

LAND USE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 23, 2021
10:30 A.M. – 10:56 A.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBER COX (CHAIR), DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT,
COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN

STAFF PRESENT: SHANNON KELLEY-FONG, RYAN ANDREWS, JESSICA BRANDT,
PERI EDMONDS

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM – PERIODIC UPDATE

STAFF: JESSICA BRANDT, ASSOCIATE PLANNER
ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

The City's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) has been on the Community and Economic Development work plan since last year per a state-mandated periodic review. Washington State law requires cities with areas designated as "Shorelines of the State" periodically update their SMP in accordance with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and the State Shoreline Master Programs Guidelines.

The City adopted its first SMP in 1972 with a first major update in 2011 with other background documents including a Shoreline Restoration Plan and the Cumulative Impacts Analysis for Lacey's Shorelines. The City completed a minor update in 2015 to comply with state changes to wetlands regulations.

The SMA requires that cities and counties review and revise their SMP, if needed, on an eight-year schedule established by the State Legislature. This review ensures that the City's SMP stays current with changes in state laws and rules, remains consistent with Lacey's Plan and regulations, and is responsive to changed circumstances, new information, and improved data. The City has started a periodic review of its SMP.

Washington State Department of Ecology provided grant funding to complete this update. The full amount of the grant is being used to pay for contracted support from The Watershed Company, awarded through the City's competitive process. The City is leading the public participation process.

Due to the unavailability of in-person meetings and events as planned, a virtual open house was held April 22, 2020, to kick-off community outreach on the SMP update. A joint public hearing and formal comment period with the Washington State Department of Ecology was held in October 2020. Public comments were minimal and did not result in the need to make substantive changes to the proposed amendments.

The City Council will consider the Planning Commission's recommendation to adopt the SMP and associated regulations at the March 18, 2021, Council meeting. If adopted, the SMP will be submitted to the Department of Ecology for approval.