



**Environmental Impact Statement –
Summary of the Public Scoping Process**

**NORTH AND EAST CITIES
REGIONAL MUNICIPAL JAIL**

**Prepared by:
BLUMEN CONSULTING GROUP, INC.**

**Prepared for:
THE NORTH/EAST CITIES**

May 6, 2009

Project Overview

The Cities of Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Shoreline (the proponents) are evaluating construction and operation of a new regional municipal jail, including potential sites located in north and east King County, and a site in downtown Seattle adjacent to the existing King County Jail. The new regional jail is proposed in order to meet the collective long-term need of the proponents and other cities in North and East King County (the North and East Cities, or "NEC") to house misdemeanants. (See the NEC Web site at <http://www.necmunicipaljail.org/> for further background on the project, including information on the public forums that were held in 2008 and the NEC's prior siting analysis process.)

EIS Scoping Process

For purposes of the NEC Regional Municipal Jail project, the City of Seattle is the nominal lead agency and is responsible for performing the duties of a lead agency, as required by the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The Director of the City's Department of Planning and Development is serving as the Responsible Official for the SEPA review. The other proponents (the Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Shoreline) are co-lead agencies under a Nominal Lead Agency Agreement. The proponents decided that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared consistent with WAC 197-11-400 through 460. Although the actions involved in developing a regional jail may not have significant adverse impacts, and impacts that could be significant at one of the six potential sites may not be significant at others, the proponents have decided to prepare an EIS that evaluates potential impacts at each site.

On December 18, 2008, the proponents initiated the EIS scoping process for the NEC Regional Municipal Jail by carrying out the following actions:

- Issued a Determination of Significance (DS) and Request for Comments on the Scope of the EIS. The DS included notification of six public scoping meetings to provide the opportunity to comment orally on the scope of the EIS, and provided notice that the minimum 21-day scoping period was extended to 43 days;
- Mailed copies of the DS/Request for Comments to numerous agencies and organizations, as well as owners and current occupants of parcels located within 500 feet of the proposed six site alternatives;
- Published notice in the WA Department of Ecology's SEPA Register;
- Published notice of the DS/Request for Comments in the City of Seattle Department of Planning and Development Land Use Information Bulletin and the City of Bellevue Permit Bulletin;
- Published notice of the DS/Request for comments in the following newspapers: Seattle Times and Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce;
- Posted *Notice of Proposed Land Use Action* signs at each of the six site alternatives; and
- Sent over 300 email notifications about the DS/Requests for comments to individuals that requested project updates.

The EIS Scoping notification actions comply with or exceed the applicable noticing requirements. See **Appendix A** to this EIS Scoping Summary, as well as the NEC Web site at http://www.necmunicipaljail.org/docs/NEC_2008_EIS_Scoping_Notice.pdf for copies of the DS/Request for Comments.

Six EIS Public Scoping meetings were held in January 2009 to provide the public with opportunities to comment on the range of environmental issues, alternatives and actions that should be considered in the EIS. During the EIS Scoping meetings, the public was encouraged to provide both written and/or oral comments on the scope of the EIS. A total of 159 people signed in and a total of 56 people spoke at the six public meetings. (The actual number of attendees may have been greater than 159 people, however, because not everyone may have elected to sign in. The meetings were held from 6 p.m. to close of comments; the dates, locations, number of attendees, and number of speakers at each meeting are summarized in **Table 1**. Transcripts of the meetings are posted on the NEC Web site at <http://www.necmunicipaljail.org/EISScopingComments.htm>. The first five meetings all included an introduction to the project and EIS process provided by the City of Seattle staff and SEPA consultants, respectively; however, to avoid redundancy, only the transcript of the first meeting held on 01.06.09 includes the introduction. No introduction was provided at the meeting held on 01.15.09 because there were no attendees from the public at that meeting.

**Table 1
EIS SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY**

EIS Scoping Meeting Date & Location	Number of Attendees Who Signed In	Number of Speakers
01.06.09 – Lake Washington Technical College	46	14
01.07.09 – Shoreline Community College	66	20
01.08.09 – Seattle City Hall	1	1
01.13.09 – South Seattle Community College	35	16**
01.14.09 – Seattle Center	11	5
01.15.09 – Meydenbauer Center	0	0

*Ten people spoke once, four people spoke twice and two people spoke three times.

During the EIS scoping comment period, a total of approximately 176 comment letters/emails were received, including six comment letters/emails from local jurisdictions and organizations (City of Lake Forest Park, City of Mountlake Terrace, City of Woodinville, Shoreline School District, Ballinger Neighborhood Association and Magnolia Community Club) and approximately 170 letters/emails from individuals. All of the comment letters/emails are posted on the NEC website at <http://www.necmunicipaljail.org/EISScopingComments.htm>.

As part of the DS issuance, the proponents *preliminarily* determined that the following elements of the environment should be analyzed in the Draft EIS:

- **Earth;**
- **Water Resources;**
- **Plants and Animals;**
- **Energy;**
- **Environmental Health;**
- **Noise;**

- **Land Use;**
- **Aesthetics;**
- **Light and Glare;**
- **Historic and Cultural Preservation;**
- **Transportation and Parking; and**
- **Public Services** (including Public Safety and Governmental Services).

Also as part of the DS, the proponents *preliminarily* proposed that the six site alternatives listed below will be evaluated in the EIS as potential locations for the jail. No preferred alternative was identified.

- **Seattle North** (Seattle N) – 1600 W. Armory Way
- **Seattle South** (Seattle S) – Highland Park Way SW and Marginal Way
- **Bellevue** – 555 116th Ave. NE
- **Shoreline** – 2545 NE 200th St.
- **Unincorporated King County** (UKC) – 13225 NE 126th Pl.
- **King County Jail Annex** (Annex) – Southeast corner of Fifth Ave. and Jefferson St., Seattle.

As required by SEPA, a **No Action Alternative** will also be analyzed in the EIS. “No action” means a regional jail facility is not built at any of the alternative sites. Under this alternative, the NEC would be required to find alternative means for housing misdemeanants.

Summary of EIS Scoping Comments

The following summary highlights the major issues that were raised during the scoping process and is organized by alternatives and elements of the environment headings. This summary does not reflect every individual comment received and recorded, but rather is intended to address the primary subjects of concern. In some cases numerous commenters offered similar comments on a given subject. Further, some comments did not specifically pertain to the EIS scope. Comments that pertained to specific sites are so noted in parenthesis; otherwise, the comments are assumed to relate to all of the sites.

Alternatives

During the EIS scoping process, many comments (both written and oral) expressed opposition to individual site alternatives, particularly the Shoreline, Unincorporated King County, Seattle South and Seattle North sites. This opposition was primarily based on the potential lack of compatibility of a jail with the adjacent or nearby land uses (including residential, schools and parks/recreational uses); the potential for negative impacts on property values; and, potential safety issues related to siting a jail adjacent to or near a residential community. Other comments relating to alternatives and/or the prior siting analysis or future site selection process included:

- The potential for future expansion of the jail facility should be considered in selecting a site (Seattle N, Shoreline).
- A number of commenters in the Shoreline area indicated that they believed that the prior siting analysis conducted by the NEC was flawed. They indicated that there was no documentation or public involvement in the site identification process. Certain

commenters indicated that the Shoreline site did not meet the test of a “reasonable alternative” as defined by SEPA (Shoreline).

- The Fircrest property should have been considered as a possible site for the jail in the Shoreline area (Shoreline).
- Why was the Seattle North site selected for analysis in the EIS when it did not rank as high as other Seattle sites (Seattle N)?

Earth

Earth-related comments focused on the need to identify and analyze geotechnical hazard areas on the sites and in the site vicinities, including: seismic hazards (i.e., liquefaction-prone areas, such as unstable soils or fill), steep slopes, erosion hazards and landslide hazards (Seattle S, Seattle N, UKC). Other comments included:

- Construction would require pilings and earthquake-proofing of the building, which should be analyzed in the EIS (Seattle S).
- A geological hazard assessment should be prepared that includes analysis of the potential for seiche (a standing wave in an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water) and lahar (mudflow or landslide flows from a volcano) impacts (Seattle S).
- The jail would be in a projected path for a high-grade tsunami, which should be addressed in the EIS (Seattle N).

Water Resources

Water resource-related comments focused on the potential for flooding due to an increase in impervious surfaces, and the impacts of stormwater runoff on existing surface and groundwater resources on the sites and in the vicinity of the sites. Concerns were raised about the potential for impacts to water resources during construction and operation of the proposed facility (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle N, Seattle S). Other comments included:

- Changing the topography of the site would cause problems with drainage (Shoreline).
- Analyze the impacts on water quality from increased transportation-related pollution, such as oil, gasoline, brake-lining materials etc. (Shoreline).
- Redevelopment of the UKC jail site should comply with the City of Woodinville’s Sammamish River Basin Action Plan (UKC).

Plants and Animals

Plant and animal-related comments were keyed to the potential impacts to plant and animal habitat and diversity, both on the sites and in the site vicinities, with development of the proposed jail facility (Shoreline, Seattle S, UKC). Concerns were also raised regarding potential impacts to bird and animal migratory patterns and routes (Shoreline, Seattle S). Other comments included:

- Changes in water temperature as a result of the increased impervious surfaces with the project would impact salmon (Seattle S).
- Creek, wetland and river water quality could be compromised due to transportation-related pollution in runoff and increased volumes of site runoff; this could damage downstream fish and wildlife (Shoreline, Seattle S).

- An analysis of potential impacts on downstream resources, including wetlands and salmon habitat (i.e., Brugger's Bog, Ballinger Creek and the Duwamish River), should be performed (Shoreline, Seattle S).
- The potential impacts to large fir and cedar trees with potential development on the Shoreline site should be considered (Shoreline).
- Lighting from the proposed jail could affect bird migration and should be addressed.

Environmental Health

Environmental health comments primarily related to potential contaminants that could be present on certain of the sites from former land uses, including: hazardous waste generators (Seattle S), industrial uses (Seattle N), and manufacturing uses (UKC). Comments indicated that development of the proposed jail at these sites could release these contaminants and should be evaluated.

Energy

Many of the energy-related comments focused on the carbon emissions that would result from transporting inmates to/from a jail site located far from necessary services (i.e., courts, treatment facilities). Comments indicated that the sites where existing access is limited and traffic congestion problems exist were of particular concern (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S, Seattle N). Other comments included:

- Indicate if the proposed building would be "green" and what specific green materials would be used in building construction.
- Assess how the proposed development would contribute to the "heat island effect" in urban environments ("islands" of higher temperature that occur as a result of converting pervious surfaces to impervious surfaces).
- A "carbon footprint assessment" should be performed for each site, including during construction and operation of the project, with particular attention to transportation-related emissions and differences among the sites.

Noise

Noise-related comments focused on potential construction and operational noise (alarms, sirens, traffic etc.) that would be generated by the proposed jail facility and the potential impacts on neighboring residential communities that should be evaluated in the EIS (Shoreline, Seattle S, Seattle N, UKC).

Air Quality

Concerns were raised about the potential air quality impacts of the proposed jail facility, particularly during construction.

Land Use

There were numerous comments on the potential land use impacts of the proposed jail facility. Many of the comments cited a perceived lack of compatibility of a jail with existing land uses in the site areas (including existing residential, churches, businesses, schools, parks, and other public uses). The perceived lack of consistency of the proposed project with existing zoning was also mentioned by many commenters (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S, Seattle N). Other comments included:

- Demand for businesses that might result from the jail (i.e., bail bondsmen, pawn shops etc.) would be incompatible with the surrounding community (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S).
- The siting of the jail at the unincorporated King County site could impact the potential annexation of this area to Kirkland (UKC).
- Displacement of existing businesses would be a negative impact (UKC).
- Indicate whether a Special Use Permit would be required to build the jail.
- Describe how planned or potential future development near the sites would be impacted with development of the proposed jail, including: a planned multifamily development (UKC), Port-owned land and retail development near the site (Seattle N) and development along the Dravus St. corridor (Seattle N).
- Include a detailed analysis of the relevant goals and policies from the Comprehensive Plans of each jurisdiction and surrounding jurisdictions.
- Concerns were raised about potential impacts of the proposed jail on agricultural and tourism uses in the area, including the nearby South 47 Farm, Root Connection and wineries (UKC).
- Assess the loss of recreational land and future demand for such space (Shoreline).
- Consider how the jail would relate to policy direction about retention of industrial lands (Seattle N, Seattle S).

Population and Housing

Many comments were raised relating to potential impacts of the proposed jail on surrounding residential uses. Comments on impacts to housing also pertain to other EIS elements (i.e., **Transportation, Noise, Property Values and Public Safety**). Other comments on Population/Housing included:

- The analysis of the Shoreline site should examine the City of Shoreline's Comprehensive Housing Strategy (2008).
- Assess the impacts of foreclosing future residential development on the Shoreline site and the City's ability to meet Growth Management Act-mandated population targets. The loss of potential residential density at this site would force higher density residential development into other neighborhoods (Shoreline).

Aesthetics

Commenters inquired about the visual character of the proposed jail and voiced concern about potential view impacts with the proposed project (Shoreline, Seattle N, Seattle S, UKC). Other comments included:

- Interbay is the center of an “amphitheater” with hundreds of residences. People that live on the hills would look directly down on this facility (Seattle N).
- A buffer should be placed around the facility that would include planting tall trees, fences and/or walls, or windows should be eliminated on the sides of the facility that face adjacent homes (Shoreline).
- All surrounding homes would have a territorial view of the proposed site. The aesthetic impacts on surrounding residential uses in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park should be studied (Shoreline).
- The scale of the proposed facility would dwarf surrounding development (UKC).

Light and Glare

Light and glare comments focused on the need for an analysis of potential light/glare impacts of the proposed project on nearby residential uses (Shoreline, Seattle N, Seattle S, UKC). Other comments included:

- Describe the types of lighting that would be used (Seattle N).
- Impacts due to lighting and the effects on the night sky visibility should be addressed (Shoreline).

Historic and Cultural Resources

Historic and cultural resources-related comments focused on the need to identify designated historic, cultural or archaeological resources on or in the vicinity of the sites, and the potential for the proposed project to impact these resources in the EIS (Shoreline, Seattle S, Seattle N). Specific comments related to cultural resources highlighted the potential significance of the Seattle South site to the Duwamish Tribe.

Transportation

Many of the transportation-related comments focused on the potential impacts that traffic from the proposed jail could have on already congested streets, streets with poor accessibility and streets with few pedestrian amenities (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S). Commenters also questioned who would pay for necessary street improvements, pedestrian amenities, traffic signals, etc.

Except in regard to the King County Annex and Bellevue sites, concerns were raised regarding the additional travel time it would take trips to/from the jail (from courts, individual cities, etc.). Many commenters also registered concern about the lack of public transportation options (UKC, Shoreline and Seattle S). Other comments included:

- Evaluate the capacity of all access roads to accommodate added traffic from the jail (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S, Seattle N).

- Street improvements would not necessarily be desirable in residential areas.
- Neighborhood elementary schools are walk-only schools and young children walk along a busy street to/from school. The additional traffic from the proposed jail would impact pedestrian safety (UKC).
- Evaluate the cumulative impacts of future development (planned and potential) on traffic/transportation facilities proximate to the sites, including from: cruise ship expansion (Seattle N), the Alaskan Way Viaduct replacement (Seattle N), and currently vacant office buildings on NE 128th St. and Willows Rd. NE (UKC).
- Discuss access to public transportation.
- Assess the potential safety impacts at school bus pick-up/drop-off locations (Shoreline).
- Evaluate the traffic impacts of the project during construction.
- Evaluate the parking required for the jail and how it would be accommodated.

Public Services

Public Safety

The potential public safety-related impacts of locating the proposed jail in a residential area were key issues for many of the commenters. In particular, concerns were raised about releasing inmates into residential areas with schools and parks, particularly at times of the day or night when services and public transportation options are limited (Shoreline, Seattle S, Seattle N, UKC). Other comments included:

- Discuss how public safety would be maintained, given that there is no police force in Kingsgate or Totem Lake (UKC).
- Describe how any escapes from the proposed facility would be addressed (i.e., the potential need for a "lock-down" at surrounding schools) (Shoreline).
- Indicate if additional police protection would be provided for adjacent residential neighborhoods and who would pay for this service (UKC).
- Many residential streets in the vicinity are poorly lit; more street lighting would be needed to maximize safety (Shoreline).
- Describe the relationship between the surrounding schools and the jail and potential negative impacts (i.e., children walking to/from nearby schools) (Shoreline, UKC).
- There would be an increased kidnapping threat in areas surrounding the proposed jail.
- Many misdemeanants have felony arrest records and are potentially dangerous.
- Evaluate whether crime rates would be likely to increase in the vicinity of the jail, and/or whether the proposed jail would import crime into the surrounding community (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S).
- Seattle Public School children use the Metro bus to get to school. These children should not be riding the bus with the jail population (Seattle N).

Parks and Recreation

Many commenters were concerned about potential safety impacts to nearby park users from the proposed jail, as well as the potential loss, displacement and/or impacts to recreational uses on or in the vicinities of the sites (Shoreline, UKC, Seattle S, Seattle N). The distance to find comparable recreational opportunities was also cited as an issue (Shoreline). Other specific comments included:

- The Shoreline site is extensively used for formal and informal recreational purposes. These recreational uses would be eliminated at this location with the proposed jail, resulting in negative impacts (Shoreline).
- The Ballinger Neighborhood Association has been exploring the potential for using a portion of the Shoreline site for use as a P-patch. (Shoreline).

Fire and Other Governmental Services

Some of the comments on public services related to the capacity of existing first-response/emergency services to meet the increased demand that would be generated by the proposed jail facility and the potential for response times to be negatively affected. Concerns were also raised about the distance from certain sites to municipal courts, hospitals and other treatment facilities that serve inmates. The release of inmates into areas that lack support services was also mentioned as an issue (Shoreline, Seattle S, UKC, Seattle N).

Schools

Comments related to schools, beyond those regarding safety issues and compatibility with the proposed jail, included:

- Siting the jail adjacent to an existing school and single-family homes would burden the school district's financial and programmatic abilities to meet student needs (Shoreline).
- The school across the street from the Shoreline site has publicly stated it would be forced to relocate if a jail were built (Shoreline).

Utilities

Utility-related comments focused on the capacity of existing utility systems to handle the additional demands from the proposed jail facility. Water (including fire flow capacity), sewer, stormwater control, solid waste and power were among the specific utilities mentioned.

Economics and Property Values

Many commenters were concerned about the potential negative impacts of the proposed jail on adjacent and nearby property values, both residential and commercial (Shoreline, Seattle S, Seattle N, UKC). Numerous requests were made for more analogous examples of property values studies of jails than the Department of Justice study cited on the NEC Web site. Concerns were also raised about the fiscal impacts on the jurisdictions where the jail could be located. Other comments included:

- Reduction in property values would directly lead to a reduction in tax revenues that support schools, fire protection, libraries, city services, etc.
- Research indicates that residential properties abutting or fronting passive parks and green space have higher property values. Replacing green space with a jail would decrease residential property values.
- Consider future development opportunities that could be lost due to the presence of the proposed jail facility.
- Current home sales are already being affected by the jail siting process (Shoreline).
- The ease of site acquisition and the cost of exercising the eminent domain process should be considered in the site selection process.

- There would be increased costs of litigation involving property rights and land use if the Shoreline site is selected (Shoreline).
- The costs of constructing and operating the proposed jail at some sites would be greater than at others. Cost differences should be evaluated.

Other Issues

Other comments included:

- Most inmates would come from Seattle and Bellevue; therefore, unincorporated King County should not be required to house the jail (UKC).
- The unincorporated King County citizens should not be penalized, because they do not have the political strength of a city, such as Bellevue or Kirkland (UKC).
- Location of a regional jail in the Magnolia community would not be just, because the community already hosts the West Point Treatment Plant, a large Port of Seattle facility, a landfill, and will soon host the new "cruise terminal," as well as a new homeless housing project in Discovery Park (Seattle N).
- Location of a regional jail in the Highland Park community would not be just because of the demographic composition of the area (Seattle S).

Conclusions

As indicated previously, many of the comments expressed consistent concerns and requested similar analyses related to the EIS. The majority of the comments that were received during the public scoping period for the NEC Regional Municipal Jail EIS related to **Land Use, Transportation, Public Safety** and **Economics/Property Values**. In addition, comments were expressed concerning the capacity of water and sewer systems to accommodate the proposed facility.

Subsequent to reviewing all of the comments, we recommend that the following additional elements be analyzed in the EIS (beyond those already identified in the DS): **Economics/Property Values, Population/Housing** and **Air Quality**. One additional element that may be included is **Utilities** (Water and Sewer) -- if preliminary analysis¹ indicates that there could be an issue with regard to water and/or sewer capacity at any one of the sites. If, based on this preliminary analysis, it is determined that sufficient capacity exists at each site, then this environmental element – Utilities – would not be included.

A number of comments were also raised regarding issues that are typically beyond the scope of SEPA review (i.e., acquisition, construction and operational cost differences, certain public policy issues related to the need for a jail facility, and regional siting decisions and processes). While these issues are not typically addressed in an EIS under SEPA, they could be evaluated as part of the decision-making process for selecting a site.

¹ Preliminary analysis to be performed by the architectural design team.

APPENDIX A

Determination of Significance/ Request for Comments on the Scope of the EIS

NORTH AND EAST CITIES REGIONAL MUNICIPAL JAIL EIS

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE (DS) AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS

Description of Proposal: The Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Seattle, and Shoreline ("Proponents") are evaluating potential sites for construction and operation of a new regional jail. The proposed alternative sites are located in north and east King County, and include a site in downtown Seattle adjacent to the existing King County jail. The jail is proposed in order to meet the Proponents' collective long-term need to house misdemeanants (persons convicted of felonies are incarcerated in the County's facilities). Most cities within King County have had contracts with the County that allow them to house their misdemeanants in the County's jails. The new regional jail facility needs to be fully operational by January 1, 2013, because the cities' existing contract with King County expires December 31, 2012.

The Proponents estimate they will need approximately 640 beds for misdemeanor offenders over the next 20 years. It is anticipated that a jail that could accommodate this number of beds, together with associated support services, would require approximately 255,000 sq. ft. of building area. It is anticipated that the jail would require a staff of approximately 200 personnel and parking to accommodate approximately 200 vehicles.

Site Alternatives: It is proposed that six site alternatives will be evaluated in an environmental impact statement (EIS) as potential locations for the jail – in addition to a **No Action Alternative**. At this point in the environmental review process, no preferred alternative has been identified. The six site alternatives include the following:

- **SEATTLE NORTH – 1600 W. Armory Way:** The site is approximately 90 feet west of 15th Ave. W. and is adjacent to both W. Wheeler St. (north property line) and W. Armory Way (southwest property line).
- **SEATTLE SOUTH – Highland Park Way S.W. and W. Marginal Way:** This site is bordered by W. Marginal Way, Highland Park Way S.W. and 2nd Ave. S.W.
- **BELLEVUE – 555 116th Ave. N.E.:** This site is bordered by I-405 on the west and 116th Ave. N.E. on the east, and is located south of NE 8th St. and north of 4th St.
- **SHORELINE – 2545 N.E. 200th St.:** This site is bordered by 25th Ave. N.E., N.E. 200th St., and NE 195th Lane.
- **UNINCORPORATED KING COUNTY – 13225 N.E. 126th Pl.:** This site is located east of the Kirkland city limits and north of the Redmond city limits. This site is roughly bounded by N.E. 126th Pl. to the north and 135th Ave. N.E. to the east, and is located north of N.E. 124th St. and east of 132nd Pl. N.E.
- **KING COUNTY JAIL ANNEX – Southeast corner of Fifth Ave. and Jefferson St.:** This site is located in downtown Seattle. The site is bordered by Jefferson St. on the north and Fifth Ave. on the west. A King County Parking Garage occupies the east-half of the block (along Sixth Ave.) The existing King County Jail is located directly north of this site (north of Jefferson St.). Under this alternative, in addition to the Cities' 640 beds, a facility at this site

would also contain up to 450 County jail beds and certain other County criminal justice facilities.

- **NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE** -- This alternative assumes that the proposed actions are not approved or implemented and a regional jail facility is not built at any of the alternative sites. The cities would be required to find alternate means for housing misdemeanants after December 31, 2012.

It is possible that additional sites could be identified and evaluated in the EIS, or that some of the currently listed sites may be omitted, as a result of the public scoping process, ongoing analysis by the cities, and/or further agency input.

Proponent/Applicant: The Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Seattle, and Shoreline.

Lead Agency: For purposes of this EIS, the City of Seattle will be the nominal Lead Agency and is responsible for performing the duties of a lead agency as required by the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). **The other Proponents are co-lead agencies under a Nominal Lead Agency Agreement signed by the Proponents.**

EIS to be Prepared: Although the location of the proposed jail may not have significant adverse impacts at each site, the Proponents have decided to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) that describes potential impacts at each site.

The EIS will address the probable significant adverse environmental impacts of all actions necessary to accomplish the proposal, including, but not limited to:

- site selection, construction and operation of a regional jail facility at each site alternative;
- land use regulatory and/or zoning changes that would be necessary in order to accommodate a regional jail facility at each site; and
- future permits that would be required for construction and development of the jail facility at a selected site.

With respect to the King County Jail Annex site, the EIS will also consider any probable significant adverse environmental impacts of the development and operation of the County criminal justice facilities on the site and connection of the facility to the existing King County jail.

The following elements of the environment have been identified for discussion in the EIS: Earth, Water Resources, Plants and Animals, Environmental Health, Energy, Noise, Land Use, Aesthetics, Light and Glare, Historical and Cultural Resources, Transportation and Parking, and Public Services (including Public Safety and Governmental Services).

Scoping: Agencies, affected tribes and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on the elements of the environment to be addressed in the EIS, range of alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required. **All EIS Scoping comments are due by 5 PM January 30, 2009.** Methods for presenting your comments include the following:

- **Submittal of comments at any one of the public scoping meetings noted below.**

Six public EIS scoping meetings are scheduled to provide opportunities to comment orally on the scope of the EIS. In addition, written comments will be accepted. Meetings will be held from 6 PM to close of comments on the following days and at the following locations:

- January 6, 2009 – in the Auditorium, W404, at Lake Washington Technical College, located at 11605 132nd Ave. N.E., Kirkland;
 - January 7, 2009 -- in the Theater at Shoreline Community College, located at 16101 Greenwood Ave. N., Shoreline;
 - January 8, 2009 -- in the Bertha Knight Landes Room at Seattle City Hall, located at 600 Fourth Ave. (between Cherry and James Streets), Seattle;
 - January 13, 2009 -- in the Brockey Conference Center at South Seattle Community College, located at 6000 16th Ave. S.W., Seattle;
 - January 14, 2009 -- in the Olympic Room at the Seattle Center, located at 225 Mercer Street, Seattle;
 - January 15, 2009 -- on Level 4, Rooms 404 and 405 of The Meydenbauer Center, located at 11100 N.E. Sixth St., Bellevue.
- **Submittal of written comments via email at: MunicipalJailSEPA@Seattle.gov**
 - **Submittal of written comments to the Responsible Official (noted below)**

Additional details concerning the proposal are available at the following website:
www.necmunicipaljail.org

For accommodations and translation services, please contact The Keller Group at 425-788-8990

Responsible Official: Diane Sugimura

Position/Title: Director of Department of Planning and Development

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Phone: 206-233-2027

Date: December 18, 2008

Signature: on file
SEPA Responsible Official

Contact Person: For further clarification, please contact:

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