

SEPA Environmental Checklist

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Municipal Non-Residential Subdivision Review Exemption Ordinance for the City of Castle Rock

2. Name of applicant:

City of Castle Rock

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

141 A Street SW

Castle Rock, WA 98611

(360)-274-8181

Karlene Akkeson – Deputy Clerk

4. Date checklist prepared:

January 3, 2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Castle Rock Building and Planning Department

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

The ordinance will be reviewed by the Castle Rock Planning Commission in a public hearing scheduled for January 21, 2025. A public hearing will be scheduled before the City Council in February or March following the required review by the Department of Commerce.

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

No future activity related to this proposal is planned. The City of Castle Rock reviews, evaluates, and revises the municipal code as deemed necessary to address changes in state law and to address the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

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

No additional environmental information has been prepared that is directly related to this proposal

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

The City is actively processing applications using the existing municipal code. This proposal would revise the municipal code.

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

This is a non-project action. No permits are required to update the City's municipal code. The revisions to the municipal code would be subject to Castle Rock Planning Commission recommendation and City Council approval.

In addition, Washington State Department of Commerce reviews the revisions to the municipal code during a 60-day review period prior to adoption.

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 City of Castle Rock is considering the adoption of an ordinance which would introduce an additional exemption to the municipal subdivision review process. The City proposes to add a sixth exemption to the list of exemptions to the city's municipal subdivision review process, allowing project applicants to subdivide their non-residential property under specific conditions without undergoing municipal review and noticing. This additional subdivision review exemption would allow the division of non-residential land into lots of 5 acres or larger, bringing the City of Castle Rock into compliance with RCW 58.17.040(2), which states that the provisions of RCW 58.17 (Plats—Subdivisions—Dedications) shall not apply to:

Divisions of land into lots or tracts each of which is one-one hundred twenty-eighth of a section of land or larger, or five acres or larger if the land is not capable of description as a fraction of a section of land, unless the governing authority of the city, town, or county in which the land is situated shall have adopted a subdivision ordinance requiring plat approval of such divisions: PROVIDED, That for purposes of computing the size of any lot under this item which borders on a street or road, the lot size shall be expanded to include that area which would be bounded by the center line of the road or street and the side lot lines of the lot running perpendicular to such center line

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.

Castle Rock is located in Cowlitz County, bordered on the west by the Cowlitz River. The municipal code applies to the entirety of the Castle Rock City limits, about 10 square miles.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

The City of Castle Rock is located in western Washington – 95 miles south of Seattle and 45 miles North of Vancouver. The City is at an elevation of 59 feet and is situated along the Cowlitz River, west of Mount St. Helens and the Cascade mountain range.

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

While there is a variety of terrain within the City of Castle Rock, the city is generally located on flat topography near the Cowlitz River. There are some isolated steep slopes in the east part of the city where the city limits meet the low foothills leading to Mount St. Helens.

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

A small portion of the city east of Interstate 5 reaches a slope of approximately 26%.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services publishes surveys for Washington State. The soil survey information is regularly updated. Cowlitz County soil survey data was last updated in 2015. The soil survey includes general soil map units that show broad areas that have distinctive soil patterns, relief, and drainage.

Each map unit on the general soil unit map is a unique natural landscape typically consisting of one or more major soils or miscellaneous areas and some minor soils and miscellaneous areas. Castle Rock has many different soils across the city, including: Newberg fine sandy loam, Caples silty clay loam, Carolls loamy sand, Panamaker gravelly sand, Olequa silt loam, and Kelso silt loam, among other soil types.

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

The City of Castle Rock is generally flat and has very few slopes that would qualify as steep slopes or landslide hazards.

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 filling, excavation, or grading is proposed for this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

No clearing, construction, or other erosion-causing actions are proposed as part of this non-project proposal. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this

non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

There would be no project construction as part of this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action would not cause erosion or other impacts to the earth, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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.**

No construction, operation or maintenance is proposed as part of this non-project proposal, and therefore no emissions would result from the proposal. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

There are no off-site sources of emissions or odor that would affect this non-project proposal.

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

Not applicable. The non-project action would not produce air emissions. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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.

There are several streams, creeks, and wetlands in the Castle Rock vicinity, all of which flow into the Cowlitz River, which flows through the city.

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

The non-project proposal would not include any work over, in, or adjacent to the waters described above. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

No fill or dredge material would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands as part of this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project proposal would not require any surface water withdrawals or diversions. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action covers the entire City of Castle Rock and would not include any development within floodplain areas. According to the NFIP FIRM maps, portions of Castle Rock lie within the 100-year floodplain. Future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action could be located within the 100-year floodplain, but would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code (including the City's floodplain ordinance) and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- 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.**

This non-project proposal does not involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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.**

This non-project action would not include any withdrawal of groundwater. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- 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 water or waste material would be discharged into the ground as part of this non-project proposal. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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.**

This non-project action would not impact water runoff. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

No waste materials would enter ground or surface waters as part of this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

The proposed non-project action would not alter drainage patterns. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

The proposed non-project action would not impact surface, ground, or runoff water, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels

resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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?

No vegetation would be removed as a direct result of this proposal to revise the Castle Rock Municipal Code. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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

The Washington Department of Natural Resources' Natural Heritage Program dataset does not identify any rare plants or ecosystems within the City of Castle Rock. Threatened and endangered species are protected through the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas regulations located with the City's critical areas regulations.

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

No landscaping is proposed as part of this non-project action. Landscaping associated with future project specific development would be subject to review for consistency with applicable provisions of Castle Rock Municipal Code.

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

The Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board keeps information on noxious weeds in Cowlitz County. According to the Weed Control Board, the top ten most common noxious weeds in Castle Rock are: Common Crupina, Common Cordgrass, Dyer's Woad, Eggleaf Spurge, False Brome, Floating Primrose-Willow, Flowering Rush, French Broom, Garlic Mustard, and Giant Hogweed.

5. Animals

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

Examples include:

- **Birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

A variety of birds and animals are known to be in the City of Castle Rock, particularly those animals typically found in urban areas. The Cowlitz River and other streams in the city are habitat for various fish species, including salmon and trout. Wild species inhabiting natural areas of Cowlitz County (such as bears or cougars) may occasionally be sighted in Castle Rock or its immediate vicinity.

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

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Priority Habitat and Species shows occurrence of Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), rainbow trout and winter summer steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*) in Castle Rock. The PHS data also shows areas of aquatic wetland habitat and habitat for wintering waterfowl in the city.

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

The project area is located within the Pacific Flyway, which is a flight corridor for migrating waterfowl. The Pacific Flyway extends from Alaska to South America. The proposed action would not interfere with the Pacific Flyway.

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

The city protects Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas through the implementation of the City's critical areas regulations. No changes are proposed to these regulations. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

Invasive animal species likely to be in the area include rodents and raccoons that are typically found in urban areas. The proposed non-project action would not disturb these species.

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.**

The proposed non-project action would not require energy. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not impact the use of solar energy at any specific location. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.**

The proposed non-project action does not include any energy conservation measures. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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.**

As a non-project action, the proposal would not cause environmental health hazards. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action covers the entire City of Castle Rock, not a specific site. The Washington Department of Ecology Contaminated Sites List identifies four contaminated sites in the city.

- 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 hazardous chemicals or conditions would affect this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- 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.**

No toxic or hazardous chemicals would be stored, used, or produced as part of this non-project action. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services would be required for this non-project action.

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

This non-project action to amend the City of Castle Rock's code would not cause any environmental health hazards, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

b. Noise

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

Noises in Castle Rock are typical for an urban area, including traffic noise and noises from industrial and commercial land uses. Interstate 5, which runs through a portion of the city, is one of the major noise sources.

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)?

This non-project action would not generate any noise. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action would not cause any noise impacts, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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.

This non-project action applies to the City of Castle Rock as a whole, which contains a variety of land uses across the city. Implementation of the proposed non-project action would not affect any land uses. However, the action would add an additional exemption to the city's municipal subdivision review process allowing applicants to subdivide non-residential land into lots of 5 acres or larger without undergoing municipal review and noticing. Therefore, the action has the potential to increase subdivisions in the city in

the future, and subdivided parcels could be developed, potentially changing their land use.

- 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 City of Castle Rock does not have agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance in city limits.

- 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?**

This non-project action would not affect or be affected by working farm or forest lands. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action would apply to the entire City of Castle Rock, not to a specific site or sites.

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

No structures would be demolished as part of this non-project action.

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

Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to the City of Castle Rock's zoning code. The City provides multiple zoning designations, including:

- Low Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Highway Business
- Retail Business
- Mixed use Commercial/Industrial
- Industrial
- Parks, Recreation and Open Space

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

The City's current comprehensive plan designations include:

- Low Density Residential
- High Density Residential

- Downtown commercial
- Commercial
- Heavy commercial/ light manufacturing
- Industrial
- Open space/recreation
- Public/quasi-public

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

The City has four shoreline master program designations: High-Intensity Environment, Residential Environment, Aquatic Environment, and Recreation Environment.

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

The City of Castle Rock has designated portions of the city as critical areas. This non-project action would not impact any critical areas. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to the City's Critical Areas Ordinance.

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

This non-project action would not involve construction of any structure that people would reside or work in. The current population of the City of Castle Rock is 2,465 (Office of Financial Management, 2024).

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

No people would be displaced by this non-project action.

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

The action would not cause any displacement, so 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 non-project action would bring Castle Rock's regulations into compliance with RCW 58.17.040(2). Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan.

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

The City of Castle Rock does not contain any designated agricultural or forest lands of long-term commercial significance.

9. Housing

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

No housing units would be provided by this non-project action. Additionally, the subdivision exemption would be applicable only to non-residential properties.

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

No housing units would be eliminated.

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

No housing impacts are anticipated so no mitigation measures are 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?**

This non-project action does not involve construction of any structures. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

This non-project action would not alter or obstruct any views. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

The proposed non-project action would not cause any aesthetic impacts, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

11. Light and glare

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

This non-project action would not produce any light or glare. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

- c. This non-project action would not produce any light or glare. The new subdivision exemption could lead to new construction on 5 acre or larger lots in the future, but all construction would be required to comply with city requirements regulating outdoor

lighting (CRMC 17.48.090). **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

No off-site sources of light or glare would affect the proposed non-project action.

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

This non-project action would not impact light or glare so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development that occurs due to the subdivision exemption would be subject the City's requirements regulating outdoor lighting (CRMC 17.48.090).

12. Recreation

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

The City of Castle Rock maintains nine parks.

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

No existing recreational uses would be displaced.

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

This non-project action would not impact any recreational uses, so no mitigation measures are proposed.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

According to the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's Washington Information System for Architectural and Archeological Records Data (WISAARD) database, there are no buildings, structures, or sites on historic registers within the City of Castle Rock. The WISAARD database does identify that many structures of historic age have been inventoried for eligibility for historic registers. Many were found ineligible or no determination was made, but several structures were found eligible.

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 Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's predictive model maps the entirety of Castle Rock as very high risk for archaeological resources, and surveys are highly advised. The proposed non-project action would not include any ground disturbing activities, so impacts to archaeological resources are not anticipated.

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.

Information in the WISAARD database was reviewed to assess potential impacts to cultural and historic resources.

- 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.**

This non-project action would not impact historic or cultural resources, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

The roadway network in the City of Castle Rock includes Interstate 5; arterials (including Mt St Helens Way NE, Huntington Ave N, and A St SW); collectors (including Huntington Ave S, Dougherty Dr, and Cowlitz St E), and neighborhood roads.

- 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?**

Castle Rock has limited public transit provided by the Twin Transit system, which has a stop at the Castle Rock Park and Ride adjacent to I-5.

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

The non-project action would not require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities.

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

The BNSF Railway runs through the City of Castle Rock, roughly parallel and to the west of Interstate 5. This non-project action would not impact the BNSF Railway or other forms of transportation in the city.

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

This non-project action would not generate any vehicular trips. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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

The proposed project would not affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural or forest products.

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

No transportation impacts are anticipated, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

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.**

This non-project actions would not increase the need for public services.

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

This non-project action would not impact public services, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

16. Utilities

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

Utilities currently available within the incorporated city limits include electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, cable television, and others.

- 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 non-project action would not require any utilities. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

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 Kirsten Peterson

Type name of signee: Kirsten Peterson

Position and agency/organization: Consultant Planner

Date submitted:

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

Do not use this section for project actions.

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would not increase discharge to water, emissions to air, production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances or production of noise. In the future, parcels could be subdivided without municipal review under the new proposed exemption. Eventually, development could occur on the subdivided parcels, and that development could increase discharges, emissions, or noise. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

• **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

The proposed non-project action would not cause any increases, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would not affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life. In the future, parcels could be subdivided without municipal

review under the new proposed exemption. Eventually, development could occur on the subdivided parcels, and that development would have the potential to affect plants and animals. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

The proposed non-project action would not impact plants or animals, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would not deplete energy or natural resources. In the future, parcels could be subdivided without municipal review under the new proposed exemption. Eventually, development could occur on the subdivided parcels, and that development would likely use energy and could have the potential to deplete natural resources. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

The proposed non-project action would not impact energy or natural resources, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would not affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection. In the future, parcels could be subdivided without municipal review under the new proposed exemption. Eventually, development could occur on the subdivided parcels, and that development could in some cases affect environmentally sensitive areas or other areas designated for governmental protection. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- **Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

The proposed non-project action would not impact environmentally critical areas or other areas designated for governmental protection, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would change land use regulations by adding exemption to the city's municipal subdivision review process allowing applicants to subdivide non-residential land into lots of 5 acres or larger without undergoing municipal review and noticing, consistent with RCW 58.17.040(2). Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code, zoning designations, and Shoreline Master Program.

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

The proposed non-project action would not impact land or shoreline use, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would not increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities. In the future, non-residential parcels could be subdivided without municipal review under the new proposed exemption. Eventually, development could occur on the subdivided parcels, and that could increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would have to comply with the Castle Rock Municipal Code and would be subject to SEPA review if applicable.

- **Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

The proposed non-project action would not impact transportation or public services and utilities, so no mitigation measures are proposed. Any future development on subdivided parcels resulting from this non-project action would be subject to individual review and measures to reduce or control impacts would be identified at that time if necessary.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The proposed revisions to the Castle Rock Municipal Code would be consistent with local, state, and federal laws for the protection of the environment. The proposed subdivision review exemption brings the City of Castle Rock into compliance with RCW 58.17.040(2).