ADDENDUM

TO

FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

for

PIERCE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
2013 AMENDMENTS TO CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

Prepared in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act

September 28, 2012

PIERCE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND SERVICES
Dennis Hanberg, Director
2401 South 35th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98409
September 28, 2012

To: All Interested Parties

RE: Addendum to the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan

Pierce County has issued an Addendum to the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), Comprehensive Plan, November 1994. The November 1994 Final SEIS addressed the impacts of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in November 1994.

This Addendum addresses 2012 Annual Amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan proposed by the Pierce County Executive in August 2012. The Capital Facilities Plan is updated annually following the annual budget process for the County.

In accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements, an Addendum may be used to add new information about a proposal provided that it does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts and alternatives in the existing environmental document (WAC 197-11-600). Pierce County has determined that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan do not substantially change the analysis of impacts or alternatives previously discussed in the Final SEIS.

The Addendum includes a fact sheet, background material on the development of the Comprehensive Plan and prior environmental review, a summary of proposed amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan, and necessary environmental documentation. The Addendum has been prepared in accordance with WAC 197-11-600 and 197-11-625 and has been distributed to the Department of Ecology and agencies with jurisdiction.

If you have questions concerning the Addendum to Final SEIS, please contact Mike Erkkinen, Senior Planner, at (253) 798-2705 or merkkin@co.pierce.wa.us.

Sincerely,

DENNIS HANBERG
Director
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FACT SHEET

Title and Description of Proposed Action

The proposed action is the adoption of the 2013 Annual Amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan Element of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan by the Pierce County Council. This is a non-project action. The Pierce County Comprehensive Plan was adopted in November 1994 and consists of objectives, principles, and standards which provide a framework for growth and land use through the next 20 years. The Plan was prepared in compliance with the requirements of Washington's Growth Management Act.

The Addendum adds analyses and information to the June 1994 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Final SEIS). The Final SEIS addressed the impacts of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan.

Proponent

Pierce County Planning and Land Services Department

Tentative Adoption Date

October - November 2012, by the Pierce County Council.

Lead Agency

Pierce County Planning and Land Services Department
2401 South 35th Street
Tacoma, WA 98409

Responsible Official:
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Authors and Principal Contributors

Pierce County Budget and Finance Department

Date of Issue:

September 28, 2012
Environmental Review Process

Pierce County has used a phased review process for the non-project actions required by Washington's Growth Management Act (GMA), including the Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations - Zoning. Pierce County intends to continue to use this phased review for adoption of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations that implement the Plan.

Location of Background Material and Documents Incorporated by Reference

Background material and documents used to support development of the Addendum are available for inspection at the Pierce County Planning and Land Services Department, 2401 South 35th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409, (253) 798-3736.

Relation to Other Documents

A series of environmental documents have been prepared by Pierce County to evaluate the impacts of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan and amendments to the Plan. These documents, noted in the Background Section of this Addendum, are incorporated by reference. Pierce County intends to continue to use a phased environmental review approach for analyzing Comprehensive Plan amendments or other GMA documents related to the Comprehensive Plan or Development Regulations. Additional environmental documentation may be made as the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan is further implemented. This document is not intended to satisfy individual project SEPA requirements.
INTRODUCTION

This Addendum to the 1994 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan addresses 2013 amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan portion of the Comprehensive Plan. The Capital Facilities Plan is updated annually subsequent to the annual budget process for the County.

BACKGROUND

A. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) allows environmental review of proposals to be phased. This phased review allows decision-makers and the public to focus on issues that are ready for decisions while excluding from consideration those issues already decided or not yet ready (WAC 197-11-060 (5)(b)). Pierce County has used this phased review to analyze issues related to its Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations and intends to continue to use this approach. As amendments are proposed, appropriate environmental analyses will be conducted. This could include adoption of existing environmental documents, addenda, supplemental EISs, or determinations of nonsignificance.

A table that lists environmental documents prepared to date can be viewed at www.piercecountywa.org/pals on the environmental page or at the Planning and Land Services Department. The information and analyses contained in the environmental documents described in the table identify the environmental impacts associated with the Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations. For complete information and disclosure of impacts these documents should also be referenced. This Addendum addresses the impacts of the proposed amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan portion of the Comprehensive Plan and supplements information in the April 1994 Draft SEIS and June 1994 Final SEIS for the Comprehensive Plan, and April 1995 Draft SEIS and June 1995 Final SEIS for the implementing regulations to the Comprehensive Plan.

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

The Pierce County Comprehensive Plan requires annual reviews and updates to the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) subsequent to the Pierce County budget process and the release of new Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates. Changes to the CFP have been prepared by the various agencies providing capital facilities to County residents in conjunction with the Pierce County budget process. The update to the CFP also includes changes for public schools (through adoption of individual school districts' CFPs by reference), Pierce County Library, and Pierce Transit that are not tied to the Pierce County budget process.

General changes occurring to the CFP include adjusting the six-year planning period ahead one year relative to the previous year's CFP, and making changes to population statistics, level of service standards, and financing plans. The 2013 CFP update reflects a change to the schedule,
so that the amendments coincide with the annual budget cycle. The result is that the six-year planning period is being adjusted ahead two years, from 2011-2016 to 2013-2018.

In order to discuss specific amendments to the plan, the amendments have been organized into four parts for review and evaluation:

- Capital Facilities Plan Summary
- Capital Improvement Programs for the following County facilities:
  - Airports
  - District Court
  - Emergency Management
  - Ferry System
  - General Administration Buildings
  - Juvenile Court
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Road Facilities
  - Sewer Utility
  - Sheriff
  - Sheriff’s Corrections and Detention Center
  - Solid Waste
  - Superior Court
  - Surface Water Management and River Improvement
- Capital Improvement Program for each of the following:
  - School Districts (13)
  - Pierce County Library
  - Pierce Transit

PROPOSED ACTION

A. SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

The sections described below summarize the specific changes proposed to the Capital Facilities Plan. These changes are necessary to reflect current conditions, including the most recent population estimates, the updated planning time period (2013-2018) and the 2013 proposed County Budget. The amendments will not impact the rate of growth, development, and conversion of land as envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan. The amendments are consistent with the requirements of the Growth Management Act and do not result in changes to the Land Use Element or Land Use Designations Map. There will be no significant adverse environmental impacts associated with any of the changes to the Six-Year Financing Plans section of the CFP.

1. Capital Facilities Plan Summary

This section of the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) provides a description of the purpose and scope of the CFP, its relation to the Growth Management Act, concurrency, level of services, and other related issues. It also includes summary tables listing six-year (2013–2018) capital improvement costs for the different facilities, capital improvement sources of funds, the impact of proposed
capital improvements on the operating budget, future needs for which no funding is currently available, and a summary of several major projects.

2. Capital Improvement Programs

This section is divided into several parts, one for each of 14 County agencies involved in capital facilities project management. For each agency there is a description of the services provided and a general discussion of its capital facilities program. Non-capital alternatives to capital improvement investments are also identified. For each capital project there is a project description followed by tables that identify the capital cost, funding sources, and annual operation and maintenance costs for the next six years (2013–2018). A table showing the current and historical level of service standard for the agency is also provided.

3. Appendices

The CFP includes policies found in Pierce County Code Title 19A and Title 19E. These policies are provided in Appendices A, B, C, D, and E. Changes from current policies are limited to adjustments to reflect the current six-year CFP projections based on the proposed 2013 County Budget and changes to population projections based on updated figures from the Washington State Office of Financial Management.

B. ANALYSIS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

Although a number of changes are proposed to the Capital Facilities Plan Element, none of these alterations substantially change the analyses of impacts or alternatives discussed in the previous environmental work prepared for the Comprehensive Plan (1993 EIS and 1994 SEIS) and subsequent amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

Many of the changes to the Capital Facilities Plan Element are minor in nature - changes to the six-year planning period, population statistics, and financing plans. Such changes are necessary to reflect current conditions, including the most recent population estimates, the updated planning period, and the 2013 proposed Pierce County Budget, and therefore do not pose environmental impacts. Any changes to the level of service standards do not pose significant adverse environmental impacts.

Given that the amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan do not pose new probable significant adverse environmental impacts, this Addendum is adequate for purposes of analysis associated with the amendments to the Capital Facilities Plan.