

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

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

Instructions for applicants:

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

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

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

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

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

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

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
[WSECU Chehalis](#)
2. Name of applicant:
[Thomas Architecture Studios](#)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
525 Columbia St SW
Olympia WA 98501
360.915.8775
Michael Kershisnik, AIA – Project Manager
4. Date checklist prepared:
Michael Kershisnik, Project Manager
5. Agency requesting checklist:
City of Chehalis
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
The current project schedule anticipates completion of permitting by October 2021 and construction to begin at the conclusion of permitting.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
No, there are no plans for future additions 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.
For this proposal, this SEPA checklist is the only environmental information that has been prepared. Additionally, a phase 1 Environmental Assessment has been done.
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 applications known.
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
The permits/approvals required for this proposal include City of Chehalis site plan, building, and civil permit.
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.)
New Washington State Employees Credit Union (WSECU) Chehalis Branch Bank – WSECU proposes to construct a new single-story, roughly 4,400 sf branch bank with three covered drive-thru lanes. Associated site improvements will include parking and landscaping.

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.

1700 NW Louisiana Ave, Chehalis, WA 98532

Parcel Number: 005605082015

Section 19 Township 14N Range 02W Pt S2 SE TR 15 Twin

B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

- a. General description of the site:

Flat

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

As surveyed, this parcel has an approximate 0-3% slope across the site.

- 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.

Per a recent Geotech report the site soils were generally consistent across the property.

There is a layer of structural fill cover to a depth of 24 inches, with geofabric separating it from the underlying soils. Beneath structural fill soils was a layer of silty sand with gravel.

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

There are no indicators of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity.

- 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.

This project will require approximately 140 cubic yards of cut and 1,500 CY of fill. Suitable soils will be reused on-site, and additional fill materials as needed will be imported from an approved acceptable source.

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

The site is relatively flat, surrounded by previous development and has excellent infiltration so stormwater discharges offsite are unlikely to occur

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

Approximately 41% of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction. The site currently has 13% impervious coverage.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
Drainage Report and SWPPP will be prepared to reduce the project's risk of erosion and other impacts to the earth. Additionally, erosion control BMP's will be included within the design documents for implementation by the contractor during construction.

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

- 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.
Air emissions during construction would consist of dust and heavy equipment exhaust. This site is already developed and the use is not changing, so emissions would likely not change as a result of the completed project.
- 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 odors that would affect this proposal.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
During construction, vehicles and equipment would be turned off when not in use.
During dry periods, water would be used to control potential dust impacts.

3. Water [\[help\]](#)

- a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)
- 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.
Lewis County GIS identifies the Chehalis River as being roughly a half mile to the west of the parcel. However, there are no water bodies 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.
N/A; there are no water bodies on site.
- 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 material would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands.
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.
No, this proposal will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

Yes, this site does lie within a 100-year flood plain. According to FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Map, this site is in Zone AE. These areas are subject to a one percent chance of flooding annually.

- 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, this proposal does not involve the discharge of waste materials to surface waters.

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No ground water will be withdrawn, and no water will be discharged to ground water.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

There will not be any waste material discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources. The site is currently served by City of Chehalis sanitary sewer.

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.

Stormwater runoff will be generated by the site's impervious surfaces, including the rooftop and parking lot. Stormwater runoff produced from the project will be collected and conveyed to a regional stormwater facility offsite.

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

No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters

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

The proposed development does not intend to alter or affect drainage patterns in the project vicinity. Stormwater in this vicinity is included in a regional stormwater facility that has been design and constructed for an assumed impervious area for the site.

The planned impervious are will not exceed the assumed area.

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

The project will comply with the City of Chehalis adopted stormwater requirements and will implement erosion control BMP's as required by the WA Department of Ecology within the design documents.

4. **Plants** [\[help\]](#)

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?

[Site has been previously cleared and is covered in areas by grass which will be removed.](#)

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

[According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(USFWS\) Environment Conservation Online System \(ECOS\), there are no threatened or endangered species found on this site.](#)

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

[A preliminary landscaping plan has been provided.](#)

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

[No noxious weeds identified on site.](#)

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

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

[Hawks, songbirds, mice and rabbits](#)

Examples include:

- birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

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

[According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's \(WDFW\) Priority Habitats and Species \(PHS\) data there are no threatened or endangered species on the site.](#)

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

[Because Washington is within the Pacific Flyway route, migration routes may exist near the site. However, this proposal will not impact any migration routes.](#)

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
N/A; there are no anticipated impacts.
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.
There are no know invasive species on the site.

6. **Energy and Natural Resources** [\[help\]](#)

- 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 completed project will use electricity for lighting and heating.
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.
No, this 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:
Construction activities and the completed project will meet or exceed WA State Energy Code

7. **Environmental Health** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.
There are no environmental health hazards that could occur as a result of this proposal.
- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
There is no known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
 - 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.
There are no measures needed to reduce or control environmental health hazards, as there are none related to this proposal.
 - 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.
There are no toxic or hazardous chemicals to be stored or produced in relation to this proposal.
 - 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

There are no special emergency services that would be required for this proposal.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
N/A; there are no anticipated environmental health hazard.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
Noise is currently produced by traffic along Louisiana Ave, which will not affect this proposal.
- 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 construction noise would occur only during permitted hours. Long-term noise associated with the project includes noise associated with traffic and business operations, which already exist in the site vicinity.
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
To minimize noise impacts, construction will take place during allowable hours. The noise produced from the completed project is expected to remain the same as what is currently produced, so no additional measures are proposed.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

- 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 currently is a vacant lot. The adjacent properties include commercial properties – Wal Mart, Home Depot, restaurants, and multiple strip mall-type businesses.
- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?
No, this site has not been used for agriculture.
- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:
No, this proposal will not affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations has not been used for agriculture.
- c. Describe any structures on the site.
There are no existing structures on the site.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
The site is currently zoned CG (General Commercial)
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
The current comprehensive plan designation for this site is commercial.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
There are no shorelines with 200 feet of the parcel boundaries.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.
Lewis County Geodata identified no wetlands or water bodies on site, and there are no steep slopes in the vicinity. The Geodata site did indicate that the parcel may have hydric soils and liquefaction susceptibility.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
Approximately 15 employees would work in the completed project.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
No one would be displaced as a result of this project.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
NA
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
This proposal is compliant with City of Chehalis zoning, comprehensive plan and building code regulations.
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
NA

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
No housing units would be provided.
- 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:
NA

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The tallest height of the proposed structure is approximately 23 feet. The exterior of the building will be primarily brick veneer siding, cement fiberboard panels, and black metal siding with large glass storefront windows.

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

No views would be altered or obstructed as a result of this project.

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

N/A; no impacts are anticipated.

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

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

This proposal includes parking lot illumination, which will produce exterior lighting at night.

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

No, there will not be a safety hazard from light or glare when the project is complete, nor will it interfere with any views.

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

There are no off-site sources of light or glare that will affect this proposal.

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

N/A; there are no anticipated impacts.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

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

There are no designated recreational opportunities in the immediate vicinity of this project site.

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

The project would not displace any existing recreational uses.

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

N/A; there are no impacts to recreation as a result of this project.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

- 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 Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), there are no objects or places on or near this site that are listed or proposed for any historic and cultural preservation registers.

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

There are no known landmarks or evidence of scientific or cultural importance on or near to the site, according to the WISAARD database.

- 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.

Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD)

- 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.

During construction, if archaeological resources are unearthed, DAHP will be contacted immediately, and work will stop until an assessment can be made.

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- 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 site is located at the intersection of NW Louisiana Avenue and NW Arkansas Way and both of which serve the site. There are two full-access driveways accessed from internal drives which service multiple commercial properties.

- 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?

Yes, this site is served by Twin Transit on both the Red and Yellow Lines. The closest stop is located on North side of NW Arkansas Way directly across from the site of the proposed bank building.

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

This project would provide approximately 31 new parking spaces. No parking spaces will be eliminated.

- 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, this proposal does not require any new roads or streets and does not require improvements to existing roads or streets.

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

No, this project will not use or occur in the immediate vicinity of any 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?

Based on the additional employees (15 estimated employees) and building square footage, this site would generate approximately 191 new-to-network trips daily (25 of which would occur in the PM peak hour)

- 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.

No, this proposal will not affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products during normal business operations.

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

The project's transportation would be minimal; therefore, there are no measures proposed.

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No; this site is located within an existing developed area that is currently served by public services such as fire and police protection and schools. The project would cause no increase in the number of residents in the area and a negligible increase in employees, so there would be no increased need for public services.

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

N/A; there are no anticipated impacts.

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

All utilities are readily available to this project site.

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

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

The utilities proposed for this project include electricity provided by Puget Sound Energy, sewer and water service provided by the City of Chehalis, and refuse services

provided by LeMay Pacific Disposal.

C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

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.

Signature: _____

Name of signee: MICHAEL T. KERSHISNIK

Position and Agency/Organization: THOMAS ARCHITECTURE STUDIOS

Date Submitted: 06/16/21