



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 17, 2018

Jeff Boers, Principal Planner  
City of University Place  
Planning and Development Services  
3715 Bridgeport Way West  
University Place, WA 98466

Dear Mr. Boers:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the determination of nonsignificance for the 2018 Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review (2018-05-01). The Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the environmental checklist and has the following comment(s):

**TOXICS CLEANUP: Eva Barber (360) 407-7094**

Ecology recognizes this is a non-project action.

The City of University Place is located in an area that may have been contaminated with heavy metals due to the air emissions originating from the old Asarco smelter in north Tacoma (visit Ecology's Tacoma Smelter Plume map search tool: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/smeltersearch/>).

Ecology recommends that the City of University Place consider adopting future policies related the Tacoma Smelter Plume. Ecology also recommends that the City of University Place do the following actions for any development projects located within the Tacoma Smelter Plume that are also located within the shoreline jurisdiction areas of University Place:

- The applicants should sample and analyze the soil for arsenic and lead prior to issuance of any site development permits. Please contact Eva Barber with the Southwest Regional Office (SWRO), Toxics Cleanup Program at 360-407-7094 or via email at [Eva.Barber@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Eva.Barber@ecy.wa.gov) for guidance about soil sampling within Tacoma Smelter Plume. The soil sampling results should be sent to Ecology for review.

- If lead, arsenic and/or other contaminants are found at concentrations above MTCA cleanup levels, the City of University Place should require that the applicants contact Ecology for recommendation on addressing the contamination. Ecology may recommend that the applicants:
  - 1) Enter into the Voluntary Cleanup Program with Ecology. For more information on the Voluntary Cleanup Program, visit Ecology website at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/vcp/vcpmain.htm>.
  - 2) Obtain an opinion letter from Ecology stating that the proposed soil remediation or access restrictions to the contaminated property will likely result in no further action under - MTCA prior to the issuance of any site development permit and/or the initiation of any grading, filling, or clearing activities.
  - 3) Prior to finalizing site development permits, the City should obtain a “No Further Action” determination from Ecology indicating that the remediation plans were successfully implemented under MTCA.

For assistance and information about Tacoma Smelter Plume and soils contamination, contact Eva Barber at (360) 407-7094 or via e-mail at [Eva.Barber@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Eva.Barber@ecy.wa.gov).

Ecology’s comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office

(MLD:201802266)

cc: Eva Barber, TCP  
David Swindle, Planning & Development Services Director, City of University Place