



PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL

PROPOSAL NAME:	Comprehensive and Periodic Updates to the City of Blaine Shoreline Management Master Program (SMP)
APPLICATION TYPE(S):	Legislative
DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT:	https://www.ci.blaine.wa.us/404/DRAFT-Shoreline-Master-Program-UPDATE
PUBLIC HEARING BODY:	City of Blaine Planning Commission
PUBLIC HEARING DATE:	June 27, 2019 at 7 PM
CITY COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS:	July 8, 2019 at 6 PM
RECOMMENDATION:	The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council consider confirming the proposed updates to the City of Blaine Shoreline Management Master Program (3-1-3-0). The confirmation will then be forwarded to the Department of Ecology (ECY) for approval.

After considering the written and spoken comments and considering the record before it, the Planning Commission enters the following findings of fact and recommendations to the Blaine City Council.

Findings of Fact

1. The City of Blaine last amended the City of Blaine Shoreline Management Master Program in 1996 by adoption of Ordinance 96-2247.
2. The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.58 and the Washington Administrative Code (173-26) require the City of Blaine to implement both comprehensive and periodic updates to the Shoreline Management Master Program.
3. The City has prepared a Shoreline Inventory and Analysis Report, a Cumulative Impact Analysis, a Restoration Plan, a Public Access Plan, and a series of shoreline reach maps.
4. The City has developed a complete Draft Shoreline Master Program including general goals, policies and regulations; environment designations, use and modification policies, regulations and standards; and Draft administrative provisions for adoption in the Blaine Municipal Code.

5. The Commission has included the Resort Semiahmoo Master Plan and the Wharf District Master Plan as components of the Shoreline Master Program and to create Special Management Units to regulate a portion of Semiahmoo Spit and the Blaine Wharf District.
6. The Planning Commission held public hearings on February 5, 2010; March 11, 2010; April 25, 2013; May 23, 2013; June 27, 2013; July 11, 2013; August 8, 2013; September 12, 2013; July 24, 2014; and, August 14, 2014.
7. The SEPA Responsible Official issued a non-project SEPA threshold Determination of Non-Significance on December 19, 2014.
8. The Planning Commission developed and modified the content of the Draft Shoreline Master Program in consideration of the entirety of the record over the course of numerous public meetings.
9. The Port of Bellingham and the Resort Semiahmoo, owners of significant portions of the City's shoreline, were consulted and participated in the development and review of the Program.
10. On January 8, 2015, the Planning Commission determined the Draft Shoreline Master Program and supporting documents to be both in compliance with the Shoreline Management Act and in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Blaine and the State of Washington.
11. City Council passed Resolution 1683-16 on March 28, 2016 expressing the intent to adopt an update of the Shoreline Master Program and authorizing the submittal of the proposed Shoreline Master Program Update to the Washington State Department of Ecology.
12. The Washington State Department Ecology reviewed the submittal and provided a list of required and recommended changes.
13. On September 20, 2018, the Washington State Department Ecology provided notification that pursuant to WAC 173-26-090 the City of Blaine must complete a Periodic Review of the Shoreline Master Program. The Periodic Update process must be completed by June 30, 2020 as established in RCW 90.58.080(4).
14. The City of Blaine and the Washington State Department of Ecology agreed to combine the completion of the Comprehensive Update process and the Periodic Update process to streamline the two update review processes into one public process.
15. The Planning Commission held study sessions during their regular public meetings on March 28, 2019 and May 9, 2019.
16. The Planning Commission and Washington State Department of Ecology held a public hearing on June 27, 2019 at Blaine City Hall. Notice of the public hearing was published in the Bellingham Herald on May 28, 2019, provided to the Parties of Record, and published on the City's website and notice board.

Recommendations

The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council consider affirming the proposed updates to the Shoreline Management Master Program.

This recommendation approved June 27, 2019:

Commission Vote	Support	Oppose	Absent	Abstain
Calvin Armerding, Chair			✓	
Kevin Owen, Vice Chair	✓			
Steven Hanrahan			✓	
Steve Hruitford			✓	
John LeBrun		✓		
Richard May	✓			
Sue Sturgill	✓			
Total	3	1	3	0

CITY OF BLAINE PLANNING COMMISSION



Kevin Owens, Chair

July 3, 2019
Date

Stacie Pratschner
Digitally signed by Stacie Pratschner
DN: cn=Stacie Pratschner, o=US,
ou=City of Blaine, ou=CDS,
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Date: 2019.07.02 09:37:44 -0700

Stacie Pratschner, Secretary

7.2.2019
Date