

# August 20, 2009 Open House and Planning Commission Meeting



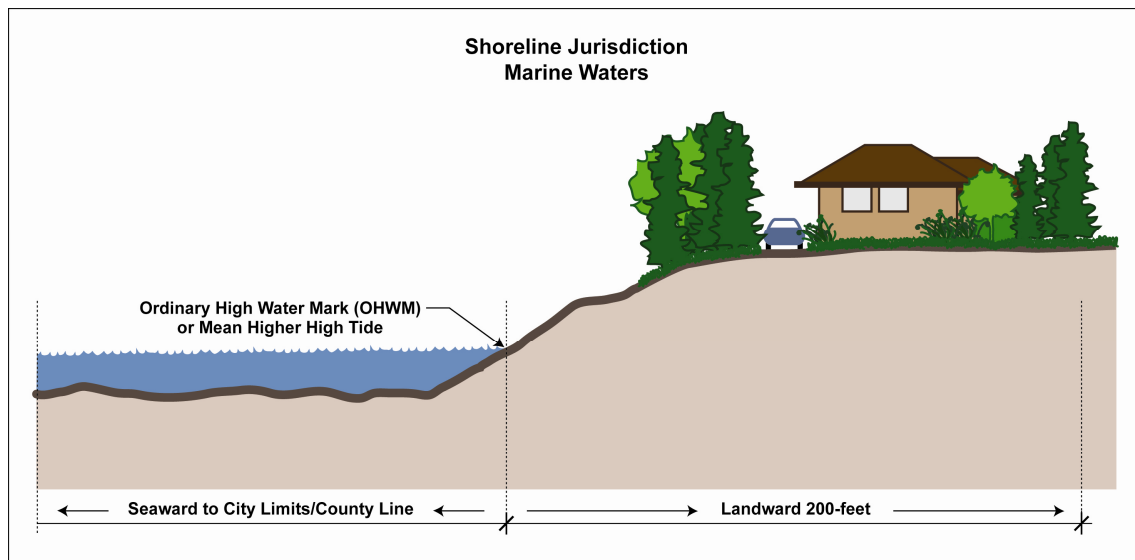
## Shoreline Master Program Update

In 2003, the state legislature established funding, timelines, and guidelines requiring all cities and counties to update their local Shoreline Master Programs (SMP). The update must be prepared consistent with the Shoreline Management Act and its implementing guidelines. In response to the state legislature, the City of Shoreline began updating its existing SMP (adopted in 1995) using grant money from the State Department of Ecology and City funds. The City must complete its SMP update by December 2010.

The City's SMP provides goals, policies, development regulations, and permitting procedures for "shorelines of the state." The "shoreline of the state" that is located in the city and its Potential Annexation Area (PAA) is the Puget Sound coastline.

### Where does the SMP apply?

The SMP applies to the Puget Sound, adjacent "shorelands" located 200 feet from the ordinary high water mark (measured on a horizontal plane), and all associated wetlands.



### What does the SMP regulate?

All land use activities within the shoreline jurisdiction must meet the goals, policies, and regulations in the SMP regardless of the type of shoreline permit required. This includes over-water structures, new buildings and structures, and land development activities such as clearing, grading, or filling.

## What has been completed so far?

- **Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report** - Report identifies the existing shoreline ecological condition of the Puget Sound within the city limits and the PAA.
- **General goals, policies, and regulatory language** – To be applied to all uses and activities along the Puget Sound.
- **Restoration Plan** – Report includes restoration goals and policies, programmatic and site-specific restoration opportunities along the Puget Sound, and timelines and benchmarks for implementing restoration projects.
- **Proposed shoreline environment designations** – Four designations have been applied to shorelands along the Puget Sound including: Point Wells Urban, Point Wells Urban Conservancy, Urban Conservancy, and Shoreline Residential. A fifth designation (Natural) is also under consideration. These designations are similar to zoning overlays; allowing and prohibiting certain uses and activities.
- **Use Matrix** – A matrix that lists uses (e.g., residential, recreational) and shoreline alterations (e.g., grading and filling, shoreline armoring) that are allowed, conditionally allowed, and prohibited for each proposed shoreline environment designation.
- **Buffers** – Minimum native vegetation conservation area (in feet) for each shoreline environment designation.

The reports and information listed above are available on the City's website at [www.cityofshoreline.com/index.aspx?page=410](http://www.cityofshoreline.com/index.aspx?page=410).

The first Open House and Planning Commission meeting was held on November 20, 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to garner feedback from the public and commission members on the Shoreline Inventory and Characterization report. The purpose of this open house is to update the public and commission members on the new elements of the program that have recently been prepared, as described above.

## What are the next steps to be completed?

The following are the next steps in the City's SMP update process:

1. Prepare goals, policies and regulations that apply to specific uses and specific shoreline alterations.
2. Prepare a cumulative impact analysis assessing the affect the proposed regulations and Restoration Plan would have on the ecological functions and processes along the Puget Sound.
3. Begin local adoption of the SMP in early 2010.

## Who do I direct my comments to?

Community members, especially those that are located along the Puget Sound, are encouraged to voice their issues, concerns, and questions throughout the update process. Community members may contact Miranda Redinger, SMP Project Manager, at (206) 801-2513 or email [mredinger@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:mredinger@shorelinewa.gov).