

**SEPA DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

SR 99: BATTERY STREET TUNNEL FIRE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Description of proposal:

The SR 99 Battery Street Tunnel Fire and Safety Improvements Project proposes to upgrade the fire and safety systems within the Battery Street Tunnel (Tunnel). The project would convert the ramps just south of the Tunnel (the northbound on-ramp from Western Avenue and the southbound off-ramp to Western Avenue) to maintenance and emergency access only. Also, the project would 1) replace and upgrade the Tunnel's electrical and mechanical systems; 2) replace Tunnel lighting, heat activated detectors, fire sprinkler deluge valves, and fire pull stations; and 3) repair the air supply system and upgrade Tunnel system control panels. The traffic control system and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) would be upgraded. Two existing sign bridges located on SR 99 would be removed, and three new sign bridges would be installed. In addition to retrofitting the existing equipment room and emergency egress, a new equipment room would be constructed at 2400 Third Avenue. The project would need to demolish the existing commercial building at 2400 Third Avenue to construct the new equipment room and egress on the southeast portion of the lot.

Proponent:

Washington State Department of Transportation
Attn: Allison Hanson, UCO Director of Environmental Services
999 Third Ave, Suite 2424
Seattle, WA 98104

Location of current proposal:

The project is located in the Belltown area of Seattle, King County, between I-5/I-90 and the waterfront. The project area is bound by approximately Stewart Street on the south and Ward Street to the north and Battery Street to both the east and west within Section 31, Township 25North, Range 4E.

Name of lead agency: Washington State Department of Transportation

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that the proposed project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2) (c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. The Determination of Nonsignificance, supporting checklist and discipline reports are available to the public on request and can be found on the project website at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct/library-environmental.htm.

They can also be read at the following locations: Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program Office at 999 Third Ave, Suite 2424, Seattle, WA 98104; the Seattle Public Library as well as the Downtown Seattle Neighborhood Service Center.

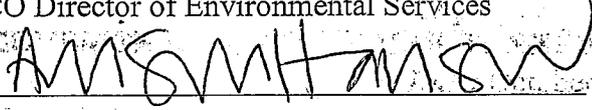
This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. *Comments must be submitted by October 22, 2008.*

Issue Date: October 8, 2008

Responsible Official: Allison Hanson, UCO Director of Environmental Services

Date: October 8, 2008

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Hanson", written over a horizontal line.