

SEPA Environmental Checklist

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Residential Treatment Facility Program and Request for Proposal

2. Name of applicant:

King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)

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

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4. Date checklist prepared:

February 2025

5. Agency requesting checklist:

King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program (“RTF”) is part of the Crisis Care Centers Levy, which spans from 2024 through 2032. The Residential Treatment Facility Program and Request for Proposals (RFP) includes procuring locations, capital funding opportunities, and capacity building/technical assistance. DCHS intends to award the opportunity to negotiate contracts through the RFP, dependent on the proposals received. Notification of selected and non-selected proposers will occur in May 2025.

The period of performance for any awarded contracts resulting from the RFP is tentatively scheduled to begin June 2025 and extend through the completion of facilities, including final inspections and acceptance. The exact timeline will be defined based on the approved project schedule.

The full timeline of events is found on Pages 10 and 11 of the attached RFP and is also available online at the following link:

<https://www.zoomgrants.com/gprop2.asp?donorid=2209&rfpid=5600>

For any residential treatment facility that is selected, the capital facility development process will take place over the following seven phases:

1. Site Identification;
2. Site Feasibility;
3. Site Control;
4. Designment and Permitting;

5. Construction;
6. Permits, Licensure, and Regulatory Compliance;
7. Open for Operations.

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

King County DCHS has released an RFP to solicit Behavioral Health Agencies (BHAs) to develop and operate new residential treatment facilities, aiming to restore King County's mental health residential capacity to at least the 2018 level of 355 beds. Funding may be used to acquire an existing facility, renovate an existing facility to expand new bed capacity, or construct a new facility.

DCHS will provide technical assistance to successful applicants during the capital development process to:

- Provide awardees access to capital development technical assistance and capacity building;
- Assist awardees with jurisdictional and community engagement, including when navigating the siting process; and
- Meet monthly with Residential Treatment awardees to monitor capital development progress and provide support.

Depending on responses to the RFP, DCHS may release another RFP in the future for additional applicants.

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

- SEPA Checklist for this proposal
- King County Strategic Climate Action Plan
- King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan (for capital projects)

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.

There are no applications for governmental approvals pending that would affect this program.

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

No other approvals or permits will be required for this action. Implementation of future actions related to the potential construction and operation of the RTFs proposed may be required to undergo separate, site-specific environmental analysis.

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.)

King County DCHS has released an RFP to solicit Behavioral Health Agencies (BHAs) to develop and operate new residential treatment facilities, aiming to restore King County's mental health residential capacity to at least the 2018 level of 355 beds. Funding may be used to acquire an existing facility, renovate an existing facility to expand new bed capacity, or construct a new facility.

The goal of this funding is to improve access to and the availability of mental health residential treatment services by covering costs associated with new construction, facility acquisition, building renovation or expansion, and other capital pre-development and development costs. Mental health residential treatment is a critical level of care within a robust continuum of mental health services, where individuals can receive intensive treatment within a structured setting and receive 24/7 support.

Residential treatment is a community based behavioral health treatment option for people who need a higher level of care than outpatient behavioral health services can provide but do not need inpatient psychiatric care.¹ Multiple mental health residential treatment facilities, which are a subset of residential treatment facilities, have closed in recent years due to rising operating and maintenance costs, aging infrastructure, and insufficient resources to repair facilities. The lack of resources for capital maintenance and facility improvements has contributed to facility closures.² As of October 2023, King County had a total of 240 mental health residential treatment beds for the entire county, a decrease of 115 beds, down nearly one third from the capacity of 355 beds in 2018.³ The closing of residential treatment facilities highlights a gap in King County's behavioral health continuum of care.⁴

Residential treatment facilities that offer the following types of programs would be prioritized to receive expansion capital funds:

¹ King County Ordinance 19572 defines residential treatment as "a licensed, community-based facility that provides twenty-four-hour on-site care for persons with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, or both, in a residential setting" [\[LINK\]](#).

² Furfaro, Hannah. "Where did King County's mental health beds go?" The Seattle Times, February 25, 2023. [\[LINK\]](#)

³ An additional four mental health residential beds have been lost since the passage of King County Ordinance 19572. BHRD monitors the number of available beds through a bed tracker list.

⁴ Sydney Brownstone, "A Belltown residential treatment facility shutters, leaving a hole in King County's mental health system," The Seattle Times, October 11, 2020. [\[LINK\]](#)

1. Up to two programs (up to 16 beds each) that would deliver a relatively high intensity of treatment programming, would provide a more structured and monitored treatment environment, and would be able to accommodate the following populations:
 - a. Individuals with a co-occurring mental health (MH) and substance use disorder (SUD) condition needing a high intensity of SUD treatment and stabilization.
 - b. Individuals at higher risk for concerning or dangerous behaviors (e.g., aggressive behaviors, suicidal ideation, or self-harm behaviors)
 - c. Individuals who may need a relatively short and more intensive treatment episode.
2. Up to three programs (consisting of 16 beds each) that will provide treatment programs with opportunities for community integration in South King County
3. One program of up to 16 beds that will serve ages 13-17, with programming and structure to provide care for adolescents with disruptive or aggressive behaviors and that can accommodate and provide specialized care for adolescents with co-occurring Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities.
4. Priorities for all programs to be selected include:
 - a. Provision of Evidence Based Practices for populations they will be serving (e.g. DBT, CBT for psychosis)
 - b. Provision of representative staffing and culturally and linguistically tailored treatment for racial/ethnic minority populations.
 - c. Provision of integrated and robust (SUD) treatment options
 - d. Occupational Therapy services
 - e. Provision of accommodations for and specialized interventions for individuals with co-occurring IDD or brain injuries
5. Facilities located within the South King County region

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.

This proposal is a nonproject action and does not yet include determined sites. Residential treatment facilities could be located anywhere in the county.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program will expand and develop facilities to increase residential bed capacity by 100 to 200 beds. Funding may be used to acquire an existing facility, renovate an existing facility to expand new bed capacity, or construct new facilities. Facilities cannot exceed federal standards for facility sizes, which currently limit facility size to no greater than 16 beds. Therefore, facilities would be located in a variety of locations across the county, potentially including locations of existing facilities and new locations. Facilities could be co-located with other behavioral health facilities in accordance with

applicable laws and authorities. Priority would be given to programs meeting certain criteria, including facilities located with the South King County region.

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no identifiable “site,” the RFP applies to all of King County.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program applies to all of King County, which includes areas that are flat, rolling, hilly, and steep slope. King County landforms include saltwater coastline, river floodplains, plateaus, slopes, and mountains, punctuated with lakes and streams. The Residential Treatment Facility Program would apply to King County projects on lands with these features.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, it is possible there may be steep slopes on future residential treatment facility properties. However, any such facility development would be subject to existing regulations, including critical areas regulations, that would be addressed during permit review.

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.

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, soil in King County generally reflects geologically recent glacial and alluvial (river and stream) activity, as well as human activity. Future RTF projects be subject to existing regulations regarding removal of soils.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, geologically hazardous areas, including landslide and erosion-prone areas, some abandoned mining areas, and seismic risk areas, exist within King County. Landslide and erosion-prone areas are associated primarily with steep slopes. Hazardous mining areas that may be subject to surface subsidence are associated primarily with past coal mining that occurred in the area from Newcastle through Renton south to Black Diamond. Any development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program that is located on a parcel where landslide or erosion-prone areas exist would be

subject to existing regulations and, for new uses, would be identified and addressed under existing regulations during permit review.

- 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.**

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly authorize any fill, excavation, or grading, individual residential treatment facility projects pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could include fill, excavation, or grading. All such projects would continue to be subject to existing development regulations related to stormwater management, impervious surfaces, critical areas, clearing and grading, and/or landscaping. Unless exempt under state and county requirements, filling, excavation and grading is also subject to SEPA review.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program would not direct any development activities, potential erosion can result from clearing, construction or use of land for development that is pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program. The Residential Treatment Facility Program does not amend existing regulations on clearing, grading, or construction that could cause erosion.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program would not have any direct impacts to impervious surface percentages. Future RTF facilities could alter the percentage of impervious surfaces on their respective sites. All such development would continue to be subject to existing regulations concerning new and replaced impervious surfaces and evaluated during project-level environmental and permit reviews.

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

Because the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts, no measures to control erosion or other impacts to the earth are proposed. King County's existing regulations and any applicable local jurisdiction regulations related to erosion and soils would apply to any developments pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program.

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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not result in any direct emissions to the air. Projects pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may result in air emissions from construction and operation activities, but would

be subject to existing federal, state, and local regulations for these types of emissions. The Residential Treatment Facility Program would not modify any federal, state, or local codes that provide standards or controls for these types of emissions.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not result in any direct emissions to the air, the operation of any developed Residential Treatment Facility projects could be affected by off-site sources of emissions or odor.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not have any direct impacts to air emissions, and the RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would be subject to existing regulations regarding emissions and reporting requirements. Additional federal, state, and local codes may provide standards and controls for these types of emissions and would not be modified by the Residential Treatment Facility Program. As a result, no measures to reduce or control emissions or other potential impacts to air are proposed.

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.

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, numerous streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands, and the Puget Sound are located within King County. These waterbodies would be considered during development review.

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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly require any work over, in, or adjacent to the described waters. State and local shoreline regulations would apply to any development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program that is within 200 feet of water. Other development regulations, including critical areas regulations, concerning the protection of waterbodies may also apply depending on the proximity of any development to these waters.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not authorize filling or dredging from surface water or wetlands. Individual RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would also be subject to all state, local, and federal regulations, including mitigation requirements, concerning fill or dredge material placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not require any surface water withdrawals or diversions. Individual RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would also be subject to existing regulations concerning surface water diversions and withdrawals, including those regarding in-stream flows, if applicable.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, several areas of King County lie within a 100-year floodplain. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would also be subject to city and King County rules and limitations pertaining to floodplain development and fill.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would also be subject to existing state, local, and federal regulations concerning the protection of and discharge of waste materials to surface waters, including state regulations on water usage, wastewater disposal, and state antidegradation standards.

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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not directly involve any withdrawals of groundwater or discharge to groundwater. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program that use groundwater or discharge to groundwater would be subject to all existing state, local, and federal regulations concerning groundwater removal and protection.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not result in any discharge of waste material into the ground. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may discharge waste material from septic tanks or other sources and would be required to treat and dispose of any waste in a manner compatible with state and local regulations.

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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly generate or affect water runoff. Individual RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may generate some water runoff.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly result in any waste material entering ground or surface waters. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may result in waste matter that could enter ground or surface waters, but such projects would be subject to existing state, local, and federal regulations concerning the protection of surface and ground water.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, and would not alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would also be subject to existing drainage regulations, which are unchanged by the proposal.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to surface or ground water, runoff water, or drainage patterns. Existing federal, state and local regulations related to surface water discharge and withdrawal, groundwater discharge and withdrawal, runoff water (stormwater), and drainage would apply to any Residential Treatment Facility development project. No additional measures to reduce or control any potential surface, ground, and runoff water and drainage pattern impacts are proposed through the Residential Treatment Facility program. Individual development proposals may be required to provide these measures.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, King County includes a variety of vegetation types on the various lands where future RTF facilities may be located.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly remove any vegetation, the development of future RTF development pursuant to the proposed RFP could include the removal or alteration of vegetation. Such development would be subject to existing state and local regulations that regulate vegetation removal or alteration, in the same manner as other uses.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program will be required to meet all federal, state, and local laws regarding endangered or threatened plant species.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation could be proposed for individual developments.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, a variety of noxious weeds and invasive species exist in King

County. The Residential Treatment Facility Program does not change any obligations to control noxious weeds identified by the King County Noxious Weed Control Board.

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:**

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, a variety of birds, mammals, and fish have been observed in King County. There are 221 bird species that are common, uncommon or usually seen on an annual basis in King County. Bird species include hawks, herons, eagles, owls, woodpeckers, songbirds, waterfowl, and shorebirds. There are 70 mammal species that can be found in King County, including shrews, bats, beavers, elk, deer, bears, rabbits, wolves, seals, and whales. There are 50 species of freshwater fish in King County, including 20 introduced species. More information on birds and animals found in King County can be found at <https://kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/defining-biodiversity/species-of-interest.aspx>.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, there are a number of federally threatened and endangered species in King County according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These species include the Hawaiian petrel, Marbled murrelet, Northern spotted owl, Streaked horned lark, Yellow-billed cuckoo, Short-tailed albatross, Western snowy plover, Bull Trout, Island marble butterfly, Taylor's Checkerspot, Columbian white-tailed deer, Olympia pocket gopher, Pygmy Rabbit, Roy Prairie pocket gopher, Southern Mountain Caribou DPS, Tenino pocket gopher, Yelm pocket gopher, Canada lynx, Gray wolf, Grizzly bear, Blue whale, Fin whale, Humpback whale, Southern resident killer whale, Sei whale, Oregon spotted frog, Leatherback sea turtle.

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife lists the following salmonid species as those federally threatened that are known to occur in King County. Skykomish Bull Trout, White River (Puyallup) Bull Trout, Cedar Chinook, Green River (Duwamish) Chinook, Sammamish Chinook, Snoqualmie Chinook, White River Chinook, Cedar River Winter Steelhead, Green River (Duwamish) Winter Steelhead, North Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish Winter Steelhead, Snoqualmie Winter Steelhead, Tolt Summer Steelhead, and White River (Puyallup) Winter Steelhead.

As with any development in King County, future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would have to comply with existing state, local, and federal regulations that protect these species.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no identifiable “site,” King County is within the Pacific Flyway migratory pathway for birds, and migratory birds use water bodies, shorelines, mud flats, and grassy areas/meadows throughout King County. There are numerous streams and water bodies within the County that serve as migration routes for anadromous fish. These water bodies could potentially be near or cross through sites where residential treatment facilities are proposed that could be pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program. Elk, other mammals, and bird species migrate seasonally. Daily movements include animal species moving around to get their daily needs met, and this movement can be impacted by fences, roads, culverts, and land use cover and change. Mammals, amphibians, and reptiles are most affected by barriers to movement.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not have any direct impacts to wildlife, so no measures to preserve or enhance wildlife are proposed. Any future RTF developments would also be subject to existing federal, state, and local wildlife regulations.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, numerous invasive animal species are known to exist in King County. The Washington Invasive Species Council, established by the Washington State Legislature, has identified 16 animal species and 13 insect species that are considered invasive in Washington State. King County is known or suspected to have the following invasive animal and insect species: African Clawed Frog, Golden Trout, Largemouth Bass, New Zealand Mud Snail, Nutria, and Tunicate. Invasive species may be located on a future RTF facility site.

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.

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have direct energy needs, RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would likely require electricity for a wide range of structural uses as well as any other building needs, such as lighting, heating/cooling, and operation of equipment.; some may also use natural gas for heating or manufacturing. Any such development would be subject to existing energy codes and regulations.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to the use of solar energy, any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would be unlikely to 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to energy use, and therefore no energy conservation features are included. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could include energy conservation features or other measures to reduce any energy impacts.

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.**

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly cause any environmental health hazards, it is possible that RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could result in exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spills, or hazardous waste. To the extent any such development created such exposure or risk, those hazards would be regulated by existing state and local regulations.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Sites with contamination exist within King County where future residential treatment facilities could be proposed pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program. These sites would be required to meet any remediation requirements prior to grading.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Sites with hazardous chemicals/conditions exist within King County, and development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could be proposed in areas affected by those sites. Such development would be subject to existing federal, state, and local regulations regarding chemical hazards and liquid and gas transmission pipelines.

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.

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not include the storage, use, or production of any toxic or hazardous chemicals, future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could require the use of toxic or hazardous chemicals, such as gasoline or diesel fuel, to operate construction equipment, emergency generators, and other equipment. Individual development projects would be required to store, use, and produce any toxic or hazardous chemicals, such as cleaning supplies, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts, and any future RTF facilities are not anticipated to generate any additional special emergency services.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impact on the environment nor create environmental health hazards. No measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards are proposed. However, the King County Crisis Care Centers Levy Implementation Plan 2024-2032 states that "Crisis care center facilities should align with environmental sustainability standards for building design and operations that King County will define in contracts. These standards and requirements will be informed by King County's Strategic Climate Action Plan, Green Building Ordinance, and Equity and Social Justice strategies for capital projects" (pg. 68).

b. Noise

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location that can be evaluated for existing noise levels. Various types of noise exist in the areas where the Residential Treatment Facility Program could apply, including noise from traffic, operation of equipment, and more. These noise sources will not affect implementation of the Residential Treatment Facility Program.

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)?

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct noise impacts. However, any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may impose noise, such as short-term loud noises from construction, and long-term medium to quiet noises due to traffic to and from the RTF facilities, and operation of these facilities.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct noise impacts. As such, no measures to reduce or control potential noise impacts are proposed.

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.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location and would not have any direct impacts on the current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties. The Residential Treatment Facility Program would not change or impact current land use designations or zoning classifications in King County.

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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location and would not have any direct impacts to working farmlands or forestlands. Existing regulatory limitations on farmland and working forest land properties would continue apply to any RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program.

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?

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly affect or be affected by the normal business operations of working farmland or forestland.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, it is likely that the parcels within King County where future RTF facilities will be located may contain existing structures or other types of development.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly result in any demolition, existing structures could be demolished as part of a future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program. The nature of and extent to which those structures could be demolished is unknown at this time and would be subject to all existing applicable regulations.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program could potentially occur in any zoning classification that allows the construction of buildings with more units per dwelling than a single-family home and the specific type of use.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, King County and the local jurisdictions within it include a variety of land use designations to which Residential Treatment Facility Program may apply.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, King County includes a variety of shoreline master program designations. Future RTF development within or proximate to shoreline would need to comply with city and County regulations.

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

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location, portions of King County are classified as critical areas where future RTF could be proposed.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly result in a completed project where people would reside or work. Future residential treatment facilities pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would have employees as well as patients. The number of persons working in the subject buildings would depend on the individual facilities proposed, land uses, square footages, and regulations affecting those individual development projects. Treatment programs would vary in terms of the expected duration of care for patients. Some individuals could require longer term stays in residential settings. The Residential Treatment Facility Program would add 100 to 200 beds total that could be occupied by patients. Facilities would not exceed federal standards for facility sizes, which currently limit facility size to no greater than 16 beds.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not directly result in any displacement. Future residential treatment facility development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program proposed RFP could result in displacement, but would be subject to site-specific environmental review. However, implementation of the proposed RFP is not anticipated to result in displacement.

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

Because the Residential Treatment Facility Program is not anticipated to result in displacement, no measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts are proposed. Any Residential Treatment Facility development projects would be subject to existing policies and regulations governing displacements and relocations and would be evaluated during project-level environmental and permit reviews.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and does not include land use plans. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would be required to satisfy any land use, zoning, and permitting requirements of the host jurisdiction or jurisdictions.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not directly impact agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance; as such, no measures to reduce or control impacts to such lands are proposed.

9. Housing

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and will not in itself build or finance housing. While patients would be in residence at the residential treatment facilities for the duration of their care, it is not the intent of the Residential Treatment Facility Program to provide housing.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program itself would not eliminate any housing. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program proposed RFP could result in the elimination or conversion of existing housing, depending on the individual facilities proposed. Future projects would be evaluated for effects on housing during project-level environmental and permit reviews.

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

Because the Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action, there would be no impact on housing. As this is the case, no measures to reduce or control housing impacts 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?**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that does not directly involve the construction of any structures and does not regulate or change the height requirements of any structures or principal exterior building materials. The height and any exterior building material of any future RTF will be subject to, and will comply with, all applicable building code and design guidelines.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to views. Although, future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may result in the alteration or obstruction of views in the immediate vicinity, this obstruction would not be to a greater degree than any other development allowed under existing regulations.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to views or aesthetics, and as such, no measures are proposed to reduce or control aesthetic impacts.

11. Light and glare

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly cause any light or glare. Future RTF development would need to comply with lighting standards that include general lighting design, lighting along the portions of development adjacent to streets, and lighting in parking lots. These provisions are not anticipated to cause additional light and glare beyond the development site, but to promote best practice standards, minimize light pollution and promote safety at night.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would not result in a greater increase in light or glare than any other development allowed under existing regulations. Any development would have to comply with existing development regulations, including any related to light and glare.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Various off-site sources of light or glare exist throughout King County. It is

unlikely that any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would be impacted by any off-site sources.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct light and glare impacts. No additional measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts are proposed beyond existing development regulations.

12. Recreation

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. A variety of designated and informal recreational opportunities exist in King County and may exist in the immediate vicinity of future Residential Treatment Facility projects.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly displace any existing recreational uses. The Residential Treatment Facility Program would not result in a greater displacement of recreational uses than what may otherwise occur under current codes.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impact to recreation. As this is the case, no measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation 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.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. A variety of buildings, structures and sites within King County are listed or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers, and are potentially on sites where future residential treatment facilities could be located. Such developments would be required to comply with all federal, state, and local regulations related to historic and cultural resources.

- 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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. However, landmarks, features, and other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation exist throughout King County, and potentially on sites where future residential treatment facilities could be proposed. Such projects would continue to be required to comply with federal, state, and local rules related to historic and cultural resources.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to historic and cultural resources. King County's existing regulations and any applicable local jurisdiction regulations related to cultural and historic resources would apply to any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program. Such requirements could include consultation with tribes and associated agencies as well as use of archaeological surveys, GIS data, and historic maps to assess potential impacts to cultural and historic resources if needed. Research will be conducted on the web using the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation's Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD) resource. The Muckleshoot, Puyallup, Samish, Snoqualmie, Squaxin, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, and Tulalip tribes are regularly notified during the County's SEPA process for proposed development projects, and affected tribes receive notice when the County receives an application for a Type 2, 3, or 4 project, or for a Type 1 project subject to SEPA.

- 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.**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that will not have any direct impacts to cultural or historic resources. However, King County's existing regulations and any applicable local jurisdiction regulations related to avoidance, minimization of, or compensation for loss, changes to, and disturbances to cultural and historic resources would apply to any individual development proposals pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program.

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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Residential Treatment Facility project sites would be served by a variety of public streets and highways.

- 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?**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. However, King County is generally served by public transit. It is unknown how far the nearest transit stop would be for any future Residential Treatment Facilities.

- 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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly involve any roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian improvements. However, future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program may require or propose improvements to existing roads, streets, or pedestrian or bicycle transportation facilities. All applicable regulations will apply in the development of these new or improved 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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to transportation facilities. However, future Residential Treatment Facilities may use or occur proximal to water, rail and air transportation.

- 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?**

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly generate any vehicular trips. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would likely generate vehicular trips, though the volume of those vehicle trips would not be greater as a result of implementing the Residential Treatment Facility Program.

- 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.**

Although the Residential Treatment Facility Program would not have any direct impact on the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets on the area, individual future Residential Treatment Facilities could generate some additional traffic

that could interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products. Because event traffic would likely occur during a different time period than the movement of agricultural and forest products, any potential impact would likely be minimal.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to transportation volumes. No additional measures to reduce or control transportation impacts are proposed. Future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program will be subject to existing zoning and development regulations, including, to the extent required, transportation analysis and mitigation.

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.

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not directly result in an increased need for public services. Future Residential Treatment Facilities will be public services, but also may require public services, which are expected to be at levels similar to what is currently provided throughout King County.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action that would not have any direct impacts to public services, so no additional measures to reduce or control impacts on public services are proposed.

16. Utilities

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. A variety of utilities are generally available in King County depending on the service area of specific utility providers.

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 Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action with no specific site or location. Any future RTF development pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would require access to utilities such as water, sewer, gas, and electric. A variety of utilities, such as water, sewer, gas, and electric, are generally available in King County.

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 *Kelly Rider*

Type name of signee: Kelly Rider

Position and agency/organization: Director, King County Department of Community and Human Services

Date submitted: 2/20/2025

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 Residential Treatment Facility Program would not affect discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise. However, any development projects pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program would likely increase emissions to air, and production of noise due to patient care, and traffic to and from residential treatment facilities. All applicable regulations regarding water discharge, air emissions, production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances, or noise production would apply to any future RTF development.

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

Existing regulations that aim to avoid or reduce increased discharges to water, emissions to air, and the production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances would apply to residential treatment facilities and are not changed by the Residential Treatment Facility Program. No additional measures to avoid or reduce such impacts are proposed.

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

There are numerous plants, animals, fish, and marine life within King County, but the Residential Treatment Facility Program will not directly result in activities that would cause an impact on these Resources.

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

Existing regulations that protect and conserve plants, animals, fish, and marine life would apply to RTF projects pursuant to the Residential Treatment Facility Program and are not changed by the proposal. No additional measures to avoid or reduce such impacts are proposed.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program would not directly deplete energy or natural resources. It is unlikely that any future RTF development pursuant to the proposed RFP would result in activities that would cause a greater depletion of energy or natural resources than might otherwise occur.

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

Existing regulations that protect and conserve energy and natural resources would apply to future RTF development pursuant to the proposal. No additional measures to avoid or reduce such impacts are proposed.

- 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 Residential Treatment Facility Program would not directly affect environmentally sensitive areas or designated areas for governmental protection. Any future RTF development pursuant to the proposal is unlikely to result in activities that would cause a greater impact to environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated as eligible or under study for governmental protection than might otherwise occur. Any future RTF development would be subject to the same development restrictions concerning environmentally sensitive areas that are currently in place.

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

Existing regulations that protect such resources would apply to any future RTF development are not changed by the proposal. No additional measures to avoid or reduce such impacts are proposed.

- 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 Residential Treatment Facility Program would not alter, and is not anticipated to affect, currently allowed land uses or shoreline uses in King County.

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

As the Residential Treatment Facility Program does not alter, and is not anticipated to affect, currently allowed land uses or shoreline uses in King County, no measures to avoid or reduce impacts are proposed.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is a nonproject action and would not directly affect transportation or public services and utility demands. Any future RTF development is not anticipated to result in activities that would cause a greater demand on public services than what otherwise might occur under the existing code.

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

As the Residential Treatment Facility Program does not directly increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities, no measures, in addition to current regulations, to avoid or reduce impacts are proposed.

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

The Residential Treatment Facility Program is consistent with local, state, and federal law requirements for the protection of the environment. Existing regulations related to the protection of the environment, including the County's Critical Areas Code, Shoreline Master Program, King County Code, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and others, are not amended by the Residential Treatment Facility Program. These regulations would still apply to future RTF development.

Updated CCC SEPA Checklist Strat2 02202025


Final Audit Report


2025-02-20

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