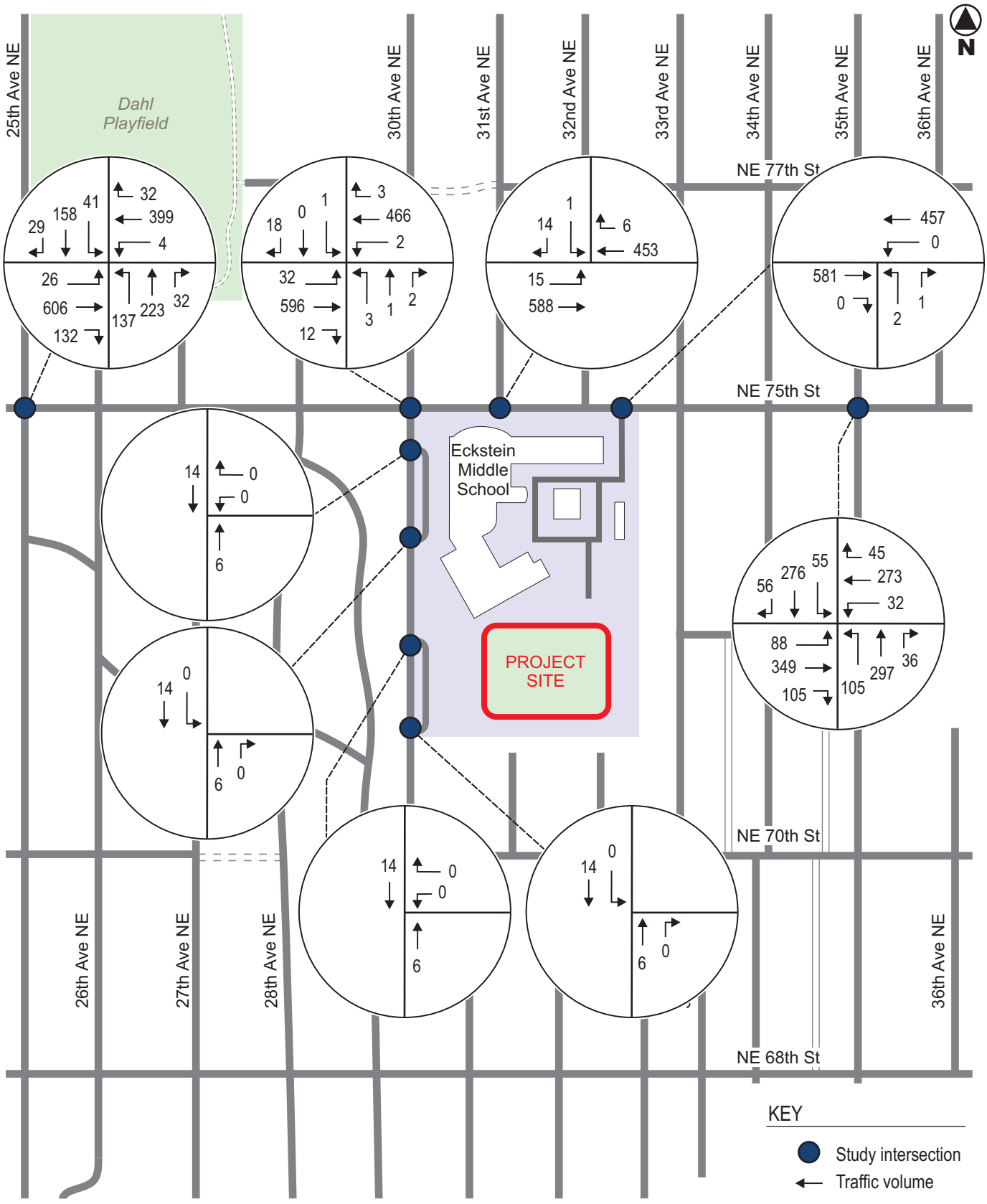
Figure 4 presents the existing (2025) PM peak hour traffic volumes within the study area; Figure 5 presents the existing evening (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) traffic volumes.



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

Figure 4
Existing (2025) Traffic Volumes
PM Peak Hour

heffron transportation inc



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

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

heffron transportation inc

2.2.3. Existing Site-Related Traffic Volumes

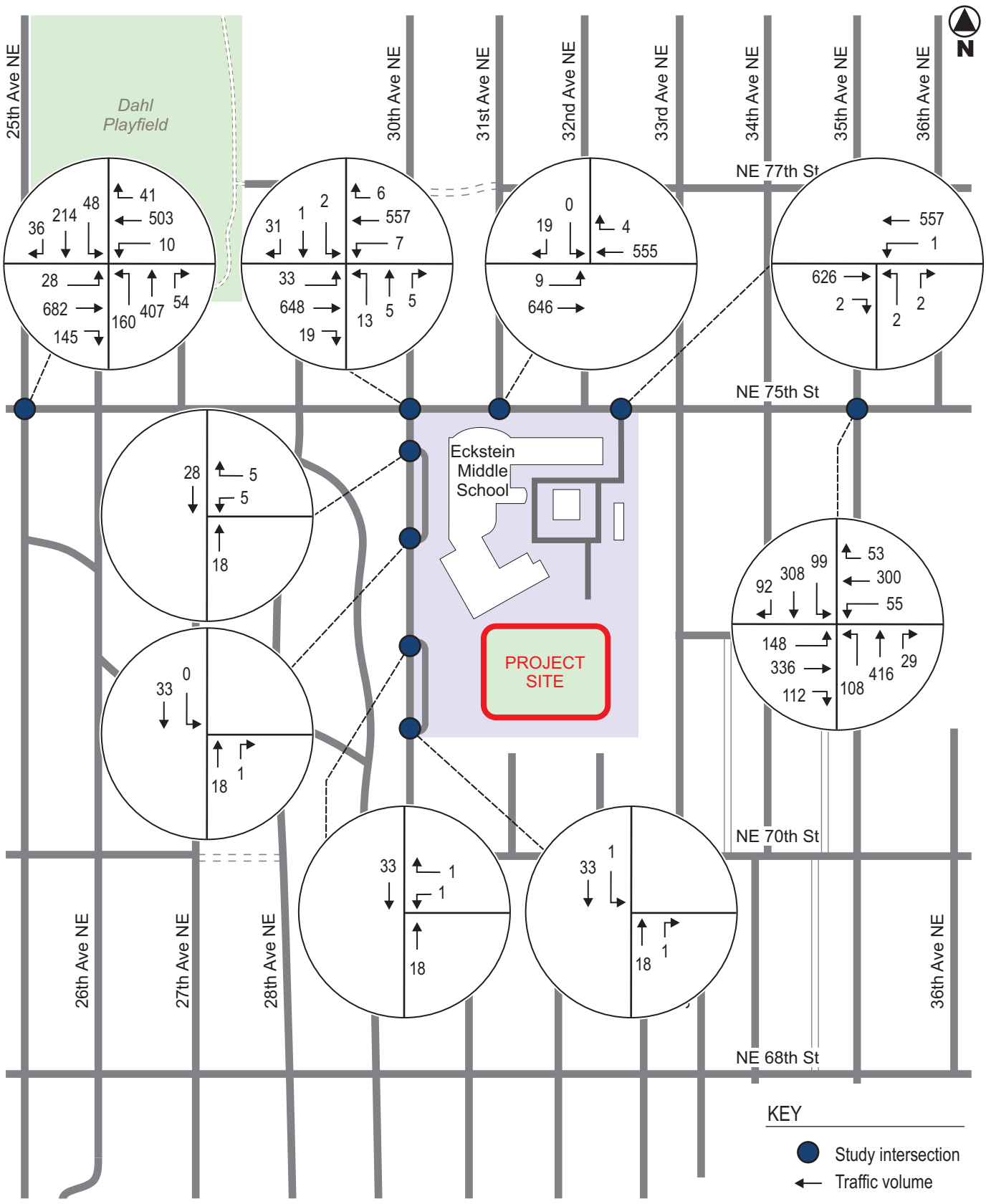
Eckstein Middle School currently generates traffic during the PM peak hour and evening hour with some after school activities and use of the site facilities. Counts of the site driveways (included as part of the data collection effort described previously) reflect typical conditions with no large events at the school, but with some site activity. During the analysis hours, counts at the Eckstein Middle School site access driveways totaled 22 trips (6 in, 16 out) during the PM peak hour and 3 trips (0 in, 3 out) during the evening (6:00 to 7:00 P.M.) hour. Between 7:00 and 8:00 P.M., there were 18 trips (11 in, 7 out); however, background traffic on NE 75th Street is 37% lower during this hour compared to the PM peak hour.

2.2.4. Forecast Without-Project Traffic Volumes

The Eckstein Middle School field lighting project is expected to be completed by fall 2027. As described in the previous section, vicinity traffic counts conducted in 2025 indicate declines in traffic compared to prior years; however, to account for potential vicinity traffic growth and consistent with other analyses performed in the area, 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 NE 75th Street, 25th Avenue NE, and 35th Avenue NW, this assumption was applied to all traffic at 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 review of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections' (SDCI) Property and Building Activity portal, one specific development project being reviewed could contribute increases in traffic at study-area intersections by year 2027. That project, known as the Wedgwood Redevelopment (at 8400 35th Avenue NE), proposes to replace an existing retail strip mall (~30,000 square feet (sf)) with a mixed-use development containing up to 321 apartment units, a 36,100-sf grocery store, a day care center, and 18,385-sf of neighborhood retail space. Study period traffic estimates for that development were derived from the *Traffic Impact Analysis Wedgwood Redevelopment*[8] and added to the forecast-2027 traffic volumes. Figure 6 and Figure 7 show the 2027-without-project PM peak hour and evening hour traffic volumes, respectively.

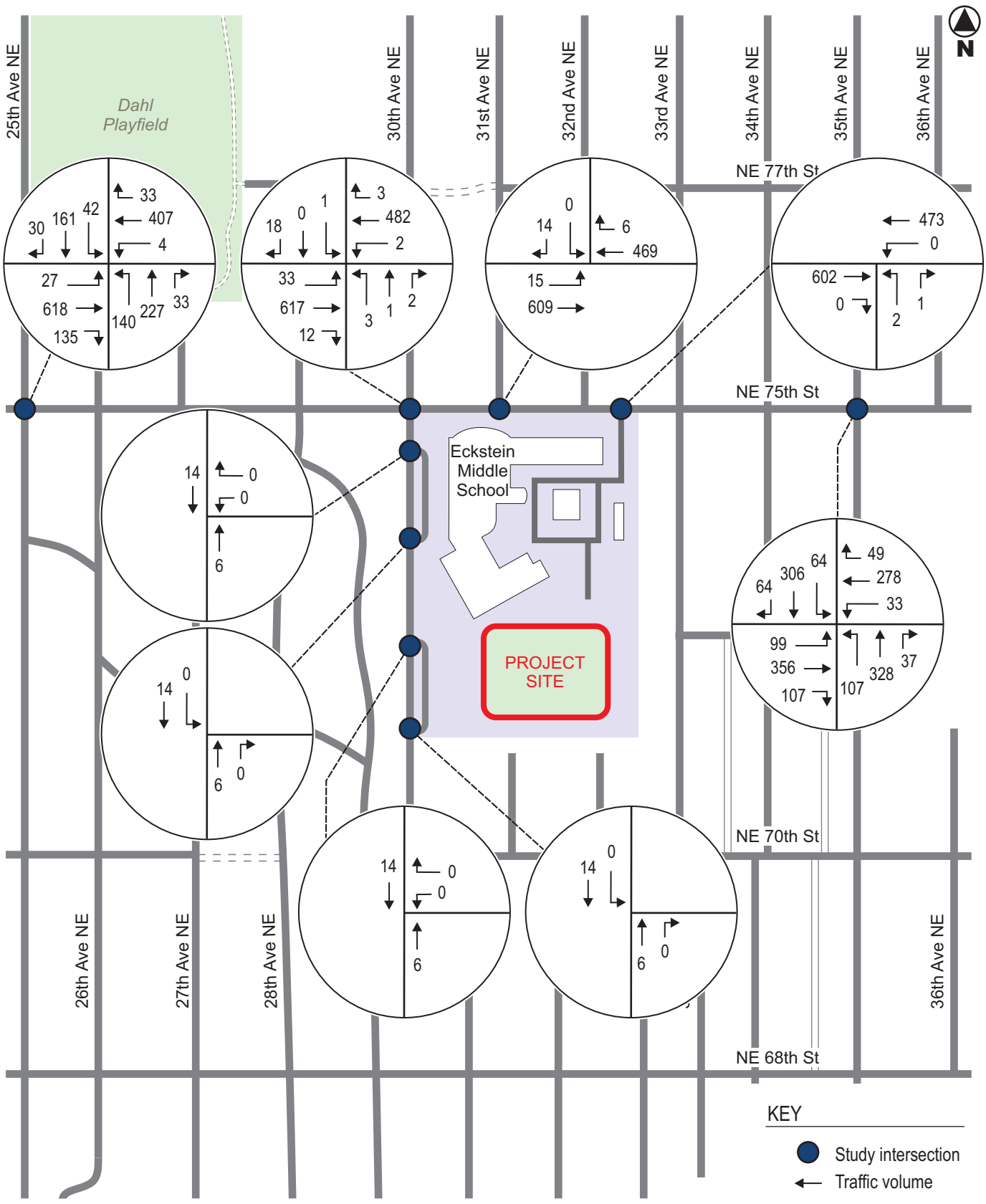
[8] Transpo Group, January 2025.



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

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

heffron transportation inc



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

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

heffron transportation inc

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 Edition*[9] using the *Synchro 12* analysis software. Appendix A summarizes level of service thresholds and definitions for signalized and unsignalized intersections.

The modeling assumptions for existing conditions, including signal timing and phase splits for study-area intersections were provided by SDOT.[10] No changes to signal timing were assumed for the 2027-without-project-conditions analysis of signalized intersections.. Table 1 summarizes existing and forecast-2027-without-project levels of service at the study-area intersections for both the PM peak hour and evening hour conditions. As shown, the three signalized intersections currently operate at LOS D or better during both hours and would remain at those levels in 2027 without the project. The unsignalized intersections currently operate at LOS A overall with all movements operating at LOS C or better with no changes forecast by 2027 without the project. The projected growth in background traffic is expected to result in negligible increases in average delays (0.0 to 1.9 seconds) by 2027.

[9] Transportation Research Board 2022.
[10] Email communication, Valentina Castellanos Ramirez, SDOT, January 15, 2026.

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

Intersection / Control Type	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	
Signalized	LOS [2]	Delay [3]	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
NE 75th St / 25th Ave NE	C	27.5	C	27.9	C	22.3	C	22.6
NE 75th St / Ped Signal at 31st Ave NE	A	3.3	A	3.4	A	1.9	A	1.9
NE 75th St / 35th Ave NE	D	48.5	D	50.4	D	49.0	D	50.5
Side-Street Stop-Controlled	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
NE 75th St / 30th Ave NE	A	1.4	A	1.4	A	0.8	A	0.8
Northbound Movements	C	20.8	C	21.6	C	16.9	C	17.4
Eastbound Left Turns	A	8.7	A	8.8	A	8.5	A	8.6
Westbound Left Turns	A	8.9	A	9.0	A	8.8	A	8.9
Southbound Movements	C	15.2	C	15.7	B	12.9	B	13.2
NE 75th St / 31st Ave NE	A	0.3	A	0.3	A	0.3	A	0.3
Eastbound Left Turns	A	8.7	A	8.7	A	8.4	A	8.4
Southbound Movements	B	12.4	B	12.6	B	12.2	B	11.5
NE 75th St / Eckstein MS Dwy	A	0.2	A	0.2	A	0.1	A	0.1
Northbound Movements	C	16.1	C	16.6	C	16.6	C	17.1
Westbound Left Turns	A	8.9	A	8.9	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS NW Lot Exit	A	1.8	A	1.8	A	0.0	A	0.0
Westbound Movements	A	8.7	A	8.7	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS NW Lot Entry	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
Southbound Left Turns	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS SW Lot Exit	A	0.7	A	0.7	A	0.0	A	0.0
Westbound Movements	A	8.7	A	8.7	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS SW Lot Entry	A	0.3	A	0.3	A	0.0	A	0.0
Southbound Left Turns	A	7.3	A	7.3	A	0.0	A	0.0

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., January 2026.

1. *The PM peak hour for each individual intersection was evaluated.*
2. *Level of service.*
3. *Average seconds of delay per vehicle.*

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, parking at and around the Eckstein Middle School site was surveyed in December 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 school and how it could be affected by the proposed field lighting 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.[11]

2.4.1. Methodology and Study Area

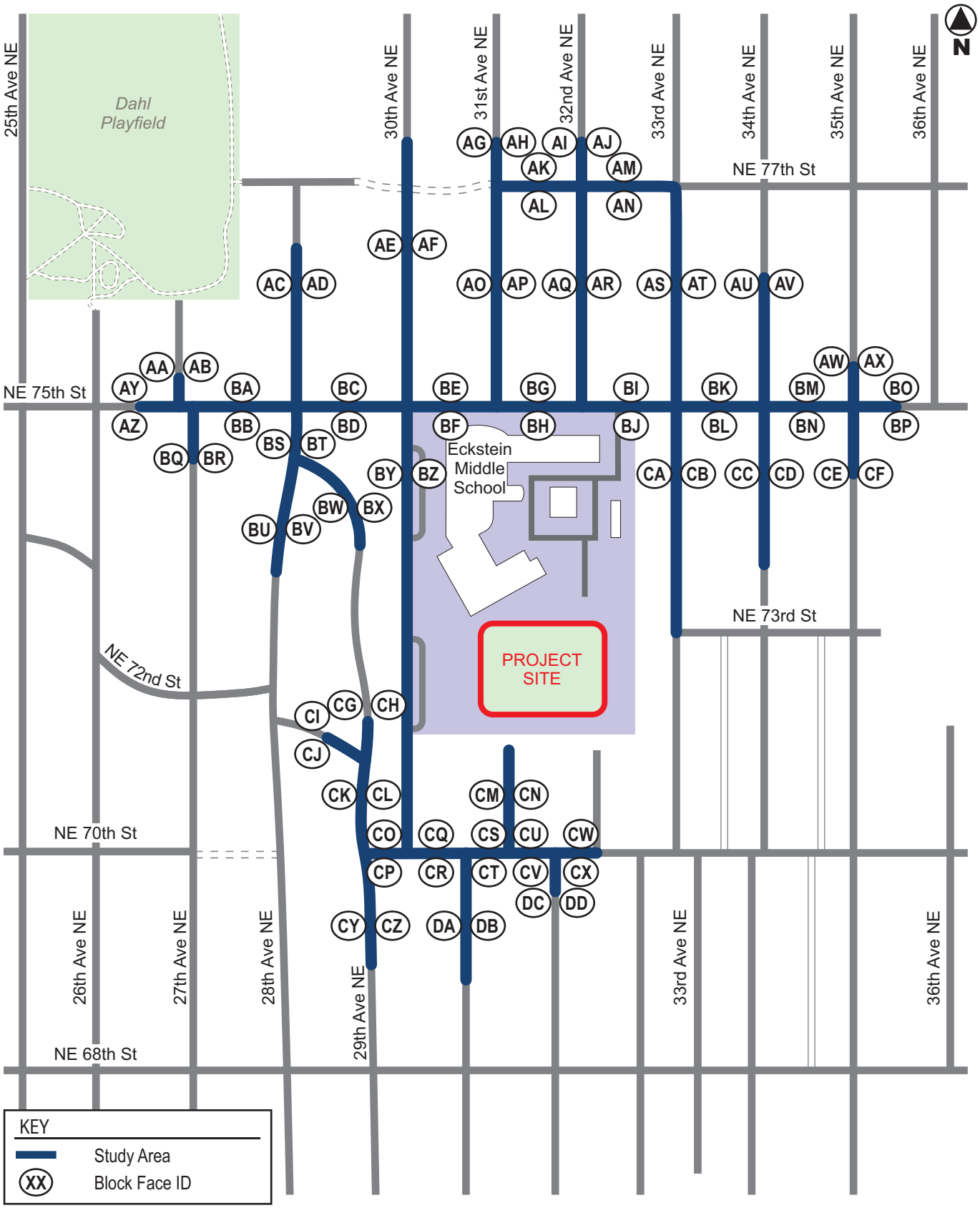
A detailed on-street parking study was performed according to the City's Tip #135,[12] which outlines the City's preferred methodology to determine the number and type of on-street parking stalls that may exist within a defined study area, and how much of that supply is currently utilized.

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 edge of the Eckstein Middle School parcel, and includes all streets within an 800-foot walking distance.[13] It extends to just west of 27th Avenue NE, just north of NE 77th Street, just east of 35th Avenue NE, and just north of NE 68th Street. The overall study area consists of primarily of single-family residential land uses. Most residential properties have street facing driveways and some use on-street parking. Parking occupancy counts (the number of vehicles parked in the area) were collected at two times (late afternoon and evening) on two typical weekdays to show how parking is used during periods when the field lights could affect parking. Parking was also surveyed on a day when there was a school event at Eckstein Middle School.

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 NE 75th Street, between 28th Avenue NE and 29th Avenue NE is one block face (identified as block face 'BC' for this study). Figure 8 shows the study area and block face designations.

[11] SDOT, Seattle Transportation Plan – Curbside Management Element, parking management occupancy goals, May 2024.
[12] SDCI, October 5, 2022.
[13] No access was assumed from the south side of the school site from the dead-end segments of 31st and 32nd Avenues NE.



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

Figure 8
Study Area for On-Street Parking Occupancy Surveys

heffron transportation inc

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 488 on-street parking stalls in the study area; 463 stalls have no restrictions, 10 stalls have school loading restrictions during parts of the day, 11 have school bus loading restrictions during parts of the day, and 4 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 5:45 P.M.) and evening (beginning at 8:15 P.M.) to reflect conditions that could be affected by new activities under the lights. Counts were performed on typical school day evenings on Tuesday December 2, and Wednesday, December 10, 2025. In addition, conditions with a school-event (band concert) were captured on Thursday, December 11, 2025. These conditions provide a comparable conditions to analyze the potential parking impacts generated by added use of the lighted 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; detailed parking occupancy results by block face are provided in Appendix B.

Table 2. On-Street Parking Utilization Survey Results

Time Period Surveyed	On-Street Parking Supply	Total Vehicles Parked	Utilization Rate % Stalls Occupied
School Day Late Afternoon (beginning at 5:45 P.M.)			
Tuesday, December 2, 2025	488	188	39%
Wednesday December 10, 2025	488	179	37%
Average	488	184	38%
Thursday, December 11, 2025 (Prior to event start) [a]	*488*	*182*	*37%*
School Day Evening (beginning at 8:15 P.M.)			
Tuesday, December 2, 2025	488	196	40%
Wednesday December 10, 2025	488	192	39%
Average	488	194	40%
Thursday, December 11, 2024 (During event) [a]	*488*	*276*	*57%*

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., October 2025

a. On December 11, 2025, Eckstein Middle School held its "All-Band Winter Concert," which began at 7:30 P.M.

The surveys determined that fewer than 40% of the on-street parking spaces were occupied during the non-event periods surveyed with between 292 and 309 spaces unused. During the event, on-street occupancy was slightly higher with 57% of the on-street parking spaces occupied leaving 212 spaces unused. It should also be noted that 54 vehicles (likely generated by the event) parked along the curb adjacent to the school on blockfaces 'BZ', 'BH', and 'BJ'. The occupancy rates are well below the 85% threshold that the City would use to consider parking management measures.

2.4.4. Off-Street Parking

Eckstein Middle School has three designated parking areas with a total of approximately 83 stalls. The school has two small lots with angled parking each accessed from driveways on 30th Avenue NE. The northwestern lot has 25 marked angled spaces, while the southwestern lot is unstriped, but can accommodate up to 26 angle-parked vehicles. The large hard-surface area that is accessed from a driveway on NE 75th Street currently has four marked ADA stalls near the main school building. Another 28 stalls have historically been marked on the east side of the building in the center of this area; however, striping has faded and/or is no longer visible. Based on field observations and reviews of historical aerial imagery, the hard-surface area has accommodated 190 or more parked vehicles could be accommodated for events or after-hours use of the site and playfield. In total, the Eckstein Middle School site can accommodate 240 or more parked vehicles in the three off-street parking areas.

Parking occupancy counts in the school's parking lots were conducted on the same dates and times described previously for the on-street parking surveys. During the non-event counts, total occupancy of all three school lots ranged from 6 to 19 vehicles. During the band concert event on the evening of December 11, there were 165 vehicles parked on site (26 in the northwestern lot, 11 in the southwestern lot, and 128 in the large hard-surface area). During the field observations, it was noted that the southern portion of the hard surface area could have accommodate more vehicles even with the event demand.

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 between January 1, 2020 and the most recent records available as of November 24, 2025 (5.9 years). The available data were examined to determine if there are any unusual traffic safety conditions that could impact or be impacted by the proposed project. Table 3 summarizes the collision data.

Table 3. Collision Summary (January 1, 2020 through November 24, 2025)

Intersection	Rear-End	Side-Swipe	Left Turn	Angle	Ped / Cycle	Other [a]	Total for 5.9 Years	Average/ Year
NE 75th St / 25th Ave NE	1	0	4	5	1	0	11	1.9
NE 75th St / 30th Ave NE	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.2
NE 75th St / 31st Ave NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
NE 75th St / Eckstein MS Access	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0.3
NE 75th St / 35th Ave NE	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	0.5
Roadway Segment	**Rear-End**	**Side-Swipe**	**Left Turn**	**Angle**	**Ped / Cycle**	**Other**	**Total for 5.9 Years**	**Average/ Year**
NE 75th St, between 28th Ave NE and 33rd Ave NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
30th Ave NE, between NE 75th St and NE 70th St	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0

Source: SDOT, (https://data-seattlecitygis.opendata.arcgis.com), accessed November 2025.

a. *'Other' collision was vehicle striking fixed object off the roadway.*

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. As shown, all of the study area intersections had fewer than two collisions per year—none were reported at the four access driveways along 30th Avenue NE. The highest number of collisions occurred at the signalized NE 75th Street / 25th Avenue NE intersection. Three reported collisions within the study area involved moving vehicles and pedestrians—one each in 2022, 2023, and 2024—at three separate locations.

None of the studied locations meet the criteria for a high-collision location, and none of the reported collisions resulted in fatalities. Overall, these data do not indicate unusual traffic safety conditions.

2.6. Transit Facilities & Service

King County Metro Transit (Metro) provides bus service directly to the Eckstein Middle School site. There are Metro bus stops serving both directions at the NE 75th Street / 31st Avenue NE intersection (the westbound stop is east of the intersection and the eastbound stop is west of the intersection). These stops are served by Metro's **Route 79**, which provides weekday service between the Green Lake Park-and-Ride, Roosevelt, Wedgwood, Hawthorne Hills, Ravenna, and the University District. It operates from about 5:30 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. with headways (time between consecutive buses) of about 60 minutes for most of the day. It allows for transfers to numerous other routes including Route 65, 75, as well as 12 other routes and the 1 Line (light rail) at the U-District Station.

About 0.15-mile to the east at the NE 75th Street / 35th Avenue NE intersection, there are stops serving both directions of Metro's **Route 65**. It operates north-south on 35th Avenue NE with all day service seven days per week between Shoreline Station / 148th Station and the University District (with stops at Lake City, Wedgwood, and Laurelhurst). It operates from 5:00 A.M. to 3:00 A.M. with headways of about 15 minutes. About ¼-mile to the west at the NE 75th Street / 25th Avenue NE intersection, there are stops serving both directions of Metro's **Route 372**. It operates with north-south on 25th Avenue NE with all day service seven days per week between Bothell and the University District (with stops at Kenmore, Lake Forest park, and Lake City). It operates from 5:00 A.M. to 1:40 A.M. with headways of about 10 to 30 minutes.

2.7. Non-Motorized Facilities

As described in the *Roadway Network* section, nearly all streets in the school vicinity have sidewalks. The exception is the west side of 30th Avenue NE between NE 70th Street and NE 75th Street (the opposite side of the street from the school). There are also several marked and signed pedestrian crosswalks on NE 75th Street near Eckstein Middle School. The crosswalk at 31st Avenue NE has a pedestrian-actuated half signal. There are bicycle lanes in both directions along NE 75th Street that extend from west of 25th Avenue NE to 35th Avenue NE.

A review of planned improvements described previously in Section 2.1.2 did not indicate any changes to non-motorized facilities are anticipated by 2027.

3. IMPACTS

This section describes the conditions that would exist with the Eckstein Middle School 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 Eckstein Middle School 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. 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 Eckstein Middel School field is used by Eckstein students for daytime physical education classes Monday through Friday, as well as for athletic practices and games after school until about 5:45 P.M. During the fall season (September to November), the field is used for girls' soccer and co-ed Ultimate (Frisbee); and in the spring season (March to June), the filed is used for boys' soccer and co-ed track. Games are typically scheduled at other sites on Saturdays and there are no outdoor sports during winter months. The proposed field lights could allow middle school activities to extend to between 5:30 and 7:00 P.M. in late fall and early spring, which natural lighting does not currently allow.

Participation levels and attendance for scholastic athletic activities fluctuate based on the sport 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. 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. Middle school athletics tend to have lower levels of participation and attendance than high school sports and do not hold games at the site; however, traffic and parking generation was estimated using the data collected for a high school field to reflect the potential worst-case impacts of the project.

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 has been and would continue to be used for scholastic athletics including soccer, ultimate, and track practice activities. However, the proposed lights would extend the hours in which the field could be used in the late fall and early spring when lack of daylight would preclude use between sunset and 7:00 P.M. During these shoulder seasons, the extended field use times could result in new trips being generated during the commuter PM peak hour as a practice or game could begin or end during that time and participants and spectators would arrive at or leave the site.

The potential impact of added scholastic athletics (e.g., soccer, ultimate, or track practices) that would generate traffic during the commuter PM peak hour was evaluated. Traffic generation observations performed at Kennedy Catholic High School during and after the games confirmed the typical range of traffic generated by these types of events. Observations of traffic flows at Kennedy High School after games indicated that the athletic events generated trips at rates ranging from about 0.30 to 0.58 trips per person (participant plus spectator). For a typical soccer or ultimate event, this relates to between 25 and 55 trips leaving the site during the hour after a game or practice, which could occur during the commuter PM peak hour. It is noted that this potential increase in activity and traffic due to the field lights would be limited to about two to four months per year, since natural lighting conditions during the remainder of the fall and spring do not require use of field lights until after most scholastic activities end.

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 Eckstein Middle School or other SPS activities, it would continue to be available to community users and would be scheduled through the SPR. Private-school (Lakeside and Seattle Prep) and non-scholastic practices and games that currently occur include adult (ECS Pub League Soccer), youth recreational soccer and lacrosse (LVR Soccer Club, North Seattle Lacrosse, Seattle Celtic Soccer Club, and Seattle Youth Soccer Association).. The field is expected to continue to be used for these types of games and practices in the spring and summer. Weekday practices and games currently take place from 4:30 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 recreational activities. Youth and adult athletics could be added during late fall, winter, and spring months and scheduled after SPS use until 9:45 P.M. Some of these activities would be new to the site. The majority of the added activities are expected to be adult or older youth games and practices 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. 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 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 Eckstein Middle School field. The hourly trip generation (estimated at 60 trips) would likely occur during the times between consecutively scheduled activities. For example, if soccer 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 scholastic 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).

Table 5 presents the estimated trips associated with the field-lighting project. 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. For the purpose of this analysis, these trips were assumed to be net new trips during those winter and shoulder months, and 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 parking near the field. Figure 9 shows the resulting trip assignments.

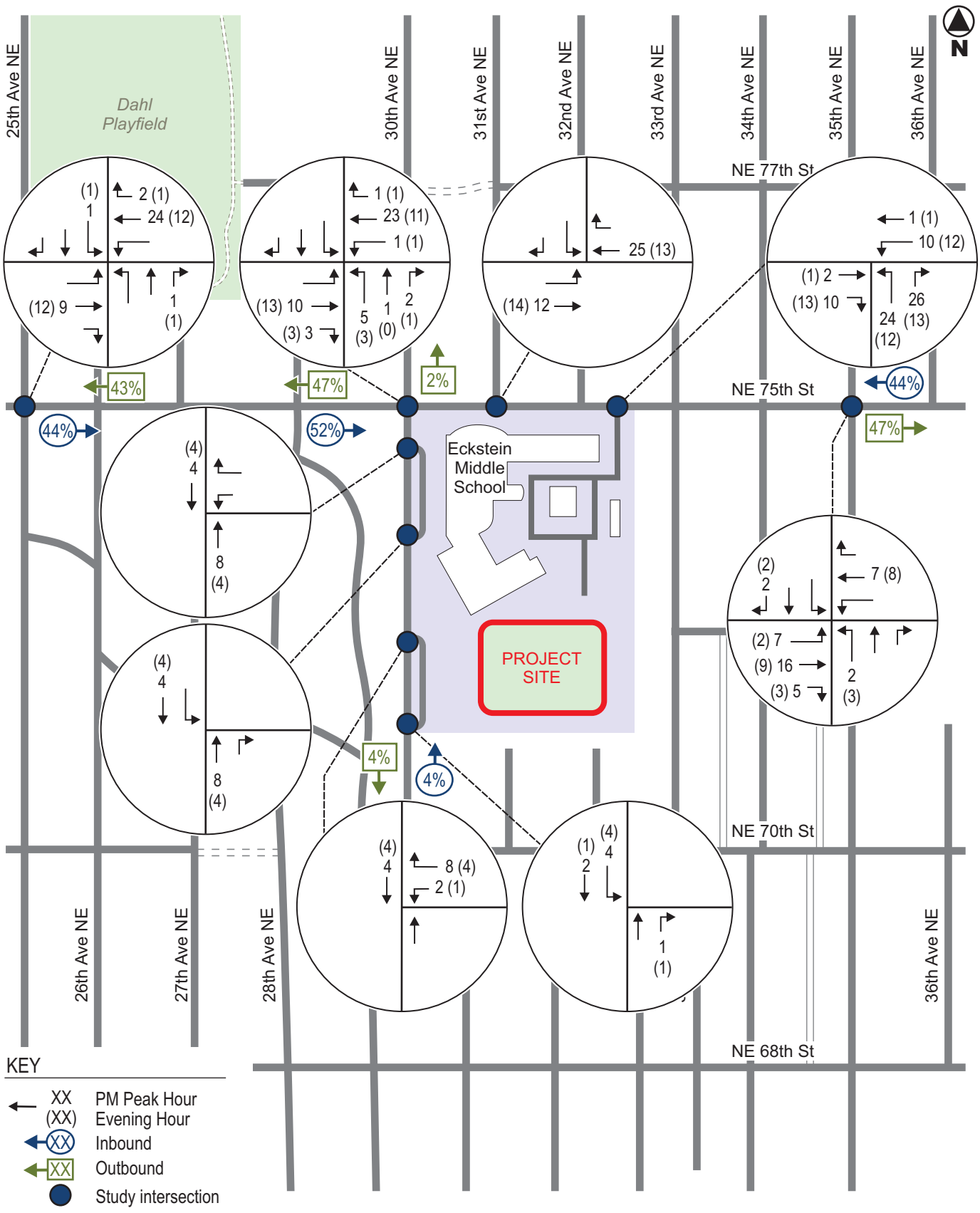
Table 5. Trip Generation from Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

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

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., December 2025.

3.2.4. Forecast With-Project Traffic Volumes

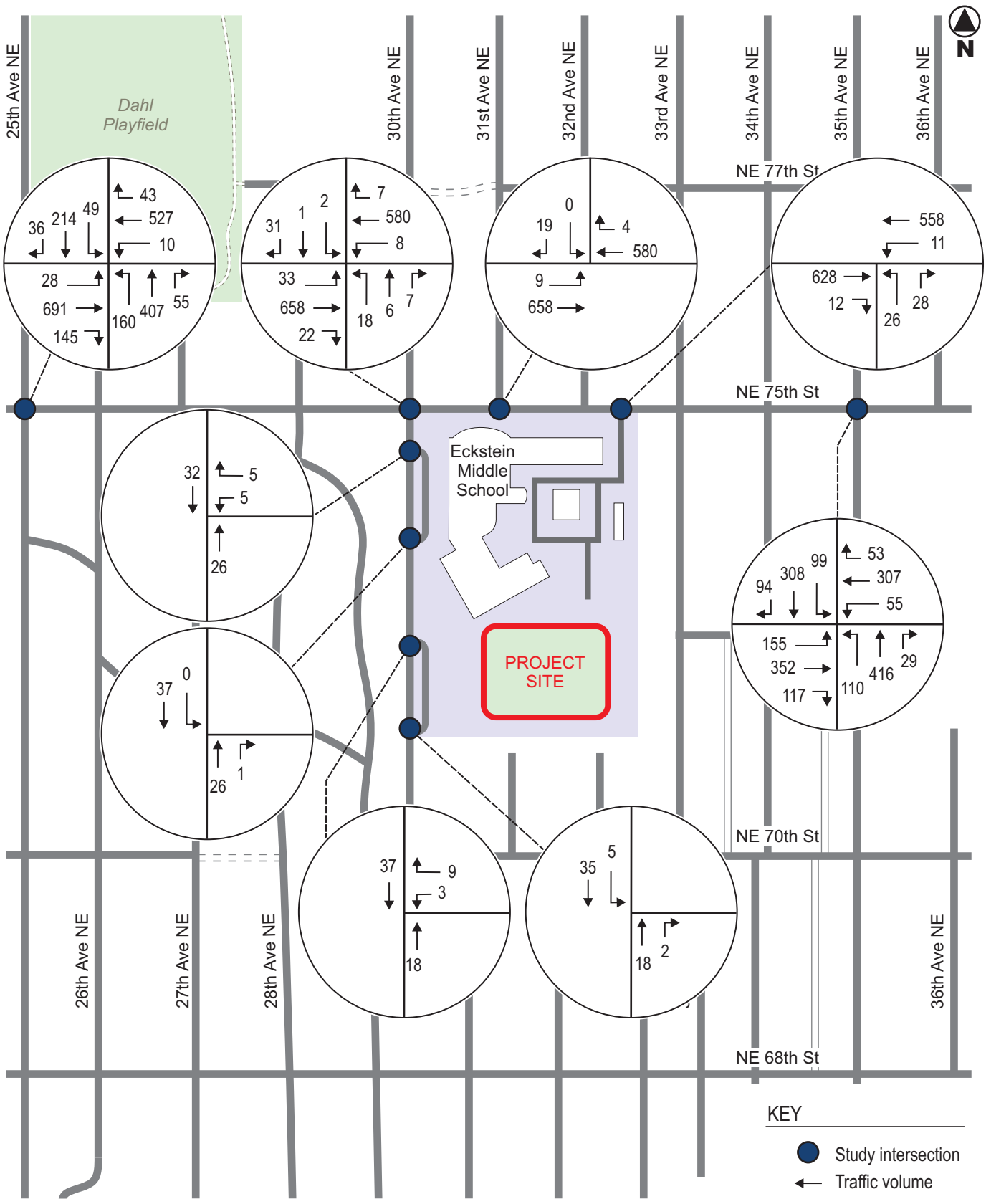
The project trips described in the previous section were added to the forecast without-project traffic volumes to estimate volumes with the project for each analysis hour. Figure 10 and Figure 11 show the resulting with-project traffic forecasts for the commuter PM peak hour and the evening hour (between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



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

Figure 9
Project Trip Assignments
PM Peak Hour and Evening Hour

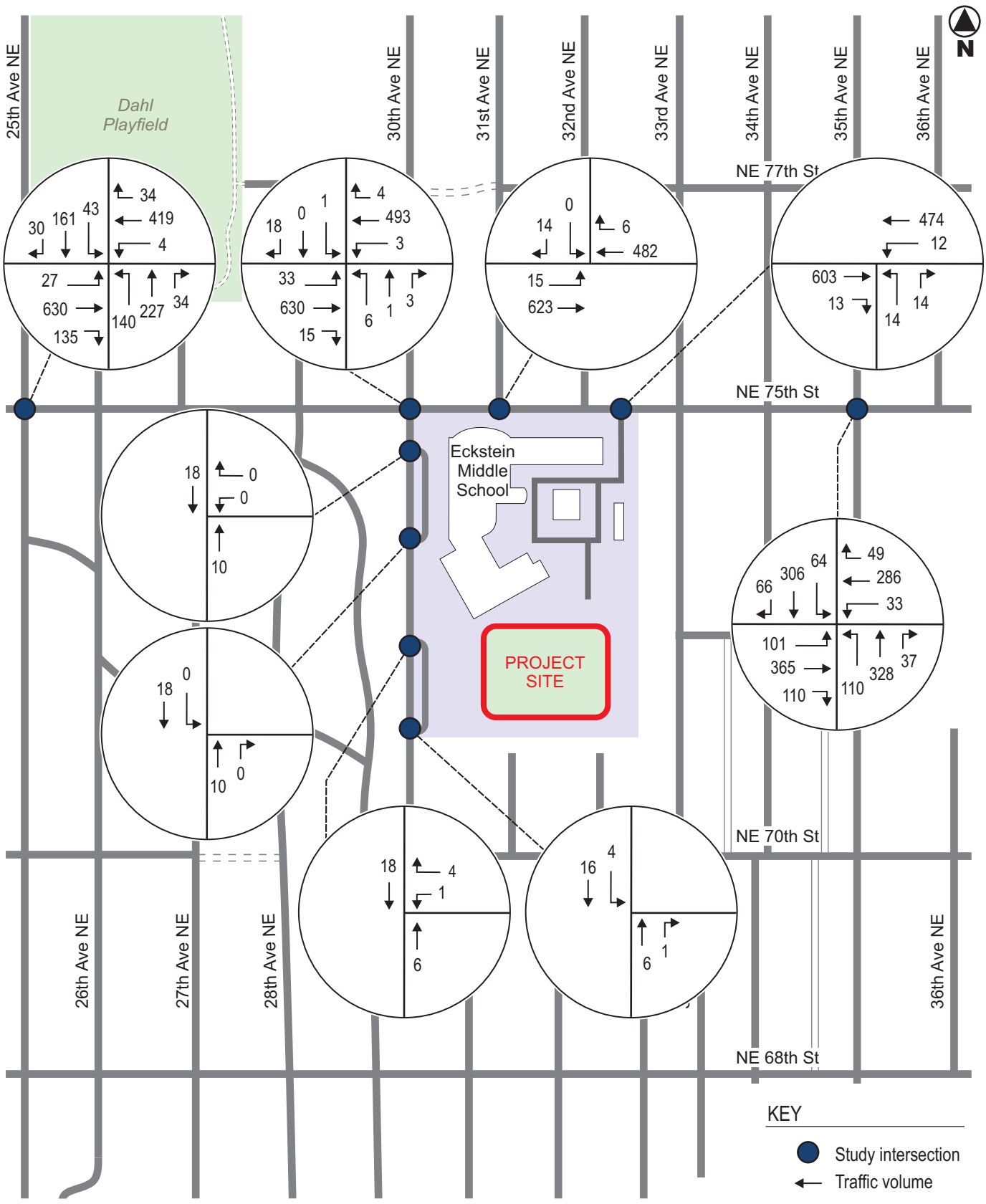
heffron transportation inc



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

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

heffron transportation inc



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Lighting Project

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

heffron transportation inc

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 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

Intersection / Control Type	PM Peak Hour (various [1])				Evening Peak Hour (6:00–7:00 P.M.)			
	Without Project		With Project		Without Project		With Project	
Signalized	LOS [2]	Delay [3]	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
NE 75th St / 25th Ave NE	C	27.9	C	27.9	C	22.6	C	22.6
NE 75th St / Ped Signal at 31st Ave NE	A	3.4	A	3.5	A	1.9	A	2.0
NE 75th St / 35th Ave NE	D	50.4	D	53.2	D	50.5	D	53.0
Side-Street Stop-Controlled	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
NE 75th St / 30th Ave NE	A	1.4	A	1.6	A	0.8	A	0.9
Northbound Movements	C	21.6	C	23.3	C	17.4	C	18.4
Eastbound Left Turns	A	8.8	A	8.9	A	8.6	A	8.6
Westbound Left Turns	A	9.0	A	9.1	A	8.9	A	9.0
Southbound Movements	C	15.7	C	16.2	B	13.2	B	13.4
NE 75th St / 31st Ave NE	A	0.3	A	0.3	A	0.3	A	0.3
Eastbound Left Turns	A	8.7	A	8.8	A	8.4	A	8.5
Southbound Movements	B	12.6	B	12.9	B	11.5	B	11.6
NE 75th St / Eckstein MS Dwy	A	0.2	A	3.2	A	0.1	A	1.2
Northbound Movements	C	16.6	D	28.4	C	17.1	C	19.6
Westbound Left Turns	A	8.9	A	9.0	A	0.0	A	9.1
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS NW Lot Exit	A	1.8	A	1.5	A	0.0	A	0.0
Westbound Movements	A	8.7	A	8.8	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS NW Lot Entry	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
Southbound Left Turns	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0	A	0.0
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS SW Lot Exit	A	0.7	A	2.9	A	0.0	A	1.5
Westbound Movements	A	8.7	A	8.7	A	0.0	A	8.5
30th Ave NE / Eckstein MS SW Lot Entry	A	0.3	A	1.2	A	0.0	A	1.1
Southbound Left Turns	A	7.3	A	7.3	A	0.0	A	7.2

Source: Heffron Transportation, Inc., January 2026.

1. *The PM peak hour for each individual intersection was evaluated.*
2. *Level of service.*
3. *Average seconds of delay per vehicle.*

As shown, the proposed project is expected to add some delay to several of the study-area intersections. However, all three signalized intersections would operate at the same without-project levels—LOS D or better and all unsignalized study-area intersections, including site access driveways, are expected to continue operating at LOS A overall with all movements operating at LOS D or better. 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

Participants and spectators of scholastic athletics (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 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 fields.

3.7. Parking Demand and Supply

Scholastic use of the field, including physical education classes during the school day and practices and/or 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. Generally, there are no outdoor scholastic sports during winter months.

The additional on-site SPS middle-school athletics made possible by the field lighting project could extend the period of time when vehicles are parked at the site, but are not expected to substantially increase the number of vehicles parked.

Private-school use during the school year and recreational athletics that occur year-round and are expected to be the types of activities that occur more frequently due to the field lighting project. Adult and youth recreational sports scheduled by SPR may occur in the evenings after SPS use ends. Similar to the trip generation impacts described previously, the peak parking demand is expected to occur during the transition period between the end of a late afternoon scholastic activity, and the beginning of a private-school or recreational activity that follows. These activities could 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 private-school athletics, participants (including students, coaches, trainers, and sometimes spectators) may be transported to the site by bus. In those cases, buses are expected to be parked either in the large on-site hard-surface area or on-street along 30th Avenue NE. Spectator parking is expected to occur on-site in the lots described. The most convenient and visible parking for would be the main hard-surface area immediately north of the field or the southwestern lot that is accessed from 30th Avenue NE.

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, students, referees/umpires, trainers, support staff, etc.).

As described in Section 2.4.4, the off-street parking areas at Eckstein Middle School can accommodate 240 or more vehicles and fewer than 20 vehicles were observed to be parked in these areas on a typical non-event evening. The on-street parking averaged about 300 unused stalls. On most occasions, the most proximate and convenient parking for users of the field will be the off-street parking areas on the Eckstein Middle School site. On infrequent occasions when there are well-attended school events, the on-site parking areas may have fewer stalls available. However, observations during the band concert event in December indicate unused capacity for 75 or more vehicles on-site. It is possible that a limited number of participants or spectators may choose to park on-street for convenience or out of habit. Due to the location of the field, it is likely that such demand, if any, would occur on-street along 30th Avenue NE or NE 75th Street along the school frontage. Based on review of the on-street parking utilization around the site, there is unused parking capacity to accommodate added demand, even with a large school event.

Parking demand often occurs closest to the event locations and/or access point(s). For the Eckstein Middle School athletic field, these would be the off-street lots. Even if all new demand generated by the lighted field occurs on-street rather than in the off-street lots, the overall study area required for analysis by the City is expected to have average utilization of 65% or lower on non-event nights and remain below 85% on nights with large events. Some streets closest to the school site 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 on-street parking.

4. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SPS would install field lights at the existing Eckstein Middle School athletic field and are expected to be available for use by fall 2027. 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 games later in the day during the school year. However, the primary increase in field use due to the lighting project would likely be recreational athletics scheduled through SPR such as adult soccer and ultimate, and youth lacrosse, ultimate, and soccer. 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 at 10 P.M.; the lights would be off if the field is not scheduled for use).

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 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 D or better during both analysis 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 areas at Eckstein Middle School have 220 or more unused stalls on a typical non-event evening, and there were about 300 unused on-street parking stalls in the neighborhood in the evening. The field lighting project is not expected to generate added on-street parking demand; however, there is unused parking capacity to accommodate added demand, if it occurs.

Based on the analyses presented in this report, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts to traffic 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 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-2 shows the level of service criteria for unsignalized intersections from the *Highway Capacity Manual, 7th Edition*.

Table A-2. 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

Parking Utilization Study Data

				Parking Supply					Parked Vehicles								Parking Utilization							
									5:45 PM				8:15 PM				5:45 PM				8:15 PM			
Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Unrestricted	5min School Load Only 8-10a, 3-5p Exc Sat/Sun/Hol	School Bus Only 7-10a 3-5p (Exc Sat/Sun/Hol)	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25
AA	27TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AB	27TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AC	28TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	9	0	0	0	**9**	3	6	5	5	4	5	5	5	33%	67%	50%	56%	44%	56%	50%	56%
AD	28TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	10	0	0	1	**11**	4	5	5	5	6	5	6	5	36%	45%	41%	45%	55%	45%	50%	45%
AE	30TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	20	0	0	0	**20**	5	4	5	5	4	4	4	6	25%	20%	23%	25%	20%	20%	20%	30%
AF	30TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	23	0	0	0	**23**	12	8	10	11	11	10	11	11	52%	35%	43%	48%	48%	43%	46%	48%
AG	31ST AVE NE	NE 77TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	2	0	0	0	**2**	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
AH	31ST AVE NE	NE 77TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AI	32ND AVE NE	NE 77TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	2	0	0	0	**2**	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	100%	0%	50%	0%	100%	0%	50%	0%
AJ	32ND AVE NE	NE 77TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AK	NE 77TH ST	31ST AVE NE AND 32ND AVE NE	N	8	0	0	0	**8**	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0%	0%	0%	13%	25%	0%	13%	25%
AL	NE 77TH ST	31ST AVE NE AND 32ND AVE NE	S	10	0	0	0	**10**	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	4	20%	10%	15%	10%	20%	10%	15%	40%
AM	NE 77TH ST	32ND AVE NE AND 33RD AVE NE	N	6	0	0	0	**6**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AN	NE 77TH ST	32ND AVE NE AND 33RD AVE NE	S	7	0	0	0	**7**	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	0%	14%	7%	14%	0%	14%	7%	29%
AO	31ST AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	W	18	0	0	1	**19**	14	10	12	10	11	11	11	21	74%	53%	63%	53%	58%	58%	58%	111%
AP	31ST AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	E	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AQ	32ND AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	W	14	0	0	0	**14**	8	13	11	10	8	10	9	15	57%	93%	75%	71%	57%	71%	64%	107%
AR	32ND AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	E	16	0	0	0	**16**	8	8	8	5	7	7	7	14	50%	50%	50%	31%	44%	44%	44%	88%
AS	33RD AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	W	17	0	0	0	**17**	5	4	5	5	6	8	7	8	29%	24%	26%	29%	35%	47%	41%	47%
AT	33RD AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND NE 77TH ST	E	16	0	0	0	**16**	8	8	8	10	9	9	9	11	50%	50%	50%	63%	56%	56%	56%	69%
AU	34TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	7	0	0	0	**7**	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	29%	14%	21%	29%	29%	14%	21%	29%
AV	34TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	12	0	0	0	**12**	6	9	8	6	6	8	7	6	50%	75%	63%	50%	50%	67%	58%	50%
AW	35TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AX	35TH AVE NE	NE 75TH ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AY	NE 75TH ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 27TH AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AZ	NE 75TH ST	800' BOUNDARY AND 27TH AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BA	NE 75TH ST	27TH AVE NE AND 28TH AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BB	NE 75TH ST	27TH AVE NE AND 28TH AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BC	NE 75TH ST	28TH AVE NE AND 30TH AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BD	NE 75TH ST	28TH AVE NE AND 30TH AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BE	NE 75TH ST	30TH AVE NE AND 31ST AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BF	NE 75TH ST	30TH AVE NE AND 31ST AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BG	NE 75TH ST	31ST AVE NE AND 32ND AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BH	NE 75TH ST	31ST AVE NE AND 32ND AVE NE	S	0	8	0	0	**8**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	125%
BI	NE 75TH ST	32ND AVE NE AND 33RD AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BJ	NE 75TH ST	32ND AVE NE AND 33RD AVE NE	S	0	2	0	0	**2**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	200%
BK	NE 75TH ST	33RD AVE NE AND 34TH AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BL	NE 75TH ST	33RD AVE NE AND 34TH AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BM	NE 75TH ST	34TH AVE NE AND 35TH AVE NE	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

				Parking Supply					Parked Vehicles								Parking Utilization							
									5:45 PM				8:15 PM				5:45 PM				8:15 PM			
Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Unrestricted	5min School Load Only 8-10a, 3-5p Exc Sat/Sun/Hol	School Bus Only 7-10a 3-5p (Exc Sat/Sun/Hol)	Disabled	Total Parking Spaces	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25
BN	NE 75TH ST	34TH AVE NE AND 35TH AVE NE	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BO	NE 75TH ST	35TH AVE NE AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BP	NE 75TH ST	35TH AVE NE AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BQ	27TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	W	4	0	0	0	**4**	5	3	4	4	5	3	4	2	125%	75%	100%	100%	125%	75%	100%	50%
BR	27TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	E	4	0	0	0	**4**	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	75%	50%	63%	75%	75%	75%	75%	50%
BS	28TH AVE NE	29TH AVE NE AND NE 75TH ST	W	2	0	0	0	**2**	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
BT	28TH AVE NE	29TH AVE NE AND NE 75TH ST	E	4	0	0	0	**4**	2	3	3	0	3	3	3	1	50%	75%	63%	0%	75%	75%	75%	25%
BU	28TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND 29TH AVE NE	W	9	0	0	0	**9**	6	5	6	5	7	6	7	5	67%	56%	61%	56%	78%	67%	72%	56%
BV	28TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND 29TH AVE NE	E	8	0	0	0	**8**	3	5	4	5	3	4	4	5	38%	63%	50%	63%	38%	50%	44%	63%
BW	29TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND 28TH AVE NE	W	11	0	0	0	**11**	7	4	6	3	7	5	6	4	64%	36%	50%	27%	64%	45%	55%	36%
BX	29TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND 28TH AVE NE	E	4	0	0	0	**4**	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	50%	50%	50%	25%	50%	75%	63%	75%
BY	30TH AVE NE	NE 70TH W ST AND NE 75TH ST	W	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BZ	30TH AVE NE	NE 70TH W ST AND NE 75TH ST	E	37	0	11	0	**48**	3	4	4	6	3	4	4	40	6%	8%	7%	13%	6%	8%	7%	83%
CA	33RD AVE NE	NE 73RD ST AND NE 75TH ST	W	16	0	0	2	**18**	5	5	5	8	5	6	6	12	28%	28%	28%	44%	28%	33%	31%	67%
CB	33RD AVE NE	NE 73RD ST AND NE 75TH ST	E	15	0	0	0	**15**	6	10	8	9	7	9	8	11	40%	67%	53%	60%	47%	60%	53%	73%
CC	34TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	W	10	0	0	0	**10**	13	10	12	11	13	11	12	11	130%	100%	115%	110%	130%	110%	120%	110%
CD	34TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	E	13	0	0	0	**13**	13	7	10	12	13	12	13	11	100%	54%	77%	92%	100%	92%	96%	85%
CE	35TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	W	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
CF	35TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 75TH ST	E	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
CG	29TH AVE NE	NE 72ND ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	W	1	0	0	0	**1**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CH	29TH AVE NE	NE 72ND ST AND 800' BOUNDARY	E	2	0	0	0	**2**	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	25%	0%
CI	NE 72ND ST	28TH S AVE NE AND 800' BOUNDARY	N	2	0	0	0	**2**	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0%	50%	25%	50%	0%	0%	0%	50%
CJ	NE 72ND ST	28TH S AVE NE AND 800' BOUNDARY	S	3	0	0	0	**3**	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	33%	33%	33%	33%	0%	67%	33%	33%
CK	29TH AVE NE	NE 70TH ST AND NE 72ND ST	W	9	0	0	0	**9**	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	11%	11%	11%	0%	11%	11%	11%	0%
CL	29TH AVE NE	NE 70TH ST AND NE 72ND ST	E	9	0	0	0	**9**	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	3	11%	22%	17%	22%	11%	33%	22%	33%
CM	31ST AVE NE	NE 70TH W ST AND DEAD END 1	W	8	0	0	0	**8**	6	5	6	5	7	5	6	6	75%	63%	69%	63%	88%	63%	75%	75%
CN	31ST AVE NE	NE 70TH W ST AND DEAD END 1	E	8	0	0	0	**8**	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	2	38%	38%	38%	0%	38%	38%	38%	25%
CO	NE 70TH ST	29TH AVE NE AND 30TH W AVE NE	N	1	0	0	0	**1**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CP	NE 70TH ST	29TH AVE NE AND 30TH W AVE NE	S	4	0	0	0	**4**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CQ	NE 70TH ST	30TH W AVE NE AND 30TH E AVE NE	N	4	0	0	0	**4**	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	1	50%	25%	38%	0%	50%	25%	38%	25%
CR	NE 70TH ST	30TH W AVE NE AND 30TH E AVE NE	S	4	0	0	0	**4**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CS	NE 70TH ST	30TH E AVE NE AND 31ST W AVE NE	N	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CT	NE 70TH ST	30TH E AVE NE AND 31ST W AVE NE	S	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0%	33%	17%	0%	0%	33%	17%	0%
CU	NE 70TH ST	31ST W AVE NE AND 31ST E AVE NE	N	4	0	0	0	**4**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CV	NE 70TH ST	31ST W AVE NE AND 31ST E AVE NE	S	4	0	0	0	**4**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CW	NE 70TH ST	31ST E AVE NE AND 32ND W AVE NE	N	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CX	NE 70TH ST	31ST E AVE NE AND 32ND W AVE NE	S	3	0	0	0	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CY	29TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH ST	W	11	0	0	0	**11**	3	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	27%	55%	41%	55%	45%	55%	50%	55%
CZ	29TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH ST	E	12	0	0	0	**12**	7	4	6	6	7	5	6	8	58%	33%	46%	50%	58%	42%	50%	67%

Parking Utilization Study Data

				Parking Supply					Parked Vehicles								Parking Utilization							
									5:45 PM				8:15 PM				5:45 PM				8:15 PM			
Block Face ID	Street Name	Street Segment	Side of Street	Unrestricted	5min School Load Only 8-10a, 3-5p Exc Sat/Sun/Hol	School Bus Only 7-10a 3-5p (Exc Sat/Sun/Hol)	Disabled	**Total Parking Spaces**	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	Pre-Event - Thurday 12/11/25	Tuesday 12/2/25	Wednesday 12/10/25	Average	During-Event - Thurday 12/11/25
DA	30TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH E ST	W	13	0	0	0	**13**	7	6	7	5	7	6	7	5	54%	46%	50%	38%	54%	46%	50%	38%
DB	30TH AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH E ST	E	9	0	0	0	**9**	6	5	6	8	6	5	6	6	67%	56%	61%	89%	67%	56%	61%	67%
DC	31ST AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH E ST	W	2	0	0	0	**2**	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0%	50%	25%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
DD	31ST AVE NE	800' BOUNDARY AND NE 70TH E ST	E	1	0	0	0	**1**	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%
			TOTAL	**463**	**10**	**11**	**4**	**488**	**188**	**179**	**184**	**182**	**196**	**192**	**194**	**276**	**39%**	**37%**	**38%**	**37%**	**40%**	**39%**	**40%**	**57%**

ATTACHMENT 1: Draft SEPA Checklist Comments and Responses

Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

SEPA Public Comments and Seattle Public Schools 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 Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project was from July 1 to 5:00 PM on July 31, 2026. 46 individual comment letters, emails, or postcards were received from the 40 individuals listed below.

1. Rebecca Alexander and Carlo Levy (postcard)
2. Ben Alsin and Emily Wing (email)
3. Anonymous (postcard)
4. Spencer Bahner (postcard)
5. James Baldwin and Margaret Baldwin (postcard)
6. K. Benjamin (postcard)
7. Michelle Blake (email)
8. Noel Blake (postcard)
9. Harris Chalat (email)
10. Jiwon Choi (email)
11. Ben Dershowitz (email)
12. Bill Farmer (email)
13. Richard Fuhr (email and postcard)
14. Edith Harris (email)
15. Chris Jackins (letter)
16. Robert Jones (2 emails and postcard)
17. James Kasprzyk (postcard)
18. Ellyn Lundgren (email and postcard)
19. Cheryl Marek (email and postcard)
20. Aneta Mazur (email)
21. Tomasz Mazur (email)
22. Sarah McVay (email)
23. Lynh Nguyen (postcard)
24. Katherine Palm-Cruz (letter)
25. Sally Reed (email)
26. Sarah Samnick (email)
27. Rick Schleicher (postcard)

28. Socially Awkward Penguin (email and postcard)
29. Jean Teshima (postcard)
30. Howard Todd (email and postcard)
31. Susan Todd (postcard)
32. Liana Trescot (postcard)
33. Sheri Vahey (email and postcard)
34. Hongdong Yang (email)
35. Yao Zhang (email and postcard)

The following individuals provided comment after the comment period closed but have been included for reference and added to the list for future notification. The comments from these two individuals are similar to other comments received.

36. Jay Kim (email)
37. Heather Lowe (postcard)

The comments have been summarized and responded to below, with similar comments grouped together. Following each comment, the numbers in brackets refer to the commenter number (above) who submitted a similar comment. Copies of the correspondence are included in Attachment 2.

1. <u>Determination of Significance (DS).</u>

Project has significant adverse environmental impacts. The document should take into account several marginal impacts that when considered together would be significant. Further environmental review should be provided through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). [Commenter 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37]

> *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 on the significance of the impacts from the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project.*

2. <u>Future Notification.</u>

I would like to be added to the list for future notifications related to the project. [Commenter 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37]

> *SPS will provide future notifications to all residents within a two-block radius of the project, and those who have requested to be included in future notifications.*

3. Comment period should be extended.

Please extend the comment period. [Commenter 15, 20, 21]

The comment period lasted for 30 days and closed at 5 p.m. on July 31, 2026.

4. Request for SEPA public meeting.

On other projects, for decades, the SPS has held a public meeting to discuss the Draft SEPA Checklist. I request a SEPA public meeting be provided for this project. I am submitting a written request that the Superintendent direct SPS SEPA staff to resume SEPA public meetings, and ask that the Superintendent's response (or potential lack of response) be provided to project reviewers and included in the Final Checklist for the project. [Commenter 13, 15, 20]

Public meetings are not required for SEPA Checklists. Providing a public comment period is also not required for SEPA checklists, but SPS has chosen to provide a 30-day public comment period prior to issuance of a Final SEPA Checklist.

5. Request for hard copy of the Draft SEPA Checklist.

Please provide a hard copy of the Draft SEPA Checklist. [Commenter 15]

The SEPA checklist is available on the District's website at: https://www.seattleschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Eckstein-Middle-School-Field-Lighting-Draft-SEPA-Checklist.pdf?ver=1782921491. Hard copies are available for purchase by contacting SPS by phone at 206-252-0877 or by written request sent to Seattle Public Schools, P.O. Box 34165, MS 22-332, Seattle, WA, 98124-1165. The $13 purchase fee covers the cost of reproduction.

6. Probable and Cumulative Impacts.

Whether or not the impacts are individually considered significant, I believe they together add up to significant adverse environmental impacts, as SEPA regulations recognize may occur. The analysis does not define a maximum operating scenario. [Commenter 15, 20, 34, 36]

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 on the significance of the impacts, including cumulative impacts, from the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project. The Revised Transportation Technical Report (Appendix C) evaluated future traffic projections, anticipated field use volumes with the field lighting, and projected traffic volumes derived from the Wedgwood Redevelopment project to account for traffic volumes to describe impacts to traffic volumes as a result of the project. The analysis estimated the worst-case scenarios for traffic generation

which are during the commuter PM peak hour and the evening hour (refer to Appendix C).

7. <u>Project Need.</u>

The need for the project has not been demonstrated. There are lighted fields nearby and there is no need to duplicate this high-impact infrastructure. [Commenter 15, 18, 20, 22, 30, 33, 35]

The Project is described in response A.11 of the SEPA Checklist and the Checklist analyzes the potential impacts of the proposal.

<u>SEPA Document Reference: A.11</u>

8. <u>Permitting.</u>

A City conditional use permit is required for 80-foot-tall light poles, which is an indication of expected adverse impacts from the project. [Commenter 15]

A conditional use permit is not required. SMC 23.51.B.002(D)(6) permits light poles at public school athletic fields to exceed the maximum permitted height (30 feet in residential areas) up to a maximum of 100 feet if the Director of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) determines that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and that light and glare are minimized to the extent practicable. As discussed in the SEPA checklist, taller poles result in less light and glare than shorter poles. The City does not make a determination until the SEPA process has been completed.

<u>SEPA Document Reference: B.11 and Appendix B</u>

9. <u>Permitting.</u>

Under SMC 23.51.B.002(D)(6), an exception to use tall light poles can only be granted to schools under strictly limited circumstances. The height exception should only be granted on the condition the lights will be used only for school use. [Commenter 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 35]

SMC 23.51B.002(A) specifies that additions to existing public schools and accessory uses that meet the development standards of SMC 23.51.B (Public Schools in Residential Zones) are permitted outright. The development standards for the height of lighting fall under SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6), which allows lighting for the illumination of athletic fields on existing public school sites to exceed the maximum permitted height if the Director of SDCI determines that the additional height is necessary to ensure adequate illumination and that impacts from light and glare are minimized to the extent practicable. As discussed in the SEPA checklist and Appendix B, taller poles result in less light and glare than shorter

poles. The City does not make a determination under the processes outlined in SMC 23.51B.002.D.6 until the SEPA process has been completed.

SEPA Document Reference: B.11 and Appendix B

10. Air.

Increased traffic from the project will result in greater amounts of air pollution from car exhaust. Traffic backs up at the entrance/exit to the site on NE 75th St, so cars often idle after events. [Commenter 26]

As noted in the SEPA Checklist, vehicles travelling to and from the site are expected to be the main source of emissions from the project. Increases in traffic are expected to be minimal, therefore emissions are not anticipated to result in a significant adverse air quality impact.

SEPA Document Reference: B.2.a

11. Wildlife.

Neighbors have noted that prior to the installation of the current artificial turf, there were a large variety of birds and wildlife on the site, and that a number of those bird types still occupy surrounding trees. Night lighting can adversely alter biological rhythms of these animals. Extended night lighting can measurably disrupt local bird and wildlife activity. I ask for an assessment of this project's specific effect on tree canopy and bird and wildlife activity along the field's residential border. [Commenter 2, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 34]

The project is not removing any trees and is not changing the conditions of the tree canopy in the area. Daytime use of the area by birds and wildlife would not be affected by the project. Most birds would not be affected by nighttime lighting because they are active during the day. Any birds active during the night would avoid the field area when the lights are on, just as they do other lighted areas in the city. The only wildlife species likely to be in the area are adapted to urban conditions and are not likely to be negatively impacted by the project. As noted in Section B.11 and Appendix B, the lights are directed at the field to minimize spill light and glare to the surrounding areas.

SEPA Document Reference: B.5, B.11, and Appendix B

12. Vegetation.

The vegetation at the boundary of the field site provides a buffer for adjacent residents, but it was damaged in 2024 fires. The document does not consider seasonal leaf drop. I request

restoration and ongoing maintenance of year-round evergreen vegetation. [Commenter 16, 20, 21, 33, 36]

The Light and Glare Report (Appendix B) notes that there are existing deciduous and evergreen trees and vegetation buffering adjacent residential properties to the east and south of the field; however, the spill light and glare analysis assumes there is no vegetation, which represents a worst case scenario. The existing site vegetation will provide a minimal reduction in visible direct glare. The use of taller light poles is the main design factor decreasing the overall amount of glare and spill light visible from off-site locations.

As noted, a fire occurred in 2024 that damaged some vegetation at the site. Vegetation maintenance occurs as part of the typical maintenance activities at the school facility.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix B

13. Energy.

The project will result in a significant increase in electricity usage, which is an adverse effect. [Commenter 13]

As noted in the SEPA Checklist, electricity is the primary source of energy required for the project. The increased energy requirements to light the fields is not anticipated to be significant, but the project includes the following measures 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 at delivering light to the athletic field when compared with traditional LED light 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, while 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.*

SEPA Document Reference: B.6

14. Noise.

The project would add associated noise between dusk to 10 PM in the darker months of the year, which is an adverse effect decreasing residents' enjoyment of the neighborhood. [Commenter 2, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21, 24, 26, 34, 35, 36]

> *As noted in the SEPA Checklist and in Appendix A, sound levels from the project are regulated by the Seattle Municipal Code, which is intended to limit potential noise effects at nearby residential properties. Sound levels from evening athletic events are expected to typically comply with Seattle Municipal Code sound limits, although there could be short-term, transient events, lasting a few seconds, that may exceed these limits. While the increase in environmental noise is anticipated to be noticeable for residences to the south and east of the field, sound levels are expected to be consistent with existing daytime field activities occurring at the athletic field.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: B.7.b and Appendix A

15. Noise.

The checklist allows construction noise to exceed standard maximum levels and extends operational hours to 10 PM. Please clarify the decibel thresholds expected at the property line of adjacent residences during both construction and operational hours. [Commenter 10, 13, 36]

> *Noise created during the construction of the project is limited to 80 dBA (hourly Leq) and 95 dBA (hourly Lmax) under the Seattle Municipal Code. Installation of the four light poles is anticipated to occur over an approximately 8-week period. The Seattle Municipal Code limits sound from the completed project to 55 dBA (hourly Leq) and 70 dBA (hourly Lmax) at nearby residential properties. Table 2 in Appendix A provides measurements of the existing sound levels measured at the field fencelines. Table 3 in Appendix A provides a range of anticipated sound level increases during the evening hours. Sound levels produced by athletic events held at the field after sunset are expected to be consistent with those already occurring during the daytime hours.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: B.7.b and Appendix A

16. Noise.

The noise analysis should be updated to account for the impacts on adjacent residences with open-window and closed-window conditions. [Commenter 34]

The sound limits in the Seattle Municipal Code are only applicable to exterior sound levels. The noise measurements presented in the SEPA checklist and Appendix A represent outdoor noise levels.

SEPA Document Reference: B.7.b and Appendix A

17. Noise.

The noise assessment should base the description of nighttime conditions off of noise from an evening adult athletic event under the proposed operating conditions. The analysis should explain why approximately one day of east-boundary monitoring is sufficient to characterize the existing condition. [Commenter 34, 36]

Adult athletic events were captured during the measurements made at the Eckstein Middle School athletic field and are included in the noise assessment in Appendix A. Existing conditions were measured for four days at the south location and one day at the east location. Sound levels measured at the south location were similar to those measured at the east location and were measured during typical field activities. Measurements made at these two locations are sufficient to characterize the existing sound levels near the athletic field.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix A

18. Noise.

SPS should prohibit all amplification systems, not just for music. [Commenter 15, 35]

As noted in Section B.7.b.3 of the SEPA Checklist, the project does not include the provision of any permanent public address system, and all amplified sound through the use of portable systems is restricted per SMC 18.12.170 and SMC 25.08.500.D.

SEPA Document Reference: B.7.b.3

19. Noise.

The City of Seattle 24-hour noise complaint hotline (206-625-5011) should be posted at the site in large and easily readable print. [Commenter 15]

Comment noted. Noise complaints are unlikely to be filed by field users, so posting the site is not warranted. The City's noise complaint hotline has been provided in the SEPA checklist and is available online.

SEPA Document Reference: B.7.b.3

20. Land Use.

The SEPA Checklist should disclose the basis for the proposed 9:45 PM ending time for lighted field use. [Commenter 34]

> *As noted in the SEPA Checklist, SPS and Parks propose to schedule events at the lighted field from dusk until 10 PM. Recreational activities would be scheduled to end at 9:45 PM, allowing for a 15 minute window to allow players to safely leave the site.*
> *In setting the cutoff time for field lighting, SPS considered Parks Policy # 060-P 7.1.1, Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Athletic Facilities, which became effective on July 1, 2002. For lighted fields, Parks' policy is to schedule play until 10:45 PM, except on fields where residences adjoin the length of the field on two or more sides (unless arterials, significant topography, and/or other buffers are found between the field and adjacent residences on one or both sides). Fields that meet these criteria are scheduled until 10:00 PM. Because Eckstein Middle School meets the criteria of adjoining residences, a 10:00 PM cutoff time has been proposed, with events scheduled until 9:45 PM.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: A.11

21. Land Use.

The SEPA Checklist does not acknowledge the projected increase in population near the site as a result of zoning changes to create a Neighborhood Center at the intersection of 35th Ave NE and NE 75th St. The increase in population density near the site will make the impacts from the project more severe. [Commenter 30]

> *Per the City of Seattle's One Seattle Comprehensive Plan (adopted in 2025), the planned Neighborhood Center in Wedgewood aims to provide a diversity of housing options located around a locally focused commercial core and access to frequent transit. Proposed zoning updates follow this goal by allowing for the construction of more dense housing types such as apartments and condominiums. This intersection meets Seattle's planning goals for a walkable neighborhood with mixed-use amenities and public engagement spaces. Use of the field site is not anticipated to significantly increase as a result of population growth in the Wedgewood Neighborhood Center because field users are drawn from across the greater Seattle area. Increases in traffic and population growth have been anticipated and planned for as a part of the City's One Seattle Comprehensive Plan.*
>
> *Information has been added to section B.8.f of the SEPA Checklist.*

22. Land Use.

Neighbors have noted that at the time of installation of the current artificial turf, promises were publicly made to the neighborhood that there would not subsequently be field lighting. [Commenter 13, 15, 21, 25]

> *The artificial turf was installed at Eckstein Middle School in 2007. Project documents including the SEPA checklist prepared for that project were reviewed. The documents noted that field lights were not proposed in 2007 as part of the turf installation project, but the documents and approvals do not indicate there was any promise that lights would never be installed at the site.*

23. Impacts on views.

The proposed 80-foot tall light poles will have a significant adverse effect on views, as they will be prominent due to the field's higher elevation compared to the surrounding neighborhood. [Commenter 7, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 33, 34, 35, 36]

> *The effect of the tall poles on views from residences to the south and east of the field are expected to be minor. The poles and type of lights have been selected to be less intrusive. Because of the site topography, views across the field are limited. Current views of the neighborhood and field are included in Appendix B for reference, as well as the lighting system installed at Roosevelt High School. At night residents to the south and east of the field will see a lighted field until 10 p.m., rather than the dark field without the lights.*
>
> *The SEPA Checklist and the Light and Glare Report document that the taller poles will result in less light spill than the shorter poles. The increased mounting heights for the athletic field lighting poles will dramatically decrease the overall amount of glare visible from off-site locations as compared to using 30-foot pole height. The use of the latest generation of shielded floodlights will reduce the amount of visible glare compared to standard shielded metal halide floodlighting systems 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 would be more fully exposed to excessive levels of direct glare from the lights.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: Appendix B

24. Impacts on views.

The checklist lacks detail when describing view impacts in relation to adjacent trees. [Commenter 15, 16, 36]

As discussed in the SEPA Checklist, the effect of the tall poles on views across the site is expected to be minor. The proposed lighting poles would be visible on the site but would not obstruct any views. Views across the athletic field site would change to reflect the four new lighting poles on the site. Trees adjacent to the athletic field will remain unaltered and will be visible from the site in most locations as is the current condition. The poles and the type of lights have been selected to be less obtrusive. Refer also to the response to Comment 23.

SEPA Document Reference: B.10

25. Impact on views.

The field is located on a higher plateau than much of the surrounding neighborhood, which means that the 80-foot-tall light poles will functionally be much higher. Since the field appears to be more than 20 feet above much of the surrounding area, the functional height of the poles would exceed the 100-foot exception maximum. [Commenter 15, 16]

The light poles will be 80 feet tall and will not exceed the maximum 100-foot pole height per SMC. The height of the poles is measured above ground surface.

26. Light and Glare.

Photometric Modeling fails to account for topography. My backyard is located ~10 feet below the field, so the second story bedroom is located at field level, which should change the calculations. I request SPS to re-calculate and publish a revised photometric map that accounts for the topographical drop of the eastern residential properties, specifically modeling direct spill and glare at the height of second-story residential windows. The light and glare analysis should be updated to represent the maximum spill-light value and affected locations/residences along the east boundary of the site. [Commenter 10, 20, 21, 33, 34, 35, 36]

The photometric modeling does not take into account the existing vegetation and fabric screening that exists on the chain link fence east of the fields. This screening will block a large portion of the light that would fall on the ground in the adjacent residential backyards. Appendix B contains several photos of existing daytime and nighttime lighting conditions.

An additional lighting calculation line has been provided in the Light and Glare Report at a height of 3-feet above field level at the back of the existing homes east of the fields to show calculated light at the approximate location of second story windows.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix B

27. Light and Glare.

The increase in light and glare during evening hours resulting from the use of the light poles is an adverse effect. [Commenter 2, 10, 13, 15, 20, 24, 26, 33, 34, 35, 36]

> *The light and glare produced by the athletic field lighting system does not constitute a significant adverse impact. The requested exception to use poles taller than 30 feet provides a significant reduction in light and glare impacts by reducing the amount of direct glare and spill light as described in the lighting report.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: Appendix B

28. Light and Glare.

Mist or fog would increase the volume of light above the field, making it glow "like a lit-up cube of margarine". [Commenter 15]

> *The lighting report addresses the issue of "sky glow" (Appendix B, page 10). Mist or fog does not increase the volume of light above the field but does provide a form of precipitation that reflects light, making it more visible. Misty conditions will provide a low to moderate amount of visible sky glow. Sky glow will be most prevalent during conditions of dense fog.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: Appendix B

29. Light and glare.

The proposed height exception is not justified because there are other means to effectively light the field with light poles that meet the 30-foot-tall code limit. Instead of building taller light poles to improve the aiming and shielding of the lights, 30-foot-tall light poles could have fabric curtains installed to reduce light and glare impacts while in use. [Commenter 15, 33]

> *Installation of fabric curtains to raise and lower is not practical or feasible. The size required for each pole and the quantity needed to support the fabric and handle the wind loads is excessive and cost prohibitive. Using this type of system would create view impacts and is also operationally unworkable.*

30. Recreation.

The increase in scheduled recreational activities on the field would reduce opportunities for informal uses resulting in an adverse effect. [Commenter 15, 35]

Informal use of the fields would continue to be permitted similar to existing conditions during periods when scheduled activities are not occurring. Currently, informal use of the athletic field after dark is limited for safety reasons. Lighting the field would allow events to be scheduled after dark, during times when informal use of the field is typically limited.

SEPA Document Reference: B12

31. Recreation.

The SEPA Checklist does not include University Prep in its list of nearby recreational facilities, a private school with an extracurricular presence that is within ten blocks of Eckstein Middle School. It also fails to mention that Dahl Playfield has existing field lighting for its soccer and baseball fields. [Commenter 18, 25, 30]

Section B.12.a of the SEPA Checklist has been updated to reference the field lighting at Dahl Playfield. The facilities at University Prep are not primarily used for recreation and are inaccessible to most residents, therefore, it is not considered a public recreational facility.

SEPA Document Reference: B12.a

32. Recreation.

Use of the field by non-SPS participants should have a strict curfew of 7:00 p.m. [Commenter 36]

As noted in the SEPA Checklist, use of the athletic field has been managed under the JUA between SPS and Parks. Use of the fields is 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 8:00AM to 12:00 PM; middle school activities have Saturday priority from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. In accordance with the JUA, Seattle Parks and Recreation and other community organizations have also used the athletic field primarily for soccer as well as lacrosse practices and games for a variety of age levels. Use of the fields by Parks and other community organizations has historically occurred after 7:00 PM in the spring and summer months.

In setting the cutoff time for field lighting, SPS considered Parks Policy # 060-P 7.1.1, Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Athletic Facilities, which became effective on July 1, 2002. For lighted fields, Parks' policy is to schedule play until 10:45 PM, except on fields where residences adjoin the length of the field on two or more sides (unless arterials, significant topography, and/or other buffers are found

between the field and adjacent residences on one or both sides). Fields that meet these criteria are scheduled until 10:00 PM. Because Eckstein Middle School meets the criteria of adjoining residences, a 10:00 PM cutoff time has been proposed, with events scheduled until 9:45 PM.

SEPA Document Reference: A.11

33. Open Space and Recreation.

The City and SPS need to preserve the livability of the city, preserving and acquiring more open space and recreational space, rather than concentrating and increasing impacts at existing locations. [Commenter 15]

The project does not propose to eliminate any open or recreational space. As stated in Section A.11, the installation of the field lighting will result in extended use of the field as an existing recreational space. The lights are being installed in response to increased demand for lighted fields in the City.

SEPA Document Reference: A.11

34. Cultural Resources Review Technical Memorandum.

The Draft SEPA Checklist does not provide a copy of the referenced Cultural Resources Review Technical Memorandum. There should also be a Cultural Resources Report. [Commenter 15]

The Cultural Resources Review Technical Memorandum (also known as a Cultural Resources Report) is a confidential record that is exempt from public disclosure under RCW 42.56.300 due to archaeological data content.

35. Historic and Cultural Preservation.

There are adverse impacts on views of the landmark building by putting 80-foot light poles nearby. [Commenter 15]

Each landmark designation outlines the specific "character defining features" that require Certificate of Approval prior to making alterations or significant changes. The City of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board Controls and Incentives Agreement for Eckstein Middle School, 3003 NE 75th Street, executed in May 2026 in coordination with SPS, imposes controls on the following:

a. The site.
b. The exterior of the building.
c. The interior of the auditorium.

Therefore, views of the landmark building are not included as historic character defining features. Additionally, Section A(2)(o) of the Controls and Incentives

Agreement for Eckstein Middle School specifically states that a Certificate of Approval is not required for installation of field lights within the "Athletic Field and Surrounding Landscape Area" of the Eckstein Middle School Site, indicating that lighting is not an adverse impact to the landmark building.

36. <u>Historic and Cultural Preservation.</u>

The project site does not include the school buildings, despite being located on the same tax parcel. [Commenter 15]

The City of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board Controls and Incentives Agreement for Eckstein Middle School, 3003 NE 75th Street, executed in May 2026 in coordination with SPS, divides tax parcel 042504-9022 into three areas: the Main Building and its immediate surroundings; the Portables and Annex Building Area; and the Athletic Field and Surrounding Landscape Area. Therefore, the project site does not include the Main Building. Furthermore, the Controls and Incentives Agreement stipulates that SPS is not required to obtain a Certificate of Approval from the City of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board for: "Installation, removal, or alteration of playfield surfaces, track materials, field lights, field drainage, ground source wells, goal posts, and other track/field related sports equipment located within the area illustrated in Attachment A, referred to as the 'Athletic Field and Surrounding Landscape Area'."

37. <u>Historic and Cultural Preservation.</u>

SPS is currently refusing to cooperate with the City Landmarks Board on the John Marshall project. This indicates that there could be larger currently unacknowledged historic and cultural preservation impacts. [Commenter 15].

The John Marshall project is not relevant to this project in any way. Please see the response to Comment 36 for additional information regarding the Eckstein field lighting project.

38. <u>Historic and Cultural Preservation.</u>

I appreciate the reference that SPS would provide tribal representatives, including those of the Duwamish Tribe, with one-week advance notification of the project schedule and invitation to observe construction. [Commenter 15]

Comment noted.

39. <u>Transportation.</u>

The estimated 240 to 300 additional trips per day for part of the year from about October until early March, with peak volumes of 85 trips per hour, are adverse impacts from the project. This volume should be assessed against the capacity of the adjacent dead-end street. [Commenter 7, 10, 15, 18, 19, 24, 26, 35, 36]

As described in the Revised Transportation Technical Report (Appendix C), the estimated increases in trips due to the field lighting project 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. The analysis evaluated potential impacts that are already occurring (or that could occur without the project), but would occur more frequently with the project. For the purpose of this analysis, these trips were assumed to be net new trips during those winter and shoulder months and 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 parking near the field.

As shown in Table 6 of the report, the proposed project is expected to add some delay to several of the study-area intersections. However, all three signalized intersections would operate at the same level-of-service without-project levels—LOS D—or better and all unsignalized study-area intersections, including site access driveways, are expected to continue operating at LOS A overall with all movements operating at LOS D or better. The analysis shows that the project would not adversely affect traffic operations in the study area.

Eckstein Middle School has a primary access driveway on NE 75th Street located about 90 feet east of the 32nd Avenue NE intersection. This driveway connects to a large paved surface parking lot that has accommodated 190 or more parked vehicles for events or after-hours use of the site and playfield. In addition, there are two paved parking areas located along the western portion of the site adjacent to 30th Avenue NE. Those two areas each have one-way circulation loops with entry at the south and exit to the north. Fencing along the north side of the Eckstein Middle School field prevents pedestrian access from the dead-end street segments of both 31st and 32nd Avenues NE that extend north from NE 70th Street; no changes to access are proposed. The project is not expected to add traffic or parking to these dead-end streets.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

40. <u>Transportation.</u>

The figures for additional trips and peak volumes in are exactly the same as those quoted for the current Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) project in its Draft Checklist, for a much smaller field project. Wouldn't the impacts from this project be much greater? [Commenter 15]

> *Although SPS does not anticipate any high school use of the Eckstein Middle School field, the trip generation estimates used for the Eckstein field lighting project are the same as those used for the Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) Upper Softball Field Lighting project and represent traffic levels associated with high school athletics on one field. As stated in the Revised Transportation Technical Report (Appendix C), middle school athletics tend to have lower levels of participation and attendance than high school sports and do not hold games at the site; however, traffic and parking generation were estimated using the data collected for a high school field to reflect the potential worst-case impacts of the project.*
>
> <u>SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C</u>

41. <u>Transportation.</u>

There is already a serious problem with speeding cars along 33rd Ave NE adjacent to the eastern boundary of Eckstein. This will only be exacerbated if there are athletic events on the playfield at night. When the event is over there is an increased risk of speeding cars along 33rd Ave NE. I have noticed numerous drivers who travel at high speed on 33rd Ave NE between NE 75th St and NE 70th St. Many turn right from eastbound NE 75th St onto southbound 33rd Ave NE, perhaps to avoid waiting at the traffic signal at NE 75th St and 35th Ave NE. [Commenter 10, 13]

> *As described in the Revised Transportation Technical Report (Appendix C), the estimated increases in trips due to the field lighting project 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.*
>
> *The City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has a Neighborhood Traffic Calming program intended to lower traffic speeds on neighborhood streets. SDOT works with communities to install traffic circles, speed humps, and chicanes. Possible traffic calming locations are reviewed each year and prioritized based on: recorded speeds and traffic volumes, reported crash history, nearby destinations (schools, parks, community centers, libraries, transit stops, etc.), the City of Seattle Race and Social Equity Index, and street design (missing sidewalks,*

missing curbs, wide travel lanes, etc.). For example, SDOT has installed four sequential speed humps along 30th Avenue NE between NE 75th Street and NE 70th Street, which are intended to slow traffic on this street. The speed humps extend the full width of the street, which makes it difficult for a driver to avoid, and are effective even when there are no vehicles parked along the street's edges. The proposed field project is not expected to increase the amount of cut-through traffic that could be using 33rd Avenue NE to avoid nearby traffic signals, nor would it change conditions that contribute to speeding. If speeding continues to be an issue, SDOT should be notified by neighbors. Answers to common inquiries about traffic on neighborhood streets, such as questions about stop signs, speeding, and how to negotiate a traffic circle, can be found in SDOT's Frequently Asked Questions page: https://www.seattle.gov/documents/Departments/SDOT/NTO/NeighborhoodTrafficOperationsFAQ.pdf. Residents may also request speed enforcement from the Seattle Police Department by calling (206) 684-8757.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

42. Transportation.

There is only one entrance/exit to the main parking lot at Eckstein, and traffic backs up on 75th and in the lot when there are events. The allowance of parks department events will exacerbate all of these negative impacts. The transportation report does not account for the traffic impacts of an event ending at 9:45 p.m. and should demonstrate how long it takes to clear the site after an event. [Commenter 25, 26, 34, 35, 36]

As described in the Revised Transportation Technical Report (Appendix C), the estimated increases in trips due to the field lighting project would only be new to the site and local roadways for part of the year—primarily from about October until early March. This field currently operates under the Joint Use Agreement (JUA) with Parks and during the remainder of the year, natural lighting conditions allow for field use during these times without the need for field lights. The analysis evaluated potential impacts that are already occurring (or that could occur without the project), but would occur more frequently with the project. The report noted that the school already hosts events periodically throughout the school year; however, they are infrequent. Some of those large events already occur at times of the year when the field can be used in the evening without lights. The addition of field lighting could add users to the site on a few nights of the year (such as during November and December) when other events may also be scheduled. The added field users are expected to consist of adult recreational

sports participants who could generate about 30 trips before and after their game or practice. The arrivals and departures of those trips may not overlap event trips and a portion of these trips are expected to access parking located along 30th Avenue NE, since that is the most proximate parking to the field.

Operations of the site access driveway on NE 75th Street are primarily affected by the volume of conflicting traffic volumes on NE 75th Street. As described in the Revised Transportation Technical Report, and as can be seen in Figure 3 of that report, traffic volumes on NE 75th Street from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. are about 67% of the PM peak hour volume; from 9:00 to 10:00 p.m., they are about 34% of the PM peak hour volume. Based on the analyses of peak conditions, the relatively small amount of added athletic field traffic is not expected to result in significant adverse impacts during infrequent large events held at the school.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

43. Parking.

When there are activities after dark when the lights are on, participants and spectators will often park on 33rd Ave NE, thus taking up parking spaces intended for residents and for residents' visitors. [Commenter 13]

As stated in the Revised Transportation Technical Report, 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, parking at and around the Eckstein Middle School site was surveyed in December 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 school and how it could be affected by the proposed field lighting project (which is presented in Section 3.7 of the report).

As described in Section 2.4.4 of the Revised Transportation Technical Report, the off-street parking areas at Eckstein Middle School can accommodate 240 or more vehicles and fewer than 20 vehicles were observed to be parked in these areas on a typical non-event evening. The on-street parking averaged about 300 unused stalls. On most occasions, the most proximate and convenient parking for users of the field will be the off-street parking areas on the Eckstein Middle School site. On infrequent occasions when there are well-attended school events, the on-site parking areas may have fewer stalls available. However, observations during a band concert event in December indicate unused capacity for 75 or more vehicles on-site. It is possible that a limited number of participants or spectators may choose to park on-street for convenience or out of habit. Due to the location of the field, it is likely that such demand, if any, would occur on-street along 30th Avenue NE. Based on review of the on-street parking utilization around the site, there is unused parking capacity to accommodate added demand, even with a large school event.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

44. Parking.

SPS should restrict parking along 33rd Ave NE for non-residents when fields are in use. [Commenter 13, 36]

See response to Comment 43 above. On-street parking is a shared public resource managed by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and is not controlled by SPS. SDOT has established Restricted Parking Zones (RPZs) in several residential areas of the City and has established requirements for how they can be created. However, they are intended to reduce all-day commuter parking near large commuting centers (like hospitals, universities, business districts, and light rail stations) in residential and mixed-use areas. You may find additional information about RPZs at: https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/permits-and-services/permits/parking-permits/rpz-permits. You can submit a request for a new RPZ by sending an email from a neighborhood organization or from residents of the area to RPZRequests@seattle.gov.

45. Parking.

The current parking on site is not sufficient to meet the increased demand from the project. The entrance is poorly marked, and too small for two cars to pass at once. Parking spaces and traffic movements on site are not clearly marked. [Commenter 25]

As discussed in the Revised Transportation Technical Report, the off-street parking areas at Eckstein Middle School can accommodate 240 or more vehicles. Based on field observations and reviews of historical aerial imagery, the hard-surface area just south of the Middle School could accommodate 190 or more parked vehicles. There are also two small lots with angled parking accessed from driveways on 30th Ave NE, with an additional 51 stalls combined. The report noted that some of the stalls in the hard-surface area have faded striping, but have been used historically for parking. No modifications to the parking lot entrance are proposed as part of the field lighting project.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

46. Parking.

SPS should provide an evaluation of how the maximum parking capacity of 240 or more vehicles was calculated. This should include a professionally prepared parking plan to identify and inventory parking areas. [Commenter 34, 35, 36]

As described in the response to Comment 43, 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. The estimate of on-site parking supply was developed by Heffron Transportation Inc., using a combination of on-site, in-person field observations, counts of striped parking, and historical aerial images of the site showing where parking has been striped or regularly used. As described in the Revised Transportation Technical Report, the northwestern lot has 25 marked angled spaces, while the southwestern lot is unstriped, but can accommodate up to 26 angle-parked vehicles. The large hard-surface area that is accessed from a driveway on NE 75th Street currently has four marked ADA stalls near the main school building. Another 28 stalls have historically been marked on the east side of the building in the center of this area; however, striping has faded and/or is no longer visible. Based on field observations and reviews of historical aerial imagery, the hard-surface area has accommodated 190 or more parked vehicles could be accommodated for events or after-hours use of the site and playfield.

SEPA Document Reference: Appendix C

47. Public Services.

Request for SPS contact for operational violations where the lights are on past the scheduled hours of use. [Commenter 33]

> *The field lighting system will be operated by a fully programmable control system with remote operation. As noted in the SEPA Checklist, field lighting would be in use during scheduled events between dusk and 10 PM. Use of the fields could occur until 9:45 PM, with the lights automatically turned off at 10:00 PM. Lights will be turned off 15 minutes after the end of scheduled play to allow players to leave the site safely. The field lighting would be turned off when scheduled activities are not taking place. The number for SPS security is posted at the site.*
>
> SEPA Document Reference: A.11

48. Public Services.

There have been incidents of crime in the area of the site, and increasing the number of visitors at the site could increase the need for police presence and fire response. [Commenter 7, 15, 33]

> *Evening use of the fields is currently occurring during the summertime months. As stated in Section B.15 of the SEPA Checklist, no additional police protection or support is anticipated as a result of the project. Lighting of the fields may serve as a crime deterrent, due to improved visibility in the area. Public services would continue to be provided under the provisions of the JUA between SPS and Parks.*

49. Public Services.

I request that SPS provide a formally funded, binding operational security plan and lockup protocol to prevent fires and other hazards. [Commenter 20, 25, 33, 35, 36]

> *The field will be closed and the lighting will be turned off when the field is not in use during the evenings. Increased use of the field is not expected to significantly increase the risk of fires. Police and fire services will continue to be provided under the provisions of the JUA between SPS and Parks.*

50. Safety.

Unless additional security measures are taken, such as blocking off the entrance to the field during off-hours, it seems more likely that increased use by the community for non-school associated events will only lead to more people hanging out at the field, increasing the risk of associated safety hazards such as trespassing, vandalism, and illegal fireworks. [Commenter 2, 7, 13, 20, 21, 25, 34, 35, 36]

The project is going to extend the hours of use of the field primarily in the wintertime months. When the field is not scheduled for use in the evenings, the lighting will be turned off, and the field will be closed and locked nightly. Lighting of the fields may serve as a crime deterrent, due to improved visibility in the area. Police and fire services will continue to be provided under the provisions of the JUA between SPS and Parks.

51. <u>Safety.</u>

The project will increase the risk of balls from sports fields landing in adjacent properties, which is a hazard to residents and their property. I request the installation of high-containment sports netting, and a policy that prohibits trespassing onto adjacent private property to retrieve balls. Develop a policy to prohibit ball retrieval on private property. [Commenter 2, 20, 21, 33, 34, 35, 36]

As noted in the SEPA checklist, the project is expected to increase the use of the field during the evening hours in the wintertime months. Balls are likely to continue to errantly enter neighboring yards, as they may do under existing conditions during the summer months. High-containment sports netting is not proposed as part of this project. SPS will work with the Parks Department to inform field users and discourage trespassing on private property.

Regulations on adjacent private property are outside the scope of the project and the authority of SPS. It is noted that criminal trespassing on private property is prohibited under RCW 9A.52.080.

52. <u>Property values.</u>

The cumulative impacts of the project on adjacent properties will shrink the pool of future buyers and reduce property values, which is a significant impact. [Commenter 7, 13, 21]

The assessment of property values is not an element of the environment under SEPA and is therefore not assessed. The site has been developed as a school with athletic fields since 1950. The improvement proposed at the school site will be implemented in full compliance with City of Seattle Municipal Code requirements.

53. <u>Operations.</u>

The final SEPA determination must include a binding administrative mechanism allowing adjacent property owners to directly report operational violations on the athletic field. If the district or field users violate the 10:00 p.m. curfew or scheduled hours, automatic financial penalties must be levied against the operating league, with funds directed toward neighborhood safety improvements. [Commenter 21, 34]

As noted in the SEPA Checklist, field lighting would be in use during scheduled events between dusk and 10 PM. Use of the fields could occur until 9:45 PM, with the lights automatically turned off at 10:00 PM, per Parks Policy #060-P 7.1.1, Use and Scheduling of Outdoor Athletic Facilities. Lights will be turned off 15 minutes after the end of scheduled play to allow players to leave the site safely. The field lighting would be turned off when scheduled activities are not taking place.

Residents can continue to report criminal activity or neighborhood issues to the Seattle Police Department or SPS security.

SEPA Document Reference: A.11

54. Operations.

The SEPA determination should require mandatory, independent third-party field monitoring to assess whether light and noise impacts from the project exceed legal thresholds. Any violation of legal limits should result in the revocation of the field permit and removal of the light poles. [Commenter 34, 35]

As part of this project, SPS has hired lighting and noise experts to evaluate the proposal. The findings are incorporated into the SEPA checklist and into Appendices A and B. SPS will also apply for permits with the City of Seattle. The City will not issue permits if the project is not in compliance with city code.

SEPA Document Reference: B.11 and B.7.b.2; Appendix A and Appendix B

55. PFAS "forever chemicals".

The project will increase the wear and tear on the artificial turf, exposing direct users to the turf and sending more particles of the turf into the surrounding environment. Artificial turf is known to contain PFAS "forever chemicals". Given that health authorities consider the risk from PFAS to be so significant that they recommend not installing artificial turf, we believe that the increased spreading of PFAS is a significant adverse impact. [Commenter 1, 15, 24]

This project is not proposing any changes to the turf field that was replaced in 2018. The existing synthetic turf field is constructed with natural cork and sand infill as opposed to crumb rubber infill. The synthetic turf industry is aware of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) concerns and is voluntarily testing their products for PFAS. SPS sources synthetic turf that has been determined not to have detectable PFAS. While this project is not installing turf, when the turf does need to be replaced (approximately every 12 years), SPS will continue to source synthetic turf no detectable levels of PFAS.

56. PFAS "forever chemicals".

Request that a reference to the Position Paper by the Children's Environmental Health Center of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai on artificial turf playing surfaces (November 2023) and dangers from artificial turf be posted at the field site in a form and size easily readable to the public. [Commenter 15]

This project is not proposing any changes to the turf field.

***57.* PFAS "forever chemicals".**

Years ago, SPS was slow to deal with the risks from lead in school drinking water, and the issue ballooned into a significant problem. SPS should be more diligent in addressing PFAS. [Commenter 15]

Comment noted.

58. Restrooms.

The description of the sewer service at the site in the SEPA Checklist is inaccurate because access to Eckstein Middle School Building is limited during the hours the field will have increased use. The checklist should acknowledge that the increased usage of the field during evening hours will require additional restroom facilities. [Commenter 30]

The SEPA checklist section B.16 notes that sanitary sewer service is provided at the school site but does not reference access to restroom facilities. A portable toilet is currently available on the northeast side of the field for use after school hours, but there are no plans or funding available for a permanent restrooms to be available for use at the field.

***59.* Funding.**

New artificial field lighting is not a good use of limited SPS funds [Commenter 13].

The Joint Athletic Facilities Development Program Update (2019) between SPS and Parks recommends that regular maintenance plans include funds to promote proactive maintenance of fields, including upgrading field lighting as warranted. Funding for the project was provided through the BEX VI Capital Levy. The levy was approved by voters in February 2025, with an approval rate of 74.5%.

60. General Support.

We support the proposed improvements to the existing playfield at Eckstein Middle School. [Commenter 9, 12, 14]

Thank you for your comments.

ATTACHMENT 2: Draft SEPA Checklist Correspondence

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 5:01 PM
To: Emily Wing; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Proposed Eckstein Middle School Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Emily and Ben. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator Operations Division Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

-----Original Message-----
From: Emily Wing <emrwing@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 4:58 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Proposed Eckstein Middle School Lighting Project

Hello,

We are writing in opposition of the proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field lighting project.

As a nearby neighbor on 33rd Ave NE, the project is concerning for several reasons - especially disruption to nearby residents and wildlife, and safety concerns.

Lights at Eckstein will be particularly disruptive due to the proximity of housing in the area. Unlike other similar nearby fields, Eckstein is directly abutted to adjacent property and residences. The field is pitched higher than the homes, which leads significant light and sound to carry. There is already considerable noise pollution during the day - for example in my backyard on the south side of 33rd Ave NE (not abutting the field) I can hear with perfect clarity l every direction given to the football team. While this is acceptable during the daytime, lighting that would allow for events going until 10pm or later would cause significant disruption to the neighborhood. For houses on the west side of 33rd Ave NE, the lights would shine directly into backyards, windows and bedrooms late into the night.

There is already a history of disruptions from the field to residences on 33rd Ave NE, including balls and sports equipment landing in neighbor's years on the West side of 33rd Ave NE and, in 2024, illegal fireworks set from the field started a brush fire in the vegetation abutting neighbors yards. The fire could have quickly spread in the dense nearby houses if quick thinking neighbors weren't awake to put it out with their garden hoses. Additional late night activity in the area would likely incur further disruption.

There is also significant wildlife in the area, raccoons and a large number of birds that often migrate up from the nearby UW and Magnuson wetlands in the area. Late night lifting would impact the local nesting fauna significantly.

Thank you for taking our comments into consideration

Best,
Ben Alsin and Emily Wing

7036 33rd Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:07 AM
To: Michelle Blake
Subject: RE: Eckstein Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Michelle. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator Operations Division Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

-----Original Message-----
From: Michelle Blake <michelle.lee.blake@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 3, 2026 7:00 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Lighting Project

Dear Dr. Asplund-Campbell,

I am writing about the flyer we recently received regarding the upcoming installation of lighting poles at Eckstein. I own a home directly adjacent to the field on the south side.

It is extremely frustrating that homeowners were not consulted about this project and the potential impact it will have on our lives.

I am deeply concerned about the following: increased light and noise pollution, increased traffic, and increased crime in the neighborhood.

The athletic field is already a source of public safety issues at night, as people frequently let off fireworks and hang out on the field at night. Two years ago, the fireworks caused a fire along a neighbor's fence.

I would like to understand if the potential for increased use of the field may exacerbate this already existing issue. Unless additional security measures are taken, such as blocking off entrance to the field during off-hours, it seems more likely that increased use by the community for non-school associated events will only lead to more people hanging out at the field, even after the lights have been turned out for the night.

Currently our home is situated in a quiet, dead-end street. We enjoy watching the sunset as well as the night sky. I am very concerned that these activities will no longer be enjoyable or even possible with the glare added from the 80ft tall poles.

Additionally, the increased noise is likely to decrease our enjoyment of the neighborhood. The current noise from the field is very noticeable but limited to school hours and occasional weekend day time hours only. Now it seems that we will be listening to the field use potentially every night as well.

Finally, I am very worried about the potential impact to my property value. Was that studied at all?

I do not anticipate any response, as it seems that the public comment period is merely a formality. If the school truly cared about the impact of this project on its' neighbors, then it should have asked long before committing to this project.

Sincerely,
a frustrated neighbor,

Michelle Blake
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 12:00 PM
To: Harris Chalat; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Harris. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Harris Chalat <harris.s.chalat@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 9:37 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Hello Dr Marni Asplund-Campbell,

I am writing because I support the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting project. I do not support an environmental review, or bureaucratic measures to slow the project.

I was compelled to write this email is because I live directly next to the school, at 7503 32nd Ave NE, and have received mailings and fliers asking residents to object to the project due to arbitrary and silly measures. Complaints like noise issues due to kids playing on the field later in the night and impacts to views are not sincere reasons, nor should they halt improving this field. This mailing is a concerted effort by one group to slow the project under the guise of environmental review, without real justification or local support.

I have a 3 and 1 year old who love to play on the field, would benefit directly from those lights. If we are lucky enough to be here when they are in middle school will only further benefit from this build. Please do not slow this project due to a few individuals who are exploiting regulation, and outweighing the desires of the majority due to most families not even considering projects like this being halted.

Sent via Superhuman

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 1:46 PM
To: Jiwon Choi; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Jiwon. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Jiwon Choi <jiwonchoi91@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 11:40 AM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Dear Dr. Asplund-Campbell,

I am submitting this comment on the Draft SEPA Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street). I live on the dead-end street immediately adjacent to the field, which gives me a direct vantage point on several environmental impacts I believe the checklist understates.

1. Light and glare (checklist B.11.a): The checklist acknowledges the project "would produce direct glare, reflected glare, spill light (light trespass) and sky glow," but does not quantify these effects for the residential parcels directly bordering the field. From my property, the four 80-foot poles would sit well above sightline-blocking vegetation and structures that currently limit light exposure. I request site-specific photometric/light-trespass modeling for the homes immediately adjacent to the field, not just a general area assessment.

2. Height variance from code: The proposed 80-foot poles exceed the 30-foot limit in Seattle Municipal Code. Because pole height directly drives the geographic extent of glare and sky glow, I ask the checklist to include an analysis of light impacts at a code-compliant height for comparison.

3. Noise (checklist section on noise): The checklist allows construction noise to exceed standard maximum levels and extends operational hours to 10 PM. Please clarify the decibel thresholds expected at the property line of adjacent residences during both construction and operational hours.

4. Fish, wildlife, and vegetation: Extended night lighting can measurably disrupt local bird and wildlife activity, as noted in the checklist review. I ask for an assessment of this project's specific effect on tree canopy and bird activity along the field's residential border, where mature trees currently provide a buffer.

5. Transportation: The projected 240-300 additional daily trips (up to 85/hour at peak) should be assessed against the capacity of the adjacent dead-end street, which is not designed for this volume.

Given the scope of these impacts, I request a full Environmental Impact Statement rather than a Determination of Non-Significance, and a public meeting on the Draft Checklist before a Final Checklist is issued.

Please confirm this comment has been entered into the record.

Sincerely,
Jiwon Choi

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:06 AM
To: Ben Dershowitz
Subject: RE: Eckstein lights

Thank you for your feedback, Ben. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Ben Dershowitz <bdersho@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2026 8:21 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>; sgdersho <sgdersho@gmail.com>
Subject: Eckstein lights

Hello,

I live at 7504 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115 and am strongly opposed to blight at this time. We have small kids the noise and light from night time sports is not ok in a dense residential environment.

Please do not proceed. If you do lights should be required to be off after 7pm.

Thank a concerned neighbor.

Ben Dershowitz
206-390-1635

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 12:04 PM
To: Bill Farmer
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Playfield Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Bill. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Bill Farmer <farmerbill3@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 12:01 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Playfield Lighting Project

Dear Seattle Public Schools - I am writing in support of adding lights to the existing synthetic playfield at Eckstein Middle School for the following reasons:

- Playfield demand remains huge and often unmet in the Seattle area. Adding lights to this existing playfield will significantly increase play time especially during the darker fall, winter, and spring seasons. More and better playfields are wanted and welcome.
- The Joint Athletic Field Development Program (JAFDP) [developed and embraced by both Seattle Parks & Rec and Seattle Public Schools] promotes lighting existing synthetic fields as an easier solution for increasing capacity of the existing playfield inventory. Building brand new playfields is a tough challenge in Seattle; upgrading existing playfields is much more feasible and less costly.
- Modern lighting includes LED fixtures for minimizing energy demand (reduced operating cost), maximizing fixture longevity (less maintenance), and minimizing potential lighting spill and glare (less impact on neighbors). Taller light poles aim the lighting down onto the field where it is needed and also minimizes potential lighting spill and glare.
- LED fixtures are far superior to the old-technology incandescant or halide fixtures. Spill light outside of the playfield footprint is virtually eliminated. Glare is restricted mainly to the playfield if looking directly up at the fixture. Fixture shielding greatly reduces potential for glare beyond the field.

Please proceed with the proposed project.
Sincerely, Bill Farmer/Friends of Athletic Fields

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 2:55 PM
To: Richard Fuhr; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: My Comments on Proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Richard. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Richard Fuhr <richard.fuhr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 11:17 AM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: My Comments on Proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Subject: My Comments on Proposed Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project
To: SEPAcomments@seattleschools.org
From: richard.fuhr@gmail.com

If nighttime lighting is installed on the Eckstein Athletic Field, it will have significant negative quality-of-life and safety impacts on nearby neighbors. Therefore this project should NOT be implemented.

My current objections are as follows:

1. When the artificial turf was installed at Eckstein many years ago the neighbors were assured by the Seattle Public Schools that there would **NOT be artificial lighting**. So they need to keep that agreement!

2. There will be **excessive noise and bright lights** disturbing neighbors potentially late at night. The Eckstein playfield is at a higher elevation than the homes along 33rd Ave NE, and that, together with the proposed 80-foot light poles, would shine light directly into

the homes of neighbors.

3. The Seattle Public Schools reportedly has **budget problems**. So they need to be spending their limited funds on other things.

4. There is already a serious problem with **speeding cars** along 33rd Ave NE adjacent to the eastern boundary of Eckstein. This will only be exacerbated if there are athletic events on the playfield at night When the event is over there is an increased risk of speeding cars along 33rd Ave NE.

   I have noticed numerous drivers who travel at high speed on 33rd Ave NE between NE 75th St and NE 70th St. Many turn right from eastbound NE 75th St onto southbound 33rd Ave NE, perhaps to avoid waiting at the traffic signal at NE 75th St and 35th Ave NE.

5. The **construction** associated with new lighting will be very noisy and distracting, with constant loud beeping from construction vehicles backing up. There will also be much dust and dirt.

6. The Eckstein playfield has never had lighting in all these years. **What has changed**?

7. Bright lights at night are **harmful to birds** nesting in the vicinity.

8. We are constantly being urged to **conserve electricity**. The Seattle Schools would be setting a very bad example by having bright lights on for extended periods of time at night. It will also cost a lot of [taxpayer!] money when these lights are being used.

9. When there are activities after dark when the lights are on, participants and spectators will often park on 33rd Ave NE, thus **taking up parking spaces** intended for residents and for residents' visitors.

10. Eckstein has already demonstrated that it is sometimes **not a considerate neighbor** to residents living on 33rd Ave NE, in at least the following two ways:
    a - illegal fireworks on and around July 4 every year. While this year they did (after repeated urging) put up a NO FIREWORKS sign, it took a significant effort on the part of neighbors for them to do that. They did not provide enough security to keep trespassers off the field. If they failed to provide security in the past, that is a sign that they will fail to provide security for nighttime

sports events held on a lighted playfield.

b - speeding cars likely driven by parents, relatives and friends of Eckstein students. This pattern will likely increase if lights on the athletic field attract more nighttime traffic and participants.

I have asked Eckstein leadership to remind parents, relatives and friends of students to obey the 20 mph speed limit on our residential street. Unfortunately the message has not gotten through.

See item 4 above.

11. The **resale value of homes** on the west side of 33rd Ave NE is likely to decrease, due to the undesirable nature of an adjacent lighted athletic field, with the resulting light pollution, noise, and traffic. Prospective home buyers will notice this, and some will lose interest. After the destructive brush fire caused by illegal fireworks on the Eckstein playfield on July 4, 2024, prospective home buyers for houses on the west side of 33rd Ave NE could see the burned-out brush. I mention this because if lighting is installed on the Eckstein playfield, prospective home buyers will notice that and some will lose interest.

12. In addition to these nearby written comments, which can be ignored or dismissed, dismissed we need to have a well-publicized **community meeting** in the very near future, held in a nearby location, such as Eckstein.

--

Richard Fuhr
206-524-8049 land line
206-491-5640 cell phone
https://richardfuhr.neocities.org

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 3:22 PM
To: Edith Harris
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athleteic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Edith. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Edith Harris <easharris1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:43 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athleteic Field Lighting Project

To whom it may concern,

I received a card in the mail recently concerning the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project. Thank you for sending them out and giving the neighborhood residents an opportunity to express their opinions on the project.

I have lived in the neighborhood for over 30 years. I raised my children here. They attended Bryant, Eckstein and Roosevelt schools. My children participated in field sports from the time they were very young through high school. My son coaches soccer in the LVR league. I am a women's lacrosse official.
Sports, like many group activities, is critical to childhood development. Unlike many other group activities, sports like soccer, football, ultimate frisbee, baseball, softball and lacrosse are outdoor activities. In the Seattle area, there is a shortage of athletic fields (and particularly synthetic turf fields) for games and especially for practices, particularly in the late fall, winter and early spring when sunset comes early. Teams that play their games on synthetic fields need to practice on synthetic fields. Grass just isn't comparable. As it is currently, for a soccer team of high school aged players to practice on a turf field with lights, they often have to share the field with 4 or 5 other groups. This does not allow them to practice adequately for their games.
Adding more turf fields with lights is needed. The easiest, least expensive way to do this is to take existing turf fields, like the one at Eckstein Middle School, and add lights expanding the time in the evenings that the fields can be used.

Will there be people who might be somewhat negatively impacted? Yes. There are roughly a dozen homes that are next to the field to the south and to the east. It should be noted that the homes to the east of the field are downhill from the field and that there is a large privacy hedge (wall) on the east edge of the school property. Any light that spilled over the property line would probably be blocked by the homeowners' roofs. It is highly unlikely that light would spill into their windows.
The local community needs this project to enhance the recreational and athletic opportunities for all. I was thrilled when lights went up at Roosevelt High School! I was thrilled to hear of this proposal and fully support it! More lights on turf fields please!

sincerely,

Edith Harris
6810 32nd Ave NE
easharris1@gmail.com
206-679-6023

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

July 14, 2026
File eckstein checklist letter

TO: Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell
Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165, Seattle WA 98124
206-252-0102; FAX 206-252-0626
Email: SEPAcomments@seattleschools.org

FROM: Chris Jackins, Coordinator
Seattle Committee to Save Schools
P.O. Box 84063, Seattle WA 98124

REGARDING: Comments on Draft SEPA Environmental Checklist for the
Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street),
as posted on the School District website at https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/sepa/
Hard copy of Draft SEPA Checklist may be requested by phone 206-252-0877 or in writing
Comments due by: Friday July 31, 2026 at 5 pm

Requests for: Extension of comment period; SEPA public meeting; Notice of City-required meeting;
Hard copy of the Draft SEPA Environmental Checklist

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell,

Attached are some comments on the Draft SEPA Environmental Checklist (SEPA - State Environmental Policy Act) for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street), four 80-foot-tall lighting poles when Seattle Municipal Code limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas.

Sincerely, ***Chris Jackins***

---

1. The District should issue a Determination of Significance (DS) for the project and provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). I believe that this project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts, and therefore SEPA regulations require a DS and an EIS.

2. Request for extension of comment period. Please extend the comment period, including to allow time to hold a SEPA public meeting.

3. Request for SEPA public meeting. On other projects, for decades, the District has held a public meeting to discuss the Draft Checklist. The District started dropping these meetings in late 2019; it had nothing to do with the coronavirus.
   A. We request that a SEPA public meeting be provided for this project.
   B. The District, especially as its own environmental reviewer, needs a broader chance to inform and interact with the public on proposed projects and environmental impacts.
   C. Superintendent Ben Shuldiner has talked about the District needing to communicate better with the public.
   D. We are submitting a written request that the Superintendent direct School District SEPA staff to resume SEPA public meetings for District projects, and we ask that the Superintendent's response (or potential lack of response) be provided to project reviewers and included in the Final Checklist for the project.

4. Request for notice of City-required meeting related to tall light poles. Please include my name on the list for notices of the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

5. Request for hard copy of the Draft SEPA Environmental Checklist. I previously made this request in a letter of June 27, 2026, and I have not yet received a hard copy of the Draft Checklist.

6. Preserving livability. The City and the School District need to preserve the livability of the city, preserving and acquiring more open space and recreational space, rather than concentrating and increasing impacts at existing locations.

7. Some of our concerns about the project
   A. Views. The 80-foot poles will tower over large areas of the surrounding neighborhood.
   B. Landmark. Adverse impacts on views of landmark building from 80-foot-tall nearby poles.
   C. Broken promises. Neighbors note a "no lighting" promise when artificial turf was installed.
   D. Misuse of City Code. A tall light exception is only for schools, but most use will be non-school.
   E. Recreation. Opportunities for informal uses would be reduced.
   F. Noise. Lights will extend use hours at the field from the current closing time (dusk) to 10 PM.
   G. Noise. Construction "allowed to exceed the maximum noise levels".
   H. Transportation. Between "240 to 300 additional trips per day" & peak "85 trips per hour".
   I. Trees and birds. Night lighting can adversely alter biological rhythms of trees and birds.
   J. "Forever chemicals". Increased exposure to PFAS from increased artificial turf wear and tear.
   K. No public meeting. District refusing to hold an environmental review public meeting.

8. Background.
   A. Eckstein Middle School is located at 3003 NE 75th Street. [A.12, page 6] The proposed project to install field lights would "begin in Summer 2027 with operation in Fall 2027." [A.6, page 3] "The proposed project would consist of four, 80-foot-tall lighting poles and associated mountings that would illuminate the existing field." [A.11, page 5]
   B. "Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas. ... a special exception to the height limit would be requested". [B.8.l, page 16]
   C. "The proposed lighting would allow for extended use of the existing athletic field in the late fall, winter, and early spring by Seattle Public Schools, 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." [A.11, page 4] School District 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." [A.11, page 4]
   D. "The primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private-school and non-SPS recreational athletics (soccer, ultimate, and/or lacrosse) that would occur after SPS use." [SPS – Seattle Public Schools] [A.11, page 5]

9. There are many adverse impacts. Whether or not these impacts are individually considered significant, we believe they together add up to significant adverse environmental impacts, as SEPA regulations recognize may occur.
   - WAC 197-11-330.8.(3)(c) states that "In determining an impact's significance (WAC 197-11-794), the responsible official shall take into account the following, that: ... Several marginal impacts when considered together may result in a significant adverse impact"

   A. Views / Aesthetics, and Plants, and Animals. The Checklist states "Views across the athletic field site would change to reflect the four new lighting poles on the site; however, this change would be minor and would not represent a significant aesthetic impact." [B.10.b, page 17] The Checklist states that "There are no existing trees that would be affected by the installation of the proposed lighting poles" [B.4.b, page 10] The Checklist states that "the proposed project is not anticipated to result in any adverse impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitat", and that "A site survey has not been conducted for the project". [B.5.d and a, page 11] The Checklist does not include an Arborist Report – it should.
      a. To start with, the height of the trees is relevant to an evaluation of impacts on views: are some trees higher and some lower than 80-foot-tall light poles? It appears that the poles will loom over large areas of the surrounding neighborhood. The field is located on a higher plateau than much of the surrounding neighborhood.

b. Looking through tall poles at the sky and other surrounding features does not generally improve the view, day in and day out.
c. The Checklist lacks detail and does not describe other view impacts. There are many large beautiful trees surrounding the field. The poles will be located in front of very large trees. Looking from the field to the east or to the west, the present view of wonderful trees with mountains in the background would now include 80-foot-tall light poles.
d. Neighbors have noted that prior to the installation of the current artificial turf, there were a large variety of birds on the site, and that a number of those bird types still occupy the surrounding trees.
e. Night lighting can adversely alter biological rhythms of trees and birds.

B. Light and Glare. The Checklist states "The proposed lighting for the field would include twenty-eight 900 watt shielded LED floodlights mounted on four galvanized steel poles. The poles would be 80 feet tall." "The new lighting system would increase the overall light and glare in the area during evening hours. The proposal would produce direct glare, reflected glare, spill light (light trespass) and sky glow." [B.11.a, page 18] These statements acknowledge adverse impacts from the project.
a. During mist or fog, the volume above the field will glow like a lit-up cube of margarine. (Credit for this description goes to a neighbor of field lights at Nathan Hale High School.) I have seen this visage above the Ballard High School field, when driving west on 65th down from Phinney Ridge.

C. Recreation. The Checklist states "No permanent displacement of any significant existing recreational use on the site would occur." [B.12.b, page 20] But the Checklist also states "Informal use of the field would also continue to be permitted during times when scheduled activities are not taking place." [A.11, page 4] Opportunities for informal uses would be reduced. This is an adverse impact.

D. Historic and Cultural Preservation. The Checklist states that the school was completed in 1950, that "The school was designated as a City of Seattle Landmark on June 17, 1981", that "the building has not been evaluated for its potential eligibility to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places", and that "SPS [Seattle Public Schools] is currently negotiating a Seattle Landmark controls and incentives (C&I) agreement that will allow the installation of the field lighting. Final approval is pending." [B.13.a, page 21]
a. The Checklist does not openly substantiate important landmark issues upon which these statements are made. The Checklist references but does not provide a copy of a Cultural Resources Review Technical Memorandum. [B.13, page 21] There should also be a Cultural Resources Report.
b. Currently the School District is refusing to cooperate with the City Landmarks Board on the John Marshall project. This indicates that there could be bigger currently unacknowledged impacts on Eckstein Historic and Cultural Preservation and that more information should be provided.
c. There are clearly adverse impacts on views of the landmark building by putting 80-foot-tall light poles nearby.
d. The Checklist is also doing a little "dance" in acting like the building and the field are not on the same "site", while nevertheless referring to a single tax parcel containing both: "the tax parcel containing the Eckstein Middle School and athletic field". [B.13.c, page 22]
e. We appreciate the references to the Duwamish Tribe: "SPS would provide tribal representatives, including those of the Duwamish Tribe, with one-week advance notification of the project schedule and invite them to observe construction." [B.13.d, page 22]

E. Transportation. The Checklist states "The field lighting project could generate between 240 to 300 additional trips per day for part of the year - primarily from about October until early March." Peak volumes are "estimated at about 85 trips per hour ..." [B.14.f, page 24] These are adverse impacts from the project.
a. Note: These figures are exactly the same as those quoted for the current Southwest Athletic Complex (SWAC) project in its Draft Checklist, for a much smaller field project. This argues that Eckstein impacts would likely be much larger, yes? Or was the text inadvertently copied?

F. Noise. Per "SMC 25.08 and based on the Neighborhood Residential 3 zoning for the site, construction activities are allowed to exceed the maximum noise levels between 7 AM and 10 PM on weekdays and 9 AM to 10 PM on weekends." [B.7.b.2, page 14] Since the addition of lighting would extend use hours at the field from the current closing time (dusk) to 10 PM, this would add associated noise between dusk to 10 PM in the darker

months of the year when the proposed lights would be in use. [B.7.b.2, page 14] Amplified music is prohibited but not amplified voices. [B.7.b.2, page 14]

a. These are adverse impacts from the project.
b. The use of portable amplification systems should be "prohibited".
c. The City of Seattle 24-hour noise complaint hotline (206-625-5011) should be posted at the site in large and easily readable print. [B.7.b.3, page 15]

G. Public Services. [B.15, page 25] There have been incidents of crime in the area of the site, and increasing the number of visitors at the site could increase the need for a police presence.

10. Tall light poles. This is a significant adverse impact. The Checklist conclusion of no significant adverse environmental impacts from 80-foot-tall light poles is based on a limited analysis and on a presumption that the City will grant an exception beyond the 30-foot-tall City limit.

A. Neighbors have noted that at the time of the installation of the current artificial turf, promises were publicly made to the neighborhood that there would not subsequently be field lighting.
   a. This proposed project violates those promises.
B. Only schools are allowed to apply for the requested exception from City code to permit taller light poles above 30 feet. But most of the use of the proposed lighting is NOT for school uses. This creates an impression of an improper end-run around City regulations. This increases impacts beyond those that would be considered mitigated by a granting of an exception for schools.
C. Under City Code SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6), an exception to use tall light poles can only be granted to schools under strictly limited circumstances. Non-school use of the tall light poles should be prohibited.
D. A City conditional use permit is required for the 80-foot light poles, which is an indication of expected adverse impacts from the project.
   a. "Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) limits the height of light poles to 30 feet in residential areas." [page 16, B.8.l]
   b. *"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. The proposed project includes lighting poles that would be approximately 80 feet in height and 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."* [page 16, B.8.l]
E. The height exception is not justified because there are other means to effectively light the field with light poles that meet the 30-foot-tall Code limit.
   a. The Checklist argues that details of the aiming and shielding of the lights supposedly require taller light poles and supposedly minimize light and glare impacts and thereby justify the height exception.
   b. A simple alternative is available: use 30-foot-tall poles, and before lights are turned on, unfurl a fabric curtain from the top of a fence surrounding the field. This will reduce light and glare impacts below those from the 80-foot-tall light pole proposal.
   c. This is not a proposal to simply replace the four 80-foot-tall light poles in their proposed configuration and number.
   d. The "problem" with using 30-foot-tall light poles that the Checklist cites is that the light fixtures' orientations would need to be tipped further to cover the field which would spread the light beyond the field. This "problem" disappears if a curtain blocks the light. This is "practicable". It may cause a slight economic impact on the current lighting contractors who would not be able to sell their current system without changes, but economic impacts are not part of SEPA.
   e. The curtains could extend fully to the ground or only part-way to the ground to accommodate spectator viewing areas. Fabrics are available. The public can view examples of entire buildings surrounded by fabric during renovations (not that the field curtain fabric would have to be the same).
F. The field is located on a higher plateau than much of the surrounding neighborhood, which means that the 80-foot-tall light poles will functionally actually be much higher, so that the granting of a District-requested 80-foot

height exception to the City zoning rules would not be adequate. The project should not be allowed, and the project impacts are significant.

a. Further, it appears that the field may be more than 20 feet above much of the surrounding area, so that the functional actual light pole height may exceed the maximum exception that can be granted, which is 100 feet, so again the project impacts are significant.
b. At one staircase leading up to the field, I counted 33 steps, each about 5.5 inches high. This would be a total of about 15 feet and 1.5 inches. The surrounding area south of that staircase slopes downward to the south, while the "athletic field portion of the site is flat". [B.1.a, page 6]

11. PFAS "forever chemicals". The project will cause greater use of the field, which will increase the wear and tear on the artificial turf, exposing direct users to the turf and sending more particles of the turf into the surrounding environment. Artificial turf is known to contain PFAS "forever chemicals". Given that health authorities consider the risk from PFAS to be so significant that they recommend not installing artificial turf, we believe that the increased spreading of PFAS is a significant adverse impact.
    A. A Position Paper by the Children's Environmental Health Center of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai flatly states that the Center, quote, "recommends against the installation of artificial turf playing surfaces and fields due to the uncertainties surrounding the safety of these products and the potential for dangerous heat and chemical exposures", unquote. [page 1, Position Paper, "The Children's Environmental Health Center Recommendations ... against the installation of artificial turf playing surfaces", Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Institute for Climate Change, Environmental Health, and Exposomics, November 2023]
        a. The same paper notes that "Undisclosed chemicals of concern are present in plastic grass blades and turf pads and matting".
        b. It states that "A recent study identified per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS, aka "Teflon chemicals"), a class of more than 5000 chemicals linked to numerous health problems including cancer, nervous system toxicity, immunity dysfunction, thyroid, and cardiovascular disease in the plastic grass blades and backing used on artificial turf fields and in adjacent bodies of water." [page 2]
        c. It states that "To allow the installation of PFAS-containing surfaces would be extremely short-sighted as further restrictions and regulations on these chemicals are likely to come." [page 3]
    B. We request that a reference to this study and the dangers from the artificial turf be posted at the site in a form and size easily readable by the public.
    C. The Checklist states "No significant environmental health hazards are anticipated as part of the project and no mitigation measures would be required." [B.7.a.5, page 13] We disagree.
    D. Years ago the School District was slow to deal with the risks from lead in school drinking water, and the issue ballooned into a significant problem for the District.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 2:52 PM
To: Robert Jones; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein lighting project

Thank you for your feedback, Robert. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Robert Jones <rkdjones@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 11:14 AM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein lighting project

I live in Wedgwood close to Eckstein Middle School and want to register my objection to the SPS proposed lighting project. The eighty foot tall poles are too tall for northeast and north neighborhoods.

I don't object to lighting fields for school use if it is done respectfully, but this project, as proposed, will have a significant impact on our neighborhoods. Eighty foot tall light poles will not only impact nearby blocks, but will be seen by neighbors miles away because they will be located on top of a high plateau.

Thank you.

Robert Jones
7011 31st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 1:06 PM
To: Robert Jones; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Lighting Project

Thank you for your additional feedback, Robert. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Robert Jones <rkdjones@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 12:30 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Lighting Project

I want to comment on the adverse impacts of the proposed lighting project. The installation of 80 foot light poles will have a negative impact on the views and aesthetics in Wedgwood and other city neighborhoods. Due to the altitude of the field, neighborhoods like Phinney Ridge, that have a view of the plateau where the athletic field is located, would see these poles at all times. The poles would be higher than most, maybe all, of the trees in the nearby neighborhood and on school grounds.

Robert Jones
7011 31st Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 8:52 AM
To: Jong-Soo Kim; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Draft SEPA Checklist Comment Opposing the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Jay. Although your email was received after the 5 p.m. July 31 deadline, it will be shared with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Jong-Soo Kim <jongsoo_kim@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 5:20 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Draft SEPA Checklist Comment Opposing the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Dear Dr. Asplund-Campbell:

I own and occupy a single-family home near the Eckstein Middle School athletic field at **[address or nearest intersection]**. My home is across the street from the residences directly adjoining the field on the **[east/south]** side. My household includes young children, and our bedrooms and living areas are within the residential area that would experience the project's extended evening activity, noise, lighting, traffic, and visual effects.

I oppose the proposed installation of athletic-field lighting.

I request that Seattle Public Schools withdraw the proposal and retain the field's existing daylight-based operating conditions. If SPS proceeds, the current environmental record does not provide an adequate basis for a Determination of Nonsignificance. SPS should issue a Determination of Significance and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or, at minimum, defer its threshold determination and prepare and recirculate a substantially revised environmental analysis.

The principal reasons are set out below.

1. The proposal is an operational expansion, not merely a lighting installation

The Draft Checklist understates the practical nature of the proposal by repeatedly describing the project as a continuation of existing athletic uses.

The lighting would materially change when, how often, and by whom the field can be used. The Checklist and Transportation Report state that:

- Organized activities could continue until 9:45 p.m., with lights remaining on until 10 p.m.
- The principal evening users are expected to be private schools and non-SPS recreational organizations.
- One youth activity and/or one or two adult activities could be added on an average weekday or weekend evening when natural light currently prevents use.
- The lights could be used after 7 a.m. for scholastic practices, although morning use is not currently planned.
- The project could generate 240 to 300 additional vehicle trips per day during approximately October through early March.

These are not incidental effects of lighting. They constitute a material expansion in the field's hours, seasonal availability, operational intensity, user groups, and associated traffic.

The analysis does not establish a defined maximum operating scenario. It does not disclose or limit:

- The number of illuminated nights per week or year
- Weekend and school-holiday operations
- Consecutive field reservations and changeovers
- Tournaments and special events
- Morning use
- Attendance or spectator levels
- The proportion of school, private-school, youth-league, and adult-league use

Without a defined operational envelope, SPS cannot reliably determine the proposal's probable impacts. The environmental review should evaluate the maximum reasonably foreseeable use enabled by the project, not merely an assumed "average evening."

2. The Noise Assessment predicts a substantial evening change but does not adequately address its significance

The Noise Assessment predicts that athletic events between 8 and 10 p.m. would increase sound levels:

- At the east property line, from a median of approximately 44 dBA to approximately 52 dBA, an 8 dBA increase.
- At the south property line, from a median of approximately 46 dBA to approximately 52–56 dBA, an increase of 6–10 dBA, with a median increase of 8 dBA.

The assessment's cited EPA guidance states that a 5–10 dB increase is associated with more community complaints, especially during sleeping hours. The study also acknowledges that short-duration whistles, shouting, and similar transient sounds may exceed applicable sound limits.

An 8 dBA median increase is not an immaterial continuation of existing evening conditions. It is a substantial and plainly perceptible change during hours when nearby households are preparing children for sleep and residential activity is decreasing.

The report nevertheless concludes that noise impacts are not anticipated largely because the sounds resemble those produced during daytime games, would generally occur before 10 p.m., and would typically comply with or be exempt from the Seattle Noise Code.

Those conclusions do not adequately address environmental significance:

1. **Daytime and late-evening exposure are not equivalent.** The fact that whistles, cheering, and shouting already occur in the afternoon does not establish that repeated exposure at 8, 9, or nearly 10 p.m. has the same effect on nearby homes.
2. **Code compliance is not equivalent to environmental nonsignificance.** A noise exemption determines whether certain activity is enforceable under the Noise Code. It does not establish that the resulting change is insignificant under SEPA.
3. **The absence of complaints about existing daytime use is not predictive.** Existing events occur under materially different daylight and temporal conditions. A lack of past complaints does not demonstrate that regular nighttime activity will be compatible with the surrounding residences.

The assessment should explain why a predicted increase falling within its own cited range for increased community complaints is nevertheless considered environmentally insignificant at this residential location.

3. The Noise Assessment relies on limited proxy data and unverified assumptions

The nighttime noise projection was not derived from actual nighttime athletic events under the proposed operating conditions. The consultant combined existing evening ambient sound levels with daytime athletic-event measurements collected during a limited April sampling period.

The assessment then assumes that adult soccer will be the principal activity after 8 p.m. and that those events may be quieter because they may attract fewer spectators. The report acknowledges that this assumption "may" reduce evening sound levels. It is not based on measured nighttime operations at Eckstein.

The analysis does not adequately evaluate:

- Lacrosse, ultimate, track, or other foreseeable activities
- Youth games with spectators
- Multiple consecutive reservations
- Simultaneous arrivals and departures during changeovers
- Referee whistles and other recurring maximum sound events
- Post-game conversations and congregating
- Vehicle doors, engines, alarms, horns, and parking-lot activity
- Sound exposure at residential façades and bedroom-window elevations
- Weekend conditions
- Quiet winter evenings when much of the added use would occur

Hourly average sound levels alone may obscure repeated intrusive events such as whistles and shouting. SPS should require additional analysis of maximum levels, frequency and duration of transient events, and actual residential receptor locations before making its threshold determination.

4. The Light and Glare Report does not evaluate the most relevant residential viewpoints

The proposed system includes four 80-foot poles and twenty-eight 900-watt LED floodlights. The Light and Glare Report expressly recognizes that the installation will generate visible direct glare, reflected glare, spill light, and sky glow. It also states that direct glare is extremely difficult to quantify and that elevation differences between a viewpoint and the field lights are a key determinant of glare.

Despite those acknowledgments, the principal numerical result cited to support the conclusion of minimal residential impact is a maximum spill-light value of 0.57 foot-candles. That calculation was made:

- Only along the immediately adjacent east and south property lines
- At three feet above field grade
- As vertical spill illumination
- Without evaluating residential façades or individual window elevations

The calculation did not evaluate:

- First- and second-story bedroom windows
- Homes one row removed from the field, including mine
- Direct sightlines to elevated fixtures
- Reflected illumination from the synthetic turf
- Residential viewpoints with different elevations
- Winter leaf-off sightlines
- Sky glow during low-cloud, overcast, or foggy conditions

The numerical calculation excludes vegetation and fencing, which is conservative for spill light. However, the report's qualitative conclusions about direct and reflected glare expressly rely on intervening buildings, terrain, fencing, and evergreen and deciduous vegetation. The report also acknowledges that glare from the poles and floodlights may remain visible at greater distances because of their elevation.

This distinction matters. A low ground-level foot-candle value does not establish that residents will not see bright fixtures, illuminated turf, reflected luminance, or sky glow from upper-floor windows.

The report states that glare will be evaluated after construction and that shielding and aiming may then be adjusted. That approach is reactive. It transfers the risk of an incomplete analysis to nearby residents after four permanent 80-foot poles have already been installed. It also provides no measurable residential glare standard, testing protocol, correction deadline, or assurance that post-installation adjustments will resolve all direct sightlines.

Before approval, SPS should provide:

- Vertical illuminance calculations at representative residential façades
- Direct-glare or maximum-candela analysis at first- and second-story windows
- Elevation and sightline profiles for adjacent and second-row residences
- Winter leaf-off analysis
- Nighttime visual simulations from representative residential viewpoints
- Analysis of reflected field luminance and sky glow

5. The transportation analysis relies on uncertain capacity and dated activity assumptions

The project is expected to generate 240–300 additional daily trips during the darker portion of the year and as many as approximately 85 additional trips during a peak hour.

The recreational-use estimates rely partly on observations of youth activities from 2000 and supplemental observations from 2017. These data do not necessarily represent the private-school, youth-club, adult-league, and multi-activity operations reasonably foreseeable at Eckstein in 2027.

The description of on-site parking capacity is also inconsistent or, at minimum, insufficiently explained:

- The Draft Checklist states that the site includes 190 parking spaces.
- The Transportation Report identifies approximately 83 designated stalls in three parking areas.
- That report then estimates that the site can accommodate 240 or more vehicles by counting an unstriped lot and a large paved area that reportedly can accommodate 190 or more vehicles.

The report does not establish that this theoretical capacity constitutes safely striped, illuminated, managed, and consistently available parking.

The analysis should address:

- Actual striped and legally usable capacity
- Pedestrian circulation through the large paved area
- Whether all lots will be open for every field reservation
- Concurrent school events
- Accessibility and lighting
- Parking-lot management during overlapping arrivals and departures
- Residential street spillover
- Vehicle idling and post-event congregating

The conclusion that parking impacts will be insignificant should not depend on informal maximum vehicle storage in unstriped areas without an enforceable operating and parking-management plan.

6. The analysis does not adequately address the project's combined effect on the residential environment

Nearby residents would not experience the project's effects separately. During fall and winter evenings, residents would simultaneously experience:

- A predicted 6–10 dBA increase in evening sound
- Whistles, shouting, cheering, and post-event activity
- Organized use until nearly 10 p.m.
- New vehicle arrivals, departures, and parking demand
- Four permanent 80-foot poles
- Visible elevated fixtures and an illuminated field
- Reflected light and sky glow
- Reduced seasonal vegetation screening
- Potential morning use

The Draft Checklist generally considers these effects by individual technical category and then characterizes each as minor, compliant, or manageable. It does not meaningfully evaluate how the impacts will combine and recur at this specific residential location.

WAC 197-11-330 requires the responsible official to consider that the same proposal may be significant in one location but not another, that quantitative effects are important, that several marginal impacts may collectively result in a significant adverse impact, and that uncertainty does not excuse consideration of impacts that cannot be precisely forecast. It also prohibits balancing the project's beneficial aspects against its adverse effects when making the threshold determination.

The project's recreational benefits therefore do not answer whether its combined operational effects are significant for the homes immediately surrounding this field.

7. The proposed operational measures are not sufficiently specific or enforceable

The Draft Checklist relies on several intended operating practices:

- Activities ending at 9:45 p.m.
- Lights automatically turning off at 10 p.m.
- Lights remaining off when the field is unscheduled
- Restrictions on amplified sound
- Potential adjustment of shielding and fixture aiming after installation
- Availability of a general noise-complaint telephone number

These measures do not establish enforceable limits on:

- Nights of operation
- Morning operation
- Weekend or holiday use
- Tournaments and special events
- Attendance
- Consecutive bookings
- Portable amplification, horns, and similar devices
- Residential glare
- Post-installation verification
- Complaint response and corrective action

A general complaint number is not mitigation, and a statement that adjustments may be made after construction is not a substitute for preconstruction analysis.

Under WAC 197-11-350, where mitigation is necessary to support a DNS, the proposal must be clarified, changed, or conditioned to include the mitigation. If probable significant adverse impacts remain even with mitigation, an EIS must be prepared.

Requested action

I request that SPS:

1. **Withdraw the proposed Eckstein field-lighting project and retain the current daylight-based operating condition.**
2. If SPS continues to pursue the project, **issue a Determination of Significance and prepare an EIS** evaluating the project's complete operational effects and reasonable alternatives.
3. At minimum, before issuing any DNS, **revise and recirculate the environmental analysis** to include:

    - A defined maximum operating schedule
    - Residential façade and upper-floor glare analysis
    - Winter leaf-off lighting analysis
    - Expanded nighttime noise analysis
    - Current and use-specific transportation data
    - A verified parking and circulation plan
    - Evaluation of the project's combined residential impacts
4. Evaluate reasonable alternatives, including:
    - The no-action alternative
    - Locating the added activity at existing lighted facilities with greater residential separation
    - Restricting lighting to SPS scholastic use
    - A substantially earlier evening cutoff
    - Fewer illuminated nights
    - Seasonal restrictions
    - Prohibition of morning, tournament, and special-event use
5. If SPS nevertheless considers a DNS, incorporate all operating restrictions and mitigation as written, enforceable project conditions rather than nonbinding intentions.

Please include this comment in the administrative record and provide a substantive response to each issue in the final environmental document.

Please also provide me notice of:

- The threshold determination and final checklist
- Any comment or appeal period
- The Master Use Permit application
- The special-exception proceeding for the 80-foot pole height
- Any hearing or public meeting
- Any material change in the lighting design or operating assumptions

Sincerely,

Jay Kim

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 11:59 AM
To: elund70336@aol.com; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project

Thank you for your feedback, Ellyn. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: elund70336@aol.com <elund70336@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 11:23 AM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Fw: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project

Good day Dr. Asplund-Campbell,

My name is Ellyn Lundgren, a 31 year owner of my home behind Eckstein School. I cannot improve upon my neighbor's recent email to you, but will add my own thoughts.
I have volunteered in special education classes at Eckstein, and support all things great about public schools, and certainly sports during and after school. Traffic on our street is already busy, and like my neighbors, have had my driveway blocked by parents waiting for their kids, and during ski season, noise, traffic, and some folks who seem oblivious to those of us who live here.

The addition of late night lighting will not help. Most appalling is that the proposed lights will be 80 feet tall, on a school playground that is already on a hill higher that most, if not all, of neighborhood houses. I am a taxpaying voter, and wonder whose idea the 80 feet was. There are motion activated lights on the west side of Eckstein, but they are about a third of the height of the proposed lighting. Dahl Field is only a few blocks away, and is a huge play field compared to the small Eckstein field.

Our middle school kiddos, 6-8th graders, will not be among those using it after dark. The soccer and lacrosse kids that come to the playground after school and this summer are delightful and having big fun, and would likely not be among nighttime users. We have birds and owls around here that will be effected, not to mention the beautiful night sky that will be compromised.

If there is a public hearing on this, count me in for attending. Is there even a plan 'B' under consideration?

Respectfully,

Ellyn Lundgren

7018 30th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115
206 234.6818

----- Forwarded Message -----
From: Cheryl Marek <cheryl24marek@gmail.com>
To: Ellyn Lundgren <elund70336@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 at 05:49:37 PM PDT
Subject: Fwd: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Cheryl Marek <cheryl24marek@gmail.com>
> **Date:** July 30, 2026 at 15:56:48 PDT
> **To:** SEPAcomments@seattleschools.org
> **Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project**
>
> Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell
>
> I am writing as a concerned neighbor of Eckstein Middle School. We live two doors away from the playfield and are terribly concerned about the proposed 80 feet light poles. The school is already higher than our house and then add 80ft!!!, the lights will tower over our house. Not only will it be too bright, there is noise that goes with games and the amount of traffic on our street would be horrific. We already have school buses, parent cars, game traffic, ski bus traffic and extra school event traffic. Our driveway can be blocked sometimes as it is. Also with these events there is trash strewn around and would probably get worse.
>
> Not to say the value of our houses will probably be affected in a negative way. There are many birds that hang in our trees including hawks. The birds as well as the trees and other plants would be affected by light into the night. Yes 10 pm is night.
>
> We are very much opposed to these lights, especially since the usage would not be school related.
>
> Sincerely
> Cheryl Marek
>
> 7022 30th Ave NE
> Seattle 98115

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:31 PM
To: Cheryl Marek; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project

Thank you for your feedback, Cheryl. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator Operations Division Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

-----Original Message-----
From: Cheryl Marek <cheryl24marek@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 3:57 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Light Project

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell

I am writing as a concerned neighbor of Eckstein Middle School. We live two doors away from the playfield and are terribly concerned about the proposed 80 feet light poles. The school is already higher than our house and then add 80ft!!!, the lights will tower over our house. Not only will it be too bright, there is noise that goes with games and the amount of traffic on our street would be horrific. We already have school buses, parent cars, game traffic, ski bus traffic and extra school event traffic. Our driveway can be blocked sometimes as it is. Also with these events there is trash strewn around and would probably get worse.

Not to say the value of our houses will probably be affected in a negative way. There are many birds that hang in our trees including hawks. The birds as well as the trees and other plants would be affected by light into the night. Yes 10 pm is night.

We are very much opposed to these lights, especially since the usage would not be school related.

Sincerely
Cheryl Marek

7022 30th Ave NE
Seattle 98115

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 4:36 PM
To: Aneta Mazur; SEPA Comments; Tomasz Mazur
Subject: RE: Comments on Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Aneta. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Aneta Mazur <anetamazur.a@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 4:30 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>; Tomasz Mazur <tmazur90@gmail.com>
Subject: Comments on Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

To:

Seattle Public Schools

Attn: SEPA Project Manager / Lead Agency Contact

Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

Seattle, WA

From:

Aneta Mazur

7047 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Directly Adjacent Neighbor to the East Boundary of the Field

Subject: Formal Public Comment on the Draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Environmental Assessments for the Proposed Athletic Field Lighting Project

To Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell and the SEPA Project Manager,

Please accept this formal public comment regarding the Draft SEPA Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project. As a property owner whose home and backyard directly border the eastern boundary of the athletic field, and as a mother of young children, I am writing to express my serious concerns about the direct safety, security, and environmental impacts this proposal will impose on my family.

I request that Seattle Public Schools issue a Determination of Significance (DS) and withdraw this proposal in its current form. The current SEPA analysis fails to adequately address the immediate physical dangers to children, the documented pattern of trespassing and property intrusion, the security and vandalism risks of extended nighttime operations, and the harm to local wildlife and natural habitat.

Per WAC 197-11-330(3)(c), the responsible official must consider that "several marginal impacts when considered together may result in a significant adverse impact." The cumulative weight of child safety hazards, proven trespassing, vandalism risk, nighttime disturbance to wildlife, and security failures constitutes a major adverse environmental impact that legally triggers the requirement for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

1. Immediate Physical Safety Threat to My Children

As a mother, this is my most urgent concern. My young children play in our backyard daily, and we already experience a dangerous and unacceptable pattern of heavy soccer and balls flying over the fence and landing in our yard in close proximity to my children. I have collected numerous balls that have landed in our backyard as physical evidence of this ongoing hazard.

The project proposes to extend high-impact adult sports into the dark evening hours until 9:45 PM. Adult games generate significantly higher ball velocities and more frequent errant shots than youth play. Extending these activities into darkness, when visibility is reduced for both players and my children, guarantees a severe escalation of the risk of serious physical injury.

No parent should have to fear letting their children play in their own backyard. The SEPA checklist completely fails to address this direct, documented physical danger to children living on the field's perimeter.

2. Documented Trespassing and Property Intrusion

I have video evidence documenting frequent trespassing onto our property by players and spectators retrieving balls. This is not a hypothetical concern — it is a proven, recurring violation of our property rights and our family's sense of security.

Extending field operations into the evening will dramatically increase the frequency of these intrusions. Players retrieving balls in the dark will have even less awareness of property boundaries, and my children's safety is further compromised when strangers enter our yard during evening hours. The SEPA checklist offers no enforceable mechanism to prevent this ongoing trespassing.

3. Vandalism and Security Failures

The field already has a documented history of security failures. Two years ago, a severe security breakdown on this unmonitored field resulted in illegal fireworks triggering a massive brush fire that required the Seattle Fire Department to respond. Our property line still bears the physical scars — charred branches, permanent gaps in the vegetative buffer, and sections of fence covered with black tarp to conceal the damage.

By installing high-powered stadium lighting and extending operations until 9:45 PM, the district will attract larger crowds into the late evening. Once the lights turn off at 10:00 PM, the field becomes an unmonitored gathering spot directly adjacent to our home. Without rigorous, funded security measures, this project significantly multiplies the risk of:

- Vandalism to adjacent private property
- Recurring illegal fire hazards
- Late-night loitering and disturbances
- Trespassing and property damage

The SEPA checklist provides no binding security plan, no funded patrols, and no physical lock-up protocol to address these proven risks.

4. Late-Night Destruction of Nature and Harm to Birds and Wildlife

Our neighborhood supports a rich ecosystem of birds and wildlife that depend on natural darkness cycles. The introduction of four 80-foot stadium light poles will create severe light pollution that disrupts:

- **Bird nesting and migration patterns**: Artificial light at night is scientifically documented to disorient migratory birds, disrupt nesting behaviors, and increase mortality. Our property and the surrounding buffer host nesting birds that will be directly impacted.
- **Nocturnal wildlife habitat**: The existing vegetative buffer — already compromised by fire damage — provides habitat for owls, bats, and other nocturnal species that rely on darkness for foraging and navigation.
- **Insect populations**: High-intensity lighting attracts and kills insects at scale, disrupting the food chain that supports local bird populations.

The SEPA checklist fails to assess the ecological impact of introducing stadium-level lighting into what is currently a dark residential corridor. Late-night operations will fundamentally alter the natural environment that our neighborhood's wildlife depends upon.

5. Seasonally Failing Environmental Buffer

The checklist relies on "existing vegetative screening" for mitigation, but this assumption is fundamentally flawed:

- **Deciduous leaf drop**: The buffer consists heavily of deciduous plants that lose foliage in autumn — precisely when the lights will be under maximum use during fall, winter, and early spring.
- **Fire damage**: The brush fire destroyed significant portions of the buffer, creating permanent gaps that have never been restored. The checklist ignores this compromised baseline entirely.

6. Lack of Public Necessity

Roosevelt High School's athletic field is fully equipped for evening use, and Dahl Playfield — located only a few blocks away — already features a fully lighted athletic field. Forcing these massive environmental and safety disruptions onto an immediate residential perimeter when local alternatives already exist is unjustified.

Mandatory Mitigation Demands

If the district proceeds, the following legally binding measures must be incorporated before any determination of non-significance can be issued:

1. **High-Containment Sports Netting**: Professional-grade, high-containment netting must be installed along the entire eastern perimeter, engineered to physically prevent all balls from entering residential property. This is non-negotiable for my children's safety.
2. **Prohibited Non-School Adult League Use**: Non-school use of the lighted field by adult leagues must be strictly prohibited, consistent with the intent of SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6).
3. **Year-Round Evergreen Buffer Restoration**: The district must fully fund and plant a dense row of mature broadleaf evergreen trees along the entire eastern boundary to close fire-damage gaps and provide year-round screening for both light and wildlife habitat.
4. **Binding Security Plan with Lock-Up Protocol**: A formally funded security plan must include active patrols during all extended-hour events and mandatory physical lock-up at 10:00 PM.
5. **Strict No-Trespassing and Ball-Retrieval Policy**: A posted facility policy must explicitly prohibit anyone from entering adjacent private property to retrieve balls, with a clear reporting structure for violations and property damage.
6. **Wildlife Impact Assessment**: A qualified environmental consultant must conduct a formal assessment of lighting impacts on local bird populations, migratory patterns, and nocturnal wildlife before any approval is granted.
7. **Citizen Enforcement Clause**: Adjacent property owners must have a binding administrative mechanism to report operational violations, with automatic financial penalties for curfew breaches.
8. **Topographically Accurate Light Modeling**: The photometric analysis must be recalculated accounting for the 10-foot elevation drop to eastern properties, modeling glare at actual residential window heights.

Conclusion

I have documented evidence — including video of trespassing and a collection of balls that have landed dangerously close to my children — that demonstrates these are not hypothetical concerns. They are proven, ongoing hazards that this project will dramatically worsen.

I strongly urge Seattle Public Schools to withdraw this proposal. If the district proceeds, I expect these comments to be addressed individually in the final SEPA record and that the mandatory mitigations be fully integrated.

I explicitly request:

1. A formal extension of the public comment period.
2. That the district schedule and host a formal SEPA public meeting with the impacted community.
3. That my name be formally added to the notice list for the City-required special exception meeting regarding the tall light poles.

Please ensure these substantive comments are addressed individually in the final SEPA record and keep me fully informed of all future notices, environmental determinations, and public meetings regarding this project.

Respectfully,

Aneta Mazur

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 2:59 PM
To: Tomasz Mazur; SEPA Comments
Cc: Aneta Mazur
Subject: RE: Comments on Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Tomasz. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Tomasz Mazur <tmazur90@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 12:28 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Cc: Aneta Mazur <anetamazur.a@gmail.com>
Subject: Comments on Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

To:

Seattle Public Schools

Attn: SEPA Project Manager / Lead Agency Contact

Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

Seattle, WA

From:

Tomasz Mazur

7047 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Directly Adjacent Neighbor to the East Boundary of the Field

Subject: Formal Public Comment on the Draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Environmental Assessments for the Proposed Athletic Field Lighting Project

To Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell and the SEPA Project Manager,

Please accept this formal public comment regarding the Draft SEPA Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project. As a property owner whose home and backyard directly border the eastern boundary of the athletic field, my family will shoulder the direct, unmitigated physical, environmental, and safety detriments of this proposal daily.

I request that Seattle Public Schools issue a Determination of Significance (DS) and withdraw this proposal in its current form. The current SEPA analysis relies on mathematically flawed models, relies on a fire-compromised baseline, ignores explicit municipal code restrictions, and fails to establish public necessity.

Per **WAC 197-11-330(3)(c)**, the responsible official must take into account that "several marginal impacts when considered together may result in a significant adverse impact." Even if the district attempts to minimize individual elements, the cumulative weight of light trespass, severe evening noise, child safety hazards, and zoning violations constitutes a major adverse environmental impact that legally triggers the requirement for a full **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**.

If the district pushes forward, environmental approval must be strictly conditioned upon the legally binding, non-negotiable mitigation measures detailed below.

Technical Deficiencies and Environmental Concerns

1. Flawed Photometric Modeling Failing to Account for Topography & SMC Height Limits

Seattle Municipal Code (**SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6)**) strictly limits the height of light poles to **30 feet** in residential zones. The district is attempting a special exception to erect four massive 80-foot-tall poles.

The Light and Glare Report is technically deficient because it calculates its photometric map at an arbitrary height of 3 feet above the *field's* elevation. This completely ignores local topography. My property sits approximately 10 feet *below* the field elevation. Consequently, my first-floor living spaces and backyard are entirely in the spill zone, while my second-story bedroom windows sit exactly at field elevation. Because of this 10-foot drop, these 80-foot poles will functionally tower **90 feet** over my home. By failing to model light trespass at the actual elevation of adjacent residential windows, the district's conclusion that light spill is minor is mathematically invalid and fails to account for direct, eye-level glare into our private living and sleeping spaces.

2. Seasonally Failing Environmental Buffer and Past Fire History

The checklist relies heavily on "existing vegetative screening" to mitigate glare. This baseline assumption is fundamentally flawed for two reasons:

- **Deciduous Leaf Drop:** The existing buffer consists heavily of deciduous shrubs that lose their foliage in the autumn. Because this project is explicitly designed to extend field use during the late fall, winter, and early spring, the vegetative screening will be entirely absent when the stadium lights are under maximum operational use.
- **Unmitigated Fire Damage:** Exactly two years ago, a severe security breakdown on this unmonitored field resulted in illegal fireworks triggering a massive brush fire. The Seattle Fire

Department had to be called to extinguish it. To this day, my property line bears the scars of this event in the form of charred branches and massive, permanent gaps in the vegetative canopy. Part of the fence is covered in black tarp to cover the gap. The checklist completely fails to account for this structurally compromised buffer.

3. Misuse of City Code for Non-School, High-Impact Adult Sports

Under City Code, a special exception for tall light poles is an accommodation reserved strictly for schools. Yet, section A.11 of the district's own checklist explicitly admits that "the primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private-school and non-SPS recreational athletics (soccer, ultimate, and/or lacrosse) that would occur after SPS use." Using a school-specific code exemption to build a commercial-scale sports complex for independent adult leagues is an illegitimate end-run around residential city zoning regulations.

4. Escalating Safety Risks to Young Children from High-Impact Adult Sports

The documentation explicitly notes that the driving force behind the extended nighttime hours is to accommodate high-impact sports, including soccer, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee, with a heavy operational focus on adult games and leagues.

As a parent, I must emphasize that we already experience severe safety issues during the day. My young children frequently play in our backyard and have already experienced multiple terrifying close calls with heavy soccer and lacrosse balls flying over the fence and landing in close proximity to them. Shifting the field's focus toward adult games inherently increases the velocity, force, and frequency of these errant projectiles. Extending these high-impact adult sports into the dark evening hours up until 9:45 PM guarantees a severe escalation of these risks. Ball-retrieval attempts in the dark will inevitably lead to heightened property damage, trespassing, and acute physical danger to my children.

5. Lack of Public Necessity Given Local Infrastructure

The SEPA checklist fails to establish a legitimate public necessity for duplicating this high-impact infrastructure. Roosevelt High School's athletic field is fully equipped for evening use, and Dahl Playfield—which already features a fully lighted athletic field—is located only a few blocks away. Forcing massive environmental disruptions onto an immediate residential perimeter when local public options already exist is completely unjustified.

6. Broken Public Promises and Proven Enforcement Failures

The neighborhood notes a distinct **"no lighting" promise** made publicly by the district when the current artificial turf was installed. Furthermore, the district's assumption that lighting curfews will be perfectly respected is naive. Property owners adjacent to the lighted fields at nearby Dahl Playfield have repeatedly reported that the city routinely fails to observe promised operational hours, leaving stadium lights burning late into the night with adjacent neighbors possessing zero ability to enforce compliance.

7. Magnification of Proved Fire and Security Hazards

The history of a destructive brush fire on this field demonstrates a profound, pre-existing failure in site security and monitoring. By introducing high-powered stadium lighting to extend field operations from

dusk until 9:45 PM, the district will naturally attract larger, high-density crowds into the late evening hours.

The SEPA checklist fails to address how extending operational hours into the night will impact neighborhood security. Once the lights turn off at 10:00 PM, the field will become an unmonitored gathering spot adjacent to private homes. Without rigorous structural and operational security upgrades, this project significantly multiplies the risk of trespassing, vandalism, and recurring illegal fire hazards.

8. Severe Nighttime Noise Disruptions to Residential Peace

The Environmental Noise Assessment acknowledges that residents on the eastern boundary will experience a distinct increase in noise—specifically unamplified shouting, cheering, and referee whistles—extended up until 10:00 PM. While these sounds may be technically exempt from certain localized municipal noise codes during daytime hours, introducing a consistent barrage of high-decibel evening noise directly adjacent to a residential fence line introduces a severe quality-of-life detriment, directly impacting the sleep schedules and well-being of young children.

9. Localized External Obsolescence and Property Devaluation

In real estate valuation terms, the cumulative weight of these unmitigated impacts—direct glare from 80-foot poles, increased evening noise, physical trespassing, and flying sports projectiles creates severe **external obsolescence**. While a modernized school facility can benefit a broader zip code, the immediate perimeter homes shoulder 100% of the physical detriment. This severely shrinks the pool of future buyers, causing a direct, localized reduction in property value and marketability unless the physical impacts are fully neutralized at the boundary line.

Mandatory, Non-Negotiable Mitigation Demands

To prevent significant adverse environmental and safety impacts, Seattle Public Schools must incorporate the following legally binding mitigation measures into the final project design, budget, and operational mandate before any SEPA determination of non-significance can be validly issued:

1. **Topographically Accurate Photometric Remodeling:** The district must re-calculate and publish a revised photometric map that accounts for the topographical drop of the eastern residential properties, specifically modeling direct light spill and glare at the height of second-story residential windows.
2. **Year-Round Evergreen Buffer Restoration:** The district must fully fund and plant a dense row of mature, *broadleaf evergreen* trees (such as Laurel, Holly, or appropriate Pacific Northwest native evergreens) along the entire eastern boundary line. This buffer must be engineered to fully close the gaps caused by the previous brush fire and guarantee robust, year-round visual and glare shielding that does not fail during winter operations.
3. **Installation of High-Containment Sports Netting:** A professional-grade, high-containment sports netting barrier must be installed along the entire eastern perimeter of the field. This netting must be structurally engineered to be tall enough and durable enough to physically catch and contain all lacrosse, soccer, and ultimate frisbee balls, preventing them from entering private residential property.
4. **Prohibited Non-School Use:** In alignment with the intent of SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6), non-school use of the tall light poles by adult leagues should be strictly prohibited.

5. **Binding Security Plan and Lock-Up Protocol:** The district must provide a formally funded, binding operational security plan. This must include active security patrols during all extended-hour events and a mandatory physical lock-up protocol immediately at 10:00 PM to ensure the field is completely cleared and secured when the lights turn off.
6. **Strict Ball-Retrieval Operational Policy:** The district must establish and post a strict facility policy that explicitly prohibits players, coaches, or spectators from trespassing onto adjacent private property to retrieve balls, establishing a clear reporting structure for property damage.
7. **Citizen Enforcement Clause and Financial Penalties:** The final SEPA determination must include a binding administrative mechanism allowing adjacent property owners to directly report operational violations. If the district or field users violate the 10:00 PM curfew or scheduled hours, automatic financial penalties must be levied against the operating league, with funds directed toward neighborhood safety improvements.

Conclusion

The current SEPA checklist is legally, technically, and environmentally insufficient. It relies on a flawed lighting model, ignores a documented fire history, utilizes a seasonally failing buffer, and violates residential zoning protections.

I strongly urge Seattle Public Schools to withdraw this proposal. If the district proceeds, I expect these substantive comments to be addressed individually in the final SEPA record, and that the mandatory mitigations listed above be fully integrated to protect my family and our community.

I explicitly request:

1. A formal **extension of the public comment period**.
2. That the district schedule and host a formal **SEPA public meeting** to interact directly with the impacted community, as was standard district protocol for decades.
3. That my name be formally added to the notice list for the **City-required special exception meeting** regarding the tall light poles.

Please ensure these substantive comments are addressed individually in the final SEPA record and keep me fully informed of all future notices, environmental determinations, and public meetings regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Tomasz Mazur

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 4:24 PM
To: Sarah McVay; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Sarah. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Sarah McVay <sarahmcvay@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 3:44 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell,

I am emailing to express my **strong opposition** to the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project. **My kids and I wait for dusk**, not only because of the noise and traffic, but because it's the only time the neighborhood gets to use that space.

I moved into my home on 33rd Avenue in 2012, and before the turf was added, it was unequivocally less busy and less noisy. It was also easier to use the space to throw frisbees, ride bikes in the parking lot, and jog around the track.

Now my kids will only go to use the space if it's not busy, but it's almost always busy. In fact, sometimes when we don't hear whistles blowing, we think it will be usable, but at least half the time, when we make the short walk over, we instead see that they are just on break…and walk back home.

The vast majority of the time, the use is by **PAID CLUB SPORTS**. Everyone I know with kids in paid club sports attend independent schools (NOT public schools). Please do not allow the argument that this will benefit the student body to weigh into the decision without actual data on usage and quantifiable benefits that warrant the additional negative externalities on the neighborhood.

My kids attend UPrep, and UPrep has wanted to pay to add turf to Dahl field for years. This is exactly why the neighbors say no. It's a slippery slope and it's better to have access to muddy, uneven field, then no field at all. When the turf was initially added, it was with the promise of NO LIGHTING.

The negative implications of the lighting project on the neighborhood are real. Please reject this project.

Kind regards,
Sarah McVay
7330 33rd Avenue NE
206 910-2597

Sarah

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Dear Dr. Asplund Campbell

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for Eckstein Middle School Athletic ~~Field~~ Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th St)

I am a neighbor and our property is very close to Eckstein Middle School.

I have several concerns about this project:

1) Excess light and noise that will affect wildlife (birds) and neighbors
2) Increased traffic and parking issues around our house (it's already difficult for my work commute home)
3) Increased chemicals from synthetic turf that can impact my kids' development

Please consider stopping this project

Katherine Palm-Cruz Katherine Palm-Cruz

7254 29th Ave NE Seattle
Katyajune79@yahoo.com 206-769-6021

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 3:34 PM
To: SALLY REED; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Projects

Thank you for your feedback, Sally. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: SALLY REED <sally.reed@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 3:22 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Projects

Seattle Public Schools,

The biggest concern that has not been well identified is the public safety issue.

This field, the parking, and the entrance to this field are not able to handle the increased use, especially after dark.

The physical entrance is barely able to handle two lanes of traffic coming in and out.
The curb cut for the driveway is too small for two cars at once.
The width of the entrance at the gate is too small for two cars to pass each other.
The congestion before and after daylight games is severe.
The driveway entrance is in the middle of the block and poorly marked.

There are no safe paths of travel on the concrete playground where the cars would park. The cars take random and chaotic paths to navigate around the portable buildings. Cars come and go in dangerous ways. There are several unsafe points where the sight lines are not visible.
There is no designated parking spaces on the concrete playground, so after dark it would be impossible to park safely.
There is some street parking on 30th Ave NE, but there are several sets of unsafe stairs that would have to be navigated in the dark and bad weather.

Who would close and lock the gate after the 10?

The worst safety issue is that the playground parking area and the field have no sightlines from any street or viewpoint.
Even with lights, it is completely blocked from being safely monitored.

Dahl Field is only a few blocks away and has lights and plenty of safe parking.

There is an eagle migratory pattern that passes over the Eckstein property that would be disrupted.

We were promised "NO lighting" when the new field was installed.

Sally Reed
7325 - 33rd Ave NE
Seattle WA 98115

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 1:07 PM
To: Sarah Samnick; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Public comment

Thank you for your feedback, Sarah. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Sarah Samnick <sarahsamnick@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 12:53 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Public comment

I am writing to oppose the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting project. The proposed height of the lights will provide glare to neighbors. The late allowance of practices and games will increase noise late at night in the neighborhood, negatively impacting families and kids' sleep. The increased traffic will increase air pollution. There is only one entrance/exit to the main parking lot at Eckstein, and traffic backs up on 75th and in the lot when there are events. The allowance of parks department events will exacerbate all of these negative impacts. There are already lights at Dahl field nearby. Eckstein has done fine without lights for many many years. Please do not put lights at Eckstein. Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Sarah Samnick
SPS parent

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2026 9:43 AM
To: Socially Awkward Penguin; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator Operations Division Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

-----Original Message-----
From: Socially Awkward Penguin <whiskers542@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 6:21 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

As a local, living within a block of Eckstein Middle School, I disagree with the addition of lights. I strongly urge the school district to not go through with this project.
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2026 9:43 AM
To: Howard Todd; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Comment, Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Howard. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Howard Todd <lawyerhkt@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 6:46 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Comment, Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

This concerns the Draft State Environmental Policy Act Checklist that Seattle Public Schools has prepared in relation to the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field lighting project. I write to submit comments on the report in two respects: first, the misleading and incorrect description of sewer service at the site; and second, the failure to acknowledge and account for a foreseeable increase in population density near the site due to zoning changes at and around the intersection of 35th Ave N.E. And N.E. 75th Street.

First, the misleading and incorrect description of sewer service at the site. The proposed lighting is to "allow for extended use of the existing athletic field in the late fall, winter, and early spring by Seattle Public Schools, 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.... The primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private school and non-SPS recreational athletics (soccer, ultimate, and/or lacrosse) that would occur after SPS use." Report Sec. A(11), pp. 4-5.

Yet, the only sewer service at the site is in the Eckstein Middle School Building, Public access to the building is limited during school hours. There is no reason to believe it would be left open to allow public access to its restrooms during the extended use for non-SPS activities for which the lighting project is intended.

This is not a small oversight. Seattle Parks and Recreation has an abysmal record for maintaining the cleanliness and availability of its restroom facilities. See Seattle Office of the Auditor, City Should Reassess Approach to Park Cleanliness and Availability February 4, 2025. The draft checklist is inadequate for failing to

acknowledge that increased usage during evening hours is going to require restroom facilities and none are available during those hours.

Second, the failure to acknowledge and account for the likely use of the project. For one thing, it is notable that the report highlights the field's likely use by private schools, yet fails to mention University Prep, a private school with an active extracurricular presence within ten blocks of Eckstein. Or that it should pay passing reference to Dahl Playfield, an SPR facility with soccer and baseball fields within five blocks of Eckstein, yet fail to mention the lighting that is already present at that location. Those of us who live in the neighborhood know these facts affect the use that is likely to be made of the field at Eckstein. Yet there is another, more significant omission, that deserves particular attention.

The City of Seattle is proposing to implement zoning changes at the intersection of 35th Aven N.E. and N.E. 75th Street to create a" Neighborhood Center" which will increase population density in and around that location. That is only five blocks from Eckstein, and Eckstein will be the nearest athletic field to the residents drawn to that location. If, as the reports says, "the primary use of the lighted fields is likely to be private school and non-SPS recreational athletics ... that would occur after SPS use," the analysis of the project's impact merits closer attention to what its actual use is "likely to be."

Howard Todd
7537 28th Avenue N.E.
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 437 2279

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2026 2:25 PM
To: Sheri Vahey; SEPA Comments
Subject: RE: Proposed lighting on Eckstein MS field

Thank you for your feedback, Sheri. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Sheri Vahey <sheri_vahey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2026 11:41 AM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Subject: Proposed lighting on Eckstein MS field

To whom it may concern at Seattle Public Schools:

Based on our understanding from reading the proposal for field lighting, we, a very troubled neighbor on 33rd Avenue NE whose backyard abuts the Eckstein MS field, request specific binding mitigations for our concerns. The project should be withdrawn as SPS has a proven track record of not holding to mitigations that cannot be guaranteed as the project does not meet the SEPA checklist in its current form. The proposed project also has obvious intentions to use a middle school property for adult, nighttime recreation; clearly not within the scope of control for SPS or activity which they will actively monitor and control.

My main concerns:
1. Flawed Photometric Modeling Failing to Account for Topography - my backyard is located ~10ft below elevation of field, while my 2nd story bedroom is located at field level which changes the calculations. I request the district must re-calculate and publish a revised photometric map that accounts for the topographical drop of the eastern residential properties, specifically modeling direct light spill and glare at the height of second-story residential windows.

2. Inadequate Vegetative Buffers - these were damaged by 2024 fires, with gaps still visible. Furthermore the plan fails to account for seasonal leaf drop. I request a restoration and ongoing maintenance of year-round evergreen vegetation.

3. Safety Risks to Young Children from High-Impact Adult Sports - I regularly get balls hitting my siding, windows and have already experienced multiple terrifying close calls with heavy soccer and lacrosse balls flying over the fence and landing in close proximity to my family. Shifting the field's focus toward adult games inherently increases the velocity, force, and frequency of these stray balls. I request installation of High-Containment Sports Netting and that the district must establish a policy that explicitly prohibits trespassing onto adjacent private property to retrieve balls.

4. Magnification of Proved Fire and Security Hazards - History of a destructive brush fire on this field demonstrates pre-existing failure in site security and monitoring. I request the district must provide a formally funded, binding operational security plan and lockup protocol.

5. Lack of Operational Enforcement and Compliance - Property owners adjacent to the nearby lighted baseball fields at Dahl Playfield have reported that Seattle Parks and local administrators routinely fail to observe promised operational hours. Lights frequently stay on past the allowed time, and adjacent property owners are left with zero administrative ability or recourse to enforce the specified hours. I request a binding administrative mechanism allowing adjacent property owners to directly - at all hours of the night or day, with the ability to contact a live person - report operational violations. If the district or field users violate the 10:00 PM curfew or scheduled hours, automatic financial penalties must be levied against the operating league, with funds directed toward neighborhood safety improvements.

Thank you.
- Sheri Vahey

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 3:31 PM
To: Adam Yang; SEPA Comments
Cc: Plyler, Conrad A; Yao Zhang; Yao_Adam Genuine
Subject: RE: SEPA Public Comment – Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Thank you for your feedback, Adam.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Adam Yang <adam.yang121@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 2:46 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Cc: Plyler, Conrad A <caplyler@seattleschools.org>; Yao Zhang <yao.zhang1128@gmail.com>; Yao_Adam Genuine <hdyz2022@gmail.com>
Subject: SEPA Public Comment – Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project

Dear Dr. Asplund-Campbell and Seattle Public Schools SEPA Responsible Official:

I am submitting this public comment regarding the Draft SEPA Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project.

I own and occupy the home at **[7049 33RD AVE NE, Seattle, 98115]**, immediately adjacent to the east side of the athletic field. Based on my observation, my property is approximately ten feet below the field surface, while our second-story living and sleeping spaces are roughly level with the field. Our bedrooms and backyard therefore have a direct and unusually sensitive relationship to the proposed lighting and expanded nighttime activity.

I support appropriate athletic opportunities for Eckstein Middle School students. However, the proposal is not simply the installation of four light poles. The lighting would enable a permanent change in the timing, frequency, intensity, and likely user population of the field, with organized activities continuing until 9:45 PM and people and vehicles potentially remaining after the lights are turned off.

The Draft Checklist also acknowledges that the primary use of the newly lighted hours is likely to include private-school and non-SPS recreational athletics after SPS use. Before making a threshold

determination, SPS should fully evaluate the concentrated impacts on the immediately adjacent households.

1. Existing errant-ball incidents demonstrate an unaddressed safety problem

My family moved into this home approximately two months ago. During that short period, three sports balls from the field have already entered our backyard.

On one occasion, I was mowing in my backyard when a ball entered the property and nearly struck me. This was an actual near miss, not a hypothetical concern.

My wife and I are planning to have a child, and other immediately adjacent households have infants or very young children. A ball entering a private backyard can injure a resident or child and can damage windows, vehicles, outdoor equipment, landscaping, planters, and other property.

Expanded evening use would increase the total number of practices, games, and hours during which this risk exists. The Draft Checklist does not appear to analyze:

- the existing frequency of balls leaving the field;
- whether the current fencing adequately contains soccer, lacrosse, ultimate, and other anticipated activities;
- the risk of injury or property damage;
- attempts to retrieve balls from private property; or
- responsibility and compensation when damage occurs.

Before expanded use is approved, SPS should conduct a professional sports-containment analysis and require an engineered containment system along the affected residential boundary. The system should be designed for all anticipated sports and adult-level play, with binding inspection, maintenance, and replacement requirements.

SPS should also establish a clear prohibition against entering private residential property to retrieve balls, a designated ball-return procedure, an incident-reporting system, and a clear process for personal-injury and property-damage claims.

2. The effects on infants, sleep, ventilation, and normal residential life require specific analysis

Several households directly adjoining the field have babies or young children. My wife and I are also preparing to have a child.

Infants and young children commonly go to sleep at approximately 7:00 or 8:00 PM. Under the proposal, organized activities could continue until 9:45 PM, followed by conversations, equipment collection, car doors, engines, headlights, and vehicle departures.

The relevant disturbance is not adequately represented by an outdoor hourly average alone. Referee whistles, shouting, cheering, balls striking fences, car doors, locking signals, occasional horns, and headlights are sudden and intermittent events. These events can repeatedly disturb sleeping children and adults even where a general average noise level is technically within a numerical limit.

My wife is particularly sensitive to light and noise while sleeping. We are also both full-time working adults who need to sleep early and wake early. Repeated activity behind our home until approximately 10:00 PM would materially interfere with our normal schedule and use of our home.

The proposal may also force residents to choose between basic residential needs. To reduce noise, families may have to keep their bedroom windows closed. To reduce glare and preserve privacy, they may have to keep curtains or blackout shades closed. This would reduce natural ventilation, nighttime cooling, views, and the ordinary ability to open windows and curtains in one's own home.

Closing windows and curtains should not be treated as project mitigation. That would transfer the project's burden and cost to the adjacent residents.

The analysis should specifically evaluate:

- open-window and closed-window bedroom conditions;
- actual second-story bedroom elevations;
- sudden and intermittent noise, not only hourly averages;
- light and headlights entering sleeping rooms;
- activity and vehicle departures after 9:45 PM;
- the number of affected evenings per week and per season; and
- the cumulative effect of noise, light, vehicle activity, and loss of ventilation.

3. Existing nighttime activity raises serious enforcement concerns

Even without the proposed lights, my household has already experienced loud nighttime music and activity from the field. On at least one occasion, music was still audible at approximately 1:00 AM.

I had not previously submitted a formal complaint because I was a new resident and did not know the proper reporting channel. Therefore, the absence of prior complaints in agency records does not establish that no adverse impact exists.

More importantly, this experience demonstrates that an automatic 10:00 PM light shutoff is not an adequate operating or enforcement plan. Turning off the lights does not ensure that:

- people leave the site;
- music and shouting stop;
- vehicles depart;
- gates are locked;
- unauthorized use ends; or
- residents receive a timely response.

Any approval should require a funded and enforceable nighttime management plan identifying the responsible onsite person, the field-clearance and lockup procedure, the resident contact, complaint

response times, written incident logs, penalties for user organizations, and escalating consequences for repeated violations.

Amplified music, portable speakers, public-address systems, and non-emergency announcements should be categorically prohibited at this location.

4. The light and glare analysis does not represent the actual east-side residential viewpoint

The Draft Checklist identifies a maximum calculated spill-light value at the south residential boundary, but it does not clearly state the maximum value, location, or residence affected along the east boundary.

Although point values may appear in the photometric drawings, the public materials do not provide a clear east-side summary showing:

- the maximum east-boundary vertical illuminance;
- where that maximum occurs;
- the result at the most affected residence;
- direct glare visible from second-story windows; or
- an east-side compliance conclusion based on actual residential elevations.

The Light and Glare Report also appears to calculate property-line spill light at a uniform height referenced to field grade. That does not represent my property. My backyard is below the field, while my second-story bedroom windows are roughly level with the field and may have a more direct view of the luminaires.

SPS should require a surveyed, site-specific analysis using the actual elevations and sightlines of the immediately adjacent properties. It should calculate vertical illuminance and direct and reflected glare at representative backyards, first-floor rooms, and second-story bedroom windows.

The analysis should also consider reasonable worst-case conditions, including:

- winter leaf-off conditions;
- vegetation loss, damage, disease, or gaps;
- all fixtures operating at scheduled output;
- direct visibility of the fixture optical assemblies;
- reflected light from the field surface; and
- fog or low-cloud conditions.

Existing vegetation cannot be treated as a permanent or independently sufficient mitigation measure. Vegetation loses leaves, becomes damaged, dies, and develops gaps.

The documents also appear to refer to different design assumptions—28 versus 29 foot-candles and a 0.9 versus 0.95 factor. SPS should identify the final design and reconcile those figures.

Because the selected Class IV level is described as a minimum level of play, SPS should also evaluate lower-output alternatives and explain why the proposed 28 or 29 foot-candles is necessary. The analysis

should compare the residential effects of lower compliant levels rather than assuming the proposed output is the least-impactful design.

Finally, any approval should require independent post-construction testing from the actual east-side residential viewpoints, including second-story windows. The condition should specify the measurement locations, metrics, numerical acceptance criteria, correction deadline, mandatory re-aiming and retesting, publication of the results, and continuing obligations if substantiated complaints arise.

5. The noise assessment does not measure the actual proposed nighttime condition

The noise assessment reports a quiet east-side evening background and predicts a substantial increase during field activity. However, the east-side athletic-event measurement was conducted in the late afternoon, not during an adult game after 8:00 PM.

The nighttime result is therefore modeled by combining daytime athletic-event sound with evening background levels. It is not based on measurement of an actual evening adult event under the proposed operating conditions.

The report also suggests adult events may be quieter because they may attract fewer spectators. That assumption should not replace representative data. Adult games may differ in participant voices, referee whistles, intensity, post-game gatherings, equipment handling, and vehicle-departure behavior.

SPS should validate the projected nighttime condition using representative evening athletic-event data from a comparable field or through another technically supported method. The analysis should include:

- whistles, shouting, cheering, and ball impacts;
- post-game conversations and equipment handling;
- vehicle and parking noise;
- open-window bedroom conditions;
- actual east-side residential elevations; and
- repeated use throughout the fall and winter season.

The analysis should also explain why approximately one day of east-boundary monitoring is sufficient to characterize the existing condition for a permanent installation and a materially expanded nighttime operating schedule.

6. The claimed onsite parking capacity requires a current, reproducible evaluation

I am not asserting that the school has a particular maximum parking capacity. I am asking SPS to explain how the claimed capacity of 240 or more vehicles was calculated and to verify it under the current, actual site configuration.

The Transportation Technical Report separately describes approximately 83 designated stalls while relying on a large, primarily unstriped, multipurpose hard-surface area and historical event conditions to reach a capacity of 240 or more vehicles.

The ability to place a large number of vehicles on the campus during a particular event does not, by itself, establish that the same capacity is safely, legally, and reliably available during recurring dark and rainy winter evenings.

Before relying on that capacity to conclude that no parking mitigation is required, SPS should provide a current, professionally prepared, dimensioned parking plan that:

1. identifies and numbers every space included in the capacity;
2. distinguishes marked stalls, unstriped temporary event parking, and theoretical maximum vehicle storage;
3. shows buildings, portable classrooms, storage areas, recreational courts, grass areas, and other exclusions;
4. shows entrances, exits, drive aisles, turning, backing, queuing, and circulation;
5. preserves fire and emergency access;
6. preserves ADA spaces and accessible routes;
7. separates pedestrians from moving vehicles;
8. states whether any existing recreational area would be displaced;
9. identifies whether parking attendants are needed to achieve the claimed capacity; and
10. provides the dates, photographs, field notes, and parking arrangement underlying the historical capacity estimate.

The analysis should also demonstrate that all assumed parking areas will be open, usable, and actively managed during every nighttime event. Theoretical onsite capacity does not ensure that drivers will use it rather than parking on adjacent residential streets.

7. The 9:45 PM event-dispersal period has not been adequately evaluated

The transportation turning-movement counts ended at 8:00 PM. Although the report includes later parking-occupancy observations, it does not adequately analyze what happens when an outdoor athletic event ends at 9:45 PM.

The report itself anticipates substantial short-term parking demand when consecutive activities overlap. A realistic analysis should evaluate the period from 9:30 to 10:30 PM, including:

- how many people and vehicles leave during each 15-minute interval;
- how long it takes to clear the field and campus;
- vehicle queues, turning, backing, and exit capacity;
- voices, car doors, trunks, equipment loading, engines, and locking signals;
- headlights sweeping across backyards and bedroom windows;
- idling, occasional horn use, localized exhaust, and odors;
- pedestrian activity on surrounding streets in winter darkness and rain; and
- the effect of simultaneous school and athletic events.

Turning off the field lights at 10:00 PM does not end these impacts. The record should demonstrate that participants, spectators, and vehicles can actually clear the site within an enforceable period.

Any approval should require active parking and departure management, a defined site-clearance time, restrictions on unnecessary idling and horn use, and a substantially earlier event-ending time.

8. The Draft does not quantify the need for this location or a 9:45 PM schedule

The Draft states that lighting would create additional recreational opportunities, but it does not quantify the unmet demand for this particular site, the projected frequency of use, or why activities must continue until 9:45 PM.

SPS should disclose:

- the number of illuminated events expected per week and per season;
- the expected use after 8:00 PM;
- the percentage of lighted hours used by SPS students, other public schools, private schools, youth organizations, and adult organizations;
- waiting lists and requests denied because no field was available;
- the basis for selecting a 9:45 PM ending time; and
- the projected rental and lighting revenues and their allocation.

SPS and Seattle Parks should also provide reservation and actual-use records for nearby comparable lighted rectangular fields during the previous three complete fall and winter seasons. Those records should include available hours, reserved hours, actual use, cancellations, waiting lists, requests denied for lack of capacity, use between 6:00 and 10:00 PM, and user categories.

I am not asserting that the existence of another field automatically prohibits this project. These records are necessary to evaluate lower-impact alternatives, including:

- use of existing lighted facilities;
- fewer illuminated evenings per week;
- a substantially earlier closing time;
- priority for SPS students and youth use;
- restrictions on late adult and private-school use; and
- avoidance of consecutive bookings.

A general Parks policy allowing activities to be scheduled until 9:45 PM does not establish that such hours are necessary or appropriate at this specific field immediately adjoining residential backyards.

9. Requested action

The relevant project impact is cumulative. It includes light and glare, repeated evening noise, disrupted sleep, loss of ventilation and privacy, flying balls, potential property damage, parking and traffic, headlights and vehicle departures, unauthorized after-hours activity, and the burden placed on residents to document and report recurring problems.

I respectfully request that SPS not issue a final threshold determination until the site-specific supplemental analyses described above are completed, released to the public, and made available for additional comment.

If the responsible official reasonably believes, after obtaining adequate information, that the proposal may cause probable significant adverse environmental impacts, SPS should issue a Determination of Significance and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

If SPS instead considers a DNS or MDNS, it should impose binding, measurable, and enforceable conditions, including at minimum:

- formal evaluation of substantially earlier ending times, including 8:00, 8:30, and 9:00 PM;
- limits on the number of illuminated evenings per week and events per year;
- no morning light use without additional review and public notice;
- a categorical prohibition on amplified sound;
- a trained onsite manager for every nighttime event;
- active parking, traffic, field-clearance, and lockup management;
- a binding deadline for all participants and vehicles to leave;
- restrictions on idling and unnecessary horn use;
- professionally designed sports-containment netting;
- a prohibition against entering private property to retrieve balls;
- a clear injury and property-damage claims process;
- independent post-construction light and glare testing at east-side backyards and second-story windows;
- publication of results and mandatory correction and retesting;
- a public activity calendar;
- a direct resident contact and written response deadlines; and
- escalating restrictions or suspension of nighttime use after repeated violations.

Please include this comment in the official SEPA record, confirm receipt, and place me on the notice list for all future SEPA decisions, Master Use Permit proceedings, lighting-pole height review, public meetings, and other permitting processes associated with this project.

I am not opposed to appropriate school athletics. I am asking SPS to recognize that a field immediately adjoining residential bedrooms and backyards is not interchangeable with a field separated from homes by streets, large buffers, commercial areas, or different topography.

The ability of families to safely use their backyards, put infants and children to sleep, open bedroom windows, maintain privacy, and obtain normal nighttime rest should be treated as a fundamental residential need—not as a burden that neighboring families are expected to absorb for the benefit of outside field users.

Thank you for considering these comments. Please confirm receipt.

Sincerely,

Hongdong Yang
7049 33RD AVE NE, Seattle, 98115
Immediate east-side resident adjacent to the Eckstein athletic field

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please don't click links, open attachments, or reply with confidential details unless you are certain you know the sender and are expecting the content.

Plyler, Conrad A

From: SEPA Comments
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 3:30 PM
To: Yao_Adam Genuine; SEPA Comments
Cc: Adam Yang
Subject: RE: Formal Public Comment: Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project Draft SEPA Checklist – 7049 33rd Ave NE

Thank you for your feedback, Yao Zhang. I will share it with the project team.

Best,

Mary Cauffman (she/her), CAPM
Executive Assistant for Marni Campbell and SEPA Coordinator
Operations Division
Seattle Public Schools
Phone: 206-252-0102
Email: macauffman@seattleschools.org
Address: 2445 3rd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134, Mailstop 22-183

From: Yao_Adam Genuine <hdyz2022@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2026 2:42 PM
To: SEPA Comments <sepacomments@seattleschools.org>
Cc: Yao_Adam Genuine <hdyz2022@gmail.com>; Adam Yang <adam.yang121@gmail.com>
Subject: Formal Public Comment: Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project Draft SEPA Checklist – 7049 33rd Ave NE

To:

Seattle Public Schools

Attn: SEPA Project Manager / Lead Agency Contact

Eckstein Middle School Field Lighting Project

Seattle, WA

From:

Yao Zhang

7049 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Directly Adjacent Neighbor to the East Boundary of the Field

Subject: Formal Public Comment on the Draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Environmental Assessments for the Proposed Athletic Field Lighting Project

To Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell and the SEPA Project Manager,

Please accept this formal public comment regarding the **Draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project**.

My family resides at **7049 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115**. Our property directly shares an eastern boundary line with the Eckstein Middle School athletic field. As immediate boundary residents, our household will shoulder the direct, unmitigated physical, environmental, aesthetic, and privacy impacts of this proposal on a daily basis.

I strongly oppose this project in its current form and urge Seattle Public Schools (SPS) to issue a **Determination of Significance (DS)** requiring a full **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**, or to **withdraw the proposal entirely.** Under **WAC 197-11-330(3)(c)**, the responsible official must evaluate how cumulative adverse impacts—including severe light trespass, visual intrusion, loss of privacy, unmitigated noise, physical property intrusion, and traffic/parking congestion—combine to create significant environmental impacts that cannot be dismissed via a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS).

My opposition is grounded in the following critical technical, environmental, aesthetic, and regulatory deficiencies in the Draft SEPA Checklist:

1. Flawed Photometric Modeling, Topography & Conditional Code Exception (Section B.11)

- **Topographic Elevation Drop Ignored:** The District's Light and Glare Report calculates light spillover at an arbitrary plane 3 feet above field elevation, completely ignoring local site topography. Properties along 33rd Ave NE sit **at least 10 feet lower** than the athletic field, with several areas along the eastern boundary exceeding that elevation drop.
- **Severe Eye-Level and Second-Story Glare:** Due to this steep topographic drop, the proposed 80-foot light poles will functionally operate as **90+ foot structures** directly overlooking our residence. High-intensity luminaires will project direct glare straight into our first-floor living spaces, backyard, and second-story bedroom windows. Measuring light spill strictly at field level renders the District's light spill conclusions mathematically and technically invalid for boundary residents.
- **Failure to Meet Statutory Requirements under City Code (SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6)):** While SMC 23.51B.002(D)(6) allows taller lighting poles for public school athletic fields, this exception is **conditional.** The applicant must explicitly demonstrate that the proposed 80-foot height is strictly necessary to provide adequate illumination and minimizes light and glare to the greatest extent practicable. The current Draft SEPA Checklist fails to satisfy this burden of proof. The environmental review must clearly explain how these findings are supported by technical lighting analysis and why lower pole heights (or alternative fixtures) would not achieve the same objectives—especially given that extended operating hours until 10:00 PM are primarily designated for third-party community field rentals and adult sports leagues (under the SPR Joint Use Agreement) rather than core K-12 educational functions of Eckstein Middle School.

2. Severe Visual Intrusion, Aesthetic Degradation & Loss of Residential Privacy (Section B.10 Aesthetics)

- **Industrial-Scale Visual Blight in Single-Family Neighborhood:** Installing four 80-foot high-mast light poles directly along our eastern property line introduces dominant, industrial-scale physical structures into a low-density single-family residential zone. Accounting for our lower site elevation, these towering poles will functionally rise **over 90 feet above our living quarters**, permanently obstructing open skyline views and imposing a severe vertical visual blight both daytime and nighttime.
- **Total Destruction of Backyard & Home Privacy:** The high-intensity commercial lighting system completely destroys our reasonable expectation of residential privacy. By illuminating our private backyard, living rooms, and second-story bedroom windows until 10:00 PM, the project turns our private sanctuary into an exposed, stadium-lit backdrop for extended third-party field users, depriving our family of the quiet, unexposed enjoyment of our home.

3. Compromised Environmental Buffer, Insufficient Tree Height & Fire History (Section B.11)

- **Insufficient Tree Canopy Height:** The existing tree canopy along the eastern boundary is physically incapable of screening 80-foot light poles. Even if the current vegetation were healthy and fully leafed out, its vertical height falls tens of feet short of reaching luminaires mounted at 80 feet (which functionally operate as 90+ foot structures relative to our lower property elevation). Expecting mid-height residential buffer trees to block high-mast light glare is physically impossible.
- **Seasonal Leaf Loss:** The SEPA checklist improperly relies on "existing vegetative screening" to mitigate visual and glare impacts. However, the majority of the perimeter buffer consists of deciduous foliage that sheds its leaves in late autumn and winter—precisely the season when night lighting will be utilized at peak intensity.
- **Unmitigated Fire Damage Baseline:** Two years ago, an unmonitored fire incident on the field required an emergency response from the Seattle Fire Department. To date, our eastern boundary line remains visually and physically compromised, featuring charred tree canopies, broad vegetation gaps, and temporary black tarps along the fence. The SEPA checklist improperly assumes a healthy baseline buffer when the existing natural shield is already severely damaged.

4. Physical Safety Hazards, Documented Property Intrusion & Privacy Infringement

- **Errant Projectiles & Documented Backyard Intrusions:** High-impact adult and community sports routinely result in high-velocity balls flying over the fence into direct residential backyards. Just in June and July alone during the school summer break, we have documented **at least two balls landing directly inside our private backyard—not to mention over a dozen (10+) balls we have physically discovered lodged and hidden inside the boundary bushes and perimeter trees** immediately adjacent to our living space. (see attached photo one ball as example easily been seen, and others hidden in bushes and visible in winter)

- **Documented Trespass Incident (July 22nd) & Nighttime Escalation:** On **July 22nd**, field users entered our private property and knocked on our front door to retrieve an errant ball, demonstrating that property trespass and privacy violations are already actively occurring during daylight hours. Extending field operations until 10:00 PM under high-intensity lights will dramatically escalate late-night trespass, property damage risks, and invasive privacy violations directly adjacent to our private living quarters in total darkness.

5. Documented Enforcement Failure, Unmitigated Sound Violations & Traffic/Parking Bottlenecks (Sections B.7 & B.14)

- **Documented Sound & Noise Violations:** Existing site management is demonstrably incapable of enforcing basic sound and operational rules. On **July 21st**, we documented two separate instances of unmitigated loud music blasting across our property line:
    - **12:00 AM (Midnight):** An extreme, late-night off-hours violation occurring hours after facility closure. This demonstrates that nighttime amplified sound is not merely a hypothetical concern. Given the project's proposed lighting and extended hours of use, the SEPA review should evaluate the potential for similar nighttime disturbances and identify enforceable mitigation measures.
    - **3:00 PM:** We could clearly hear amplified music from the athletic field from their homes. While this occurred during daytime hours, it demonstrates that sound from the field carries into the surrounding neighborhood. The proposed project, which would facilitate expanded evening use, warrants careful evaluation of amplified sound and cumulative noise impacts.

(Note: both video documentation of these July 21st incidents is attached / as formally submitted into the official SEPA record.)

- **Severe Traffic & Parking Hazard on Narrow Residential Streets (33rd Ave NE):** The Heffron Transportation Report projects **240 to 300 additional daily vehicle trips** and up to **85% parking utilization** on peak nights. 33rd Ave NE is an exceptionally narrow residential street where curb space is already fully occupied by direct residents' personal vehicles. Allowing non-resident field users to park along 33rd Ave NE creates dangerous traffic bottlenecks, obstructs resident driveways, impedes critical emergency vehicle access (Seattle Fire/Medic), and poses severe pedestrian safety risks during late-night hours.
- **Disproportionate Burden & Deprivation of Local Access:** Extending field use until 10:00 PM primarily benefits third-party rentals while forcing boundary residents to shoulder 100% of the light and noise pollution. Exclusively monopolizing a local public school field for outside commercial groups during evening hours deprives neighborhood residents of peaceful access without providing any reciprocal community benefit.

Mandatory Binding Mitigation Demands (Without Prejudice to Primary Opposition)

Without waiving our fundamental demand for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or our primary opposition to the project, should Seattle Public Schools attempt to issue a Mitigated

Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) or otherwise proceed, any environmental determination must be strictly conditioned upon the following mandatory, legally binding mitigation measures:

1. **Topographically Accurate Photometric Remodeling:** Re-evaluate and publish photometric spill maps accounting for the true 10+ foot elevation drop, specifically modeling direct glare at second-story residential window heights along the eastern boundary.
2. **Year-Round Evergreen Buffer Restoration & Height Upgrade:** Fully fund and plant a dense, mature evergreen tree screen (e.g., native PNW conifers/broadleaf evergreens) along the entire eastern fence line to repair past fire damage and provide year-round, full-height visual/glare protection.
3. **High-Containment Perimeter Netting:** Install structurally engineered, professional-grade containment netting along the entire eastern border tall enough to physically intercept all lacrosse, soccer, and ultimate frisbee balls before they enter private residential property.
4. **Strict Prohibition of Non-Resident Field User Parking on 33rd Ave NE:** Explicitly prohibit all non-resident event and field user parking along 33rd Ave NE within field lease permits. SPS must install clear parking restriction signage and mandate that all facility users park exclusively within official school parking lots or off-site designated facilities.
5. **5. Mandatory Multi-Stage Environmental Audit & Verification Protocol:** > The SEPA determination must require mandatory, independent third-party field testing and monitoring under a comprehensive, multi-stage protocol:

   (a) Initial Audit: Mandatory field testing within 30 to 60 days of initial light operation during active evening use;

   (b) Seasonal Leaf-Off Audit: Mandatory follow-up testing during the late autumn/winter leaf-off season (November–February) to measure maximum real-world light spill and glare when deciduous perimeter trees are bare; and

   (c) Complaint-Triggered Audits: Mandatory independent testing within 14 days if neighboring residents submit documented noise or light trespass complaints.

   This monitoring must include real-world measurement of light spill and direct glare at residential property lines and second-story window heights along 33rd Ave NE, ambient noise audits during peak night games, and street parking/traffic assessments. If real-world measured conditions at any stage exceed the predictive modeling presented in the Draft SEPA Checklist or violate City noise/light codes, night lighting operations must be immediately suspended until verified physical corrections are completed.

6. **Prohibition of Extended Night Rentals for Non-SPS / Adult Leagues:** Restrict high-intensity evening field lighting strictly to official SPS school-sponsored student activities, with a mandatory curfew no later than 7:00 PM for all third-party community, private school, and adult sports league rentals.
7. **Active Security & Mandatory Lock-Up Protocol:** Mandate funded, active security patrols during extended operational hours, alongside a physical lock-up of all field access gates immediately at curfew to prevent late-night trespass, vandalism, and fire risks.
8. **Strict Enforcement, Permit Revocation & Mandatory Decommissioning Protocol:** Incorporate an explicit, legally binding enforcement mechanism specifying that repeated or unmitigated violations of curfew, noise limits, light spill thresholds, parking restrictions, or property

boundaries will result in immediate field permit revocation. Persistent non-compliance must trigger immediate suspension of night lighting operations and mandate the **complete deactivation, decommissioning, and physical removal of the lighting infrastructure** at the District's sole expense.

9. **Guaranteed Public Open-Access Windows & Neighborhood Priority:** If evening field use is permitted, the District must strictly prohibit exclusive, continuous commercial/third-party monopolization of the field. The operational schedule must reserve designated open-access hours for immediate neighborhood residents (non-amplified, passive community recreational use) and guarantee that local residents are not displaced or locked out by external private sports groups.

Conclusion & Procedural Requests

The Draft SEPA Checklist is legally, technically, and environmentally deficient. It relies on a flawed flat-ground light model, ignores documented site fire damage, ignores aesthetic visual blight, minimizes severe street parking bottlenecks on 33rd Ave NE, and shifts commercial athletic burdens onto immediate residential neighbors without enforceable safeguards.

I formally request:

1. That these written comments be individually addressed in the official SEPA Response to Comments record.
2. An extension of the public comment period and a formal public community hearing.
3. Direct notification of all future procedural steps, including any Special Exception permit applications submitted to the City of Seattle regarding light pole height.

Please confirm receipt of this formal SEPA comment email and its attached evidence files.

Sincerely,

Yao Zhang

7049 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

412-230-7641

yao.zhang1128@gmail.com



ball_in_backyard.jpg

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature [signature]
Printed name Robert Jones
Address 7011 31st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115
Email RKDJONES@GMAIL.com Phone 206-523-0561

Further comment:

The proposed light poles are too tall given their location on the top of a high plateau.

SEATTLE WA 980

15 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature [signature]
Printed name Sheryl L Jahay
Address 7043 - 33rd Ave NE Seattle 98115
Email Sheryl_jahay@hotmail.com Phone 206-527-3496

Further comment:

No to the project. 30' light poles are sufficient.

SEATTLE WA 980

15 JUL 2026 PM 5 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Richard Fuhr

Printed name RICHARD FUHR

Address 7033 33RD AVE NE SEATTLE WA 98115-5908

Email richard.fuhr@gmail.com Phone 206-491-5640

Further comment:

WE NEED TO HAVE A COMMUNITY MEETING Related to this Proposed Project in the very near future.

SEATTLE WA 980

15 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Liana Trescot
Printed name Liana Trescot
Address 7039 33rd Ave NE Seattle 98115
Email liana.trescot@gmail.com Phone 206 465 3523
Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

15 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

124-115555

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature [signature]
Printed name SPENCER BAHNER
Address 7301 33 RD AVE NE, SEATTLE
Email SPENCER12345@M3N.COM Phone 206-407-7331
Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

15 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature James E Kasprzyk

Printed name JAMES E KASPRZYK

Address 7282 28th Ave NE, Seattle WA 98115

Email KASPRZYKPAUL@gmail.com Phone 206 293-1932

Further comment:

The school students do not need a night time facility. Mostly other outside organizations will use it. Also the lights will shine directly into my house.

SEATTLE WA 980

20 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

24-118565

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Cheryl Marek
Printed name Cheryl Marek
Address cheryl24marek@gmail.com
Email 7022 30th Ave NE Phone

Further comment:

This is a bad idea for houses near the School.

SEATTLE WA 980

20 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Rebecca Alexander & Carlo Levy

Printed name Rebecca Alexander & Carlo Mp Levy

Address 7012 33rd Ave NE Seattle, WA 98115

Email 625rebec@gmail.com Phone

Further comment:

The environmental, aesthetic, and health impacts on the artifial turf were bad enough, and this worsens them. Completely unnecessary project. A better idea: remove the plastic turf & crumb rubber!

SEATTLE WA 980

21 JUL 2026 PM 7 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

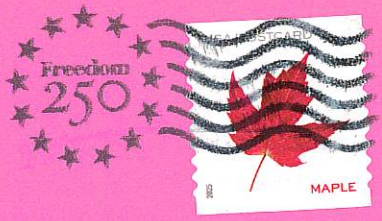
I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature James Baldwin, Margaret Baldwin
Printed name JAMES BALDWIN Margaret Baldwin
Address 7052 33RD Ave NE
Email bald1451@yahoo.com Phone 206 399 5404
Further comment:

7052 33RD Ave NE - directly opposite the field

SEATTLE WA 980

21 JUL 2026 PM 6 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Emily Wing

Printed name Emily Wing

Address 7036 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Email emrwinge gmail.com Phone

Further comment:

The Eckstein field is significantly impactful to adjacent residences, more than most other fields in the area (Nathan Hale, etc.)

SEATTLE WA 980

21 JUL 2026 PM 6 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Cyna

Printed name CYNA NGUYEN

Address 7010 31ST AVE NE, SEATTLE 98115

Email NYLYNA@GMAIL.COM Phone 4179368808

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

24 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature [signature]
Printed name Noel Blake
Address 7026 32nd Ave NE
Email noel_blake1280@yahoo.com Phone

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

25 JUL 2026 PM 4 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Rick Schleicher
Printed name RICK Schleicher
Address 7029 33rd Ave NE Seattle WA 98115
Email RealHot_rick@yahoo.com Phone 206-525-8261
Further comment:

This is serious. Neighbors and I are all very concerned.

SEATTLE WA 980
25 JUL 2025 PM 4 L

Freedom 250



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Susan Todd
Printed name SUSAN TODD
Address 7200 29th Ave NE 98115
Email therealbikuni@gmail.com Phone

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

24 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Yao Zhang

Printed name Yao Zhang

Address 7049 33rd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Email yao.zhang1128@gmail.com Phone 412-230-7641

Further comment: I am an immediate neighbor sharing east property line with the field. I strongly oppose this project. The Draft Checklist is completely inadequate. It violates Seattle Municipal Code (SMC). It doesn't adequately evaluate the impacts of nighttime lighting, glare, noise, extended evening use, or proposed expansion of access to non-SPS users on adjacent homes and surrounding neighborhood. I respectfully request a full EIS before moving to next step.

SEATTLE WA 980

27 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Ellyn K Lundgren (ELUND70336@AOL.COM)
Printed name ELLYN K. LUNDGREN
Address 7018-30TH AVE NE SEATTLE 98115
Email ELUND70336@AOL.COM Phone 206-234-6818
(ELUND70336@AOL.COM)

Further comment:

I LIVE BEHIND ECKSTEIN - WHERE I HAVE VOLUNTEERED. 80 FT? SERIOUSLY? MY STREET HAS 4 HOUSES - UNTIL 10:00 PM? NOISE, CARE - DAHLIELA IS NEARBY —

SEATTLE WA 980

28 JUL 2026 PM 6 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Heather Rowe
Printed name Heather Rowe
Address 7275 29 Ave NE
Email heatherlowe12@gmail.com Phone
Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

3 AUG 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature K. Benjamin
Printed name K. Benjamin
Address Seattle, WA 98115
Email KSickle11@gmail.com Phone

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

17 JUL 2026 PM 4 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature_____

Printed name_____

Address_____

Email_____ Phone_____

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

17 JUL 2026 PM 4 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

Regarding: Draft Environmental Checklist for the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project (3003 NE 75th Street)

Dear Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations, Seattle School District;

I believe that the Eckstein Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Project has probable significant adverse environmental impacts. Please provide further detailed environmental review through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include me on the list of people to be notified about the status of the environmental review of this project, and about the City-required meeting related to the District request for an exception to City code for tall light poles.

Signature Jean Teshima
Printed name Jean Teshima
Address 7260 29 Ave NE
Email hmom1@hotmail.com Phone

Further comment:

SEATTLE WA 980

16 JUL 2026 PM 3 L



Dr. Marni Asplund-Campbell, Asst Supt of Operations
Seattle School District No. 1, MS 22-183
P.O. Box 34165
Seattle WA 98124

-116565