



[SEPA FAQ](#)

What is this SEPA DNS?

How does it apply to Fircrest's 2024 Comprehensive Plan update?

Does this mean the 2024 Comprehensive Plan has been adopted without a chance to add my input?

The Washington Legislature enacted the State Environmental Policy Act in 1971. Commonly called SEPA, the law helps state and local agencies identify environmental impacts likely resulting from projects and decisions such as adopting a city's comprehensive plan.

Environmental review is required for any proposal which involves a government "action," as defined in the SEPA Rules (WAC 197-11-704), and is not categorically exempt (WAC 197-11-800 through 890). Nonproject actions involve decisions on policies, plans, or programs, such as the adoption of a comprehensive plan.

A "Determination of Nonsignificance," or DNS, documents the responsible official's decision that a proposal is unlikely to have significant adverse environmental impacts.

The fourteen-day comment period is a chance for the public to review the 2024 Draft Comprehensive Plan, comment on the DNS, or appeal the SEPA DNS decision.

*This is a similar, yet **separate process** from the public comment period for the Comprehensive Plan. The public will have a chance to review the draft plan for several months. A separate public hearing will be held prior to City Council adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan, pursuant to public outreach requirements in [FMC 22.07](#). Adoption must occur by December 31, 2024. If you have not already done so, please join our mailing list and spread the word to receive updates prior to the public hearing by clicking here: <https://form.jotform.com/230306132031132>*