

## Shoreline Master Program - Attachment E(2)

Attachment E(2)- SMP Appendix to Comprehensive Plan  
Proposed text changes in legislative format

### INTRODUCTION

Washington's Shoreline Management Act (SMA) was passed by the Legislature in 1971 and adopted by the public in a 1972 referendum. The goal of the SMA is "to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines." The SMA establishes a balance of authority between local and state government. Cities and counties are the primary regulators, but the State has authority to review local shoreline management programs and permit decisions.

The SMA has three broad policies:

- Encourage water-dependent and water-oriented uses: "uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment or are unique to or dependent upon use of the states' shorelines...."
- Promote public access: "the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines of the state shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible consistent with the overall best interest of the state and the people generally."
- Protect shoreline natural resources, including "...the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the water of the state and their aquatic life...."

### Shoreline Jurisdiction

~~Under the SMA, the shoreline jurisdiction includes areas that are 200 feet landward of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of waters that have been designated as "shorelines of statewide significance". The City of Shoreline's shoreline area includes approximately 3.5 miles of Puget Sound coastline. There are no shorelines of statewide significance associated with rivers, streams, or freshwater lakes in the city or its Future Service Annexation Area (FSAA) of Point Wells.~~

The SMA, and this Master Program, apply to all "shorelines of the state." Shorelines of the state include all "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance" within Washington. Shorelines, as defined by the SMA, are all water areas together with the lands underlying them, which meet certain flow or acreage criteria. Shorelines of statewide significance are certain water areas that the Legislature has determined to have a unique character warranting special status and protection. Within the City of Shoreline there are only shorelines of statewide significance- the approximately 3.5 miles of Puget Sound coastline. No other water areas within Shoreline meet the criteria set forth in the SMA. In addition to the actual water areas, the SMA and this Master Program apply to shorelands. Shorelands are the area 200 feet landward of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of all waters subject to the SMA's provisions.

### Shoreline Master Programs

Under the SMA, each city and county adopts a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) that is based on State guidelines, but tailored to the specific needs of the community. Local SMPs combine both policies and regulations to guide and control development within the shoreline area. The plans are a comprehensive vision of how shoreline areas will be

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used and developed over time. Regulations are the standards that shoreline projects and uses must meet.

~~The City of Shoreline incorporated on August 31, 1995, and subsequently adopted the King County Shoreline Master Program (Ord. 23, 1995). With the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in 1998, the City adopted a Shoreline Master Program Element that contained goals, policies and maps of shoreline environments. While largely consistent with the King County SMP, this newer SMP Element was not reviewed by Ecology, and therefore it did not qualify as part of the City's recognized SMP. The 2005 Comprehensive Plan contained an SMP Update Strategy, and in 2007 the City received a grant from the Department of Ecology to develop its own SMP, which was adopted by City Council on May 29, 2012. Because the SMP contains Goals and Policies, and Analysis, as well as regulations and other information, rather than recreate these elements within this Comprehensive Plan, the City of Shoreline's Shoreline Master Program is referenced at the following link in its entirety:~~

~~<http://shorelinewa.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=11043>~~

~~The Shoreline Management Act (SMA), chapter 90.58 RCW requires the City to have a shoreline master program setting forth goals, policies, and use regulations for those areas within the jurisdictional boundaries of the SMA. After incorporation, the City relied on King County's 1996 Shoreline Management Master Program for compliance with the SMA.~~

This changed in 2013 when the City's current Shoreline Master Program (SMP) was adopted on August 5, 2013 via Ordinance No. 668 and became effective on September 2, 2013. The City Council adopted updates to the SMP on May 6, 2019 via Ordinance No. 856. The SMP is codified at Division II of SMC Title 20, Chapters SMC 20.200, 20.210, 20.220, and 20.230, and 20.240. Title 20 can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Shoreline/#!/html/Shoreline20/Shoreline20.html>

The link to the 2019 SMP will live on the Comprehensive Plan web page:

<http://www.shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/planning-community-development/city-plans/comprehensive-plan-and-master-plans/comprehensive-plan>.