



West Bay Marina, Olympia



Shoreline Master Program Update

For the Cities of Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater In Thurston County, Washington

What is happening?

The Cities of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater are in the midst of updating their policies and regulations for shorelines. This is required under the State's Shoreline Management Act. The cities are doing this as a joint planning effort – coordinated by Thurston Regional Planning Council. They will also be working with Thurston County.

The cities have received grant funding from the State Department of Ecology to assist them.

What is the Shoreline Management Act?

The Shoreline Management Act was adopted as a citizen referendum in 1972. It applies to all Shorelines of the State. The main goal of the act is to ensure that there is a balance in the uses of shorelines between reasonable development and economic activity, and preserving the public's access and enjoyment of shorelines and water-related activities.

It does this by having local governments develop a Shoreline Master Program – a combined planning and regulatory document – that contains policies, goals, and specific land use regulations. The cities must have a new plan in place by 2011.

This update must also include policies that lead to no net loss of ecological function for shorelines and also restore degraded aquatic and marine habitat. Protecting water quality to ensure public safety is also a goal of the Shoreline Management Act.

These are the three main policies of the Shoreline Management Act:

1. *Encourage water dependent uses*
2. *Protect shoreline natural resources*
3. *Promote public access*

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Ward Lake, Hewitt Lake,
Deschutes River, Olympia/
Tumwater.

What are Shorelines of the State?

Shorelines include:

- All marine waters, as well as tidelands
- Lakes that are 20 acres or greater in size
- Streams and rivers with a mean annual flow of greater than 20 cubic feet per second
- Wetlands associated with the waters above
- Upland area stretching 200 feet from the water's edge
- Floodplains that extend more than 200 feet beyond the water's edge

**Lakes, Rivers,
and Marine
shorelines may
all qualify as
shorelines under
the Shoreline
Management Act**

The cities have the option to regulate wetland buffers and other critical area buffers under the plan.

What are the main benefits of the Shoreline Master Program?

- Planning for the future will help preserve our shoreline areas for future generations to enjoy.
- Preserving essential habitat and protecting water quality will keep local wildlife and fish healthy.
- Strategic development can enhance the local economy and increase the public enjoyment of our area's water resources.
- Careful planning will ensure an adequate supply of land for water-dependent uses such as ports and marinas.
- Careful planning will lead to fewer impacts from natural hazards such as floods.

*Photos, clockwise:
Tumwater Falls Park,
Tumwater; Percival
Landing, Olympia;
Long Lake, Lacey;
Priest Point Park,
Olympia; Lake Lois
Habitat Reserve,
Lacey; Deschutes River
Flooding, Tumwater.*



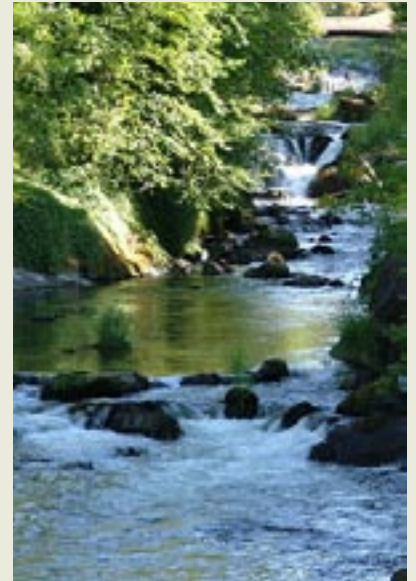
Why should you get involved?

Whether you own a home or business on the shoreline, or enjoy the waters of the Puget Sound, how the cities manage our shorelines is important to you. You are encouraged to get on our mailing list, attend our workshops, and review and comment on each element of the plan as work progresses.

Phase	Plan Update Schedule	Timeline
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine what shorelines are regulated under the act Conduct an inventory of all existing and available data for shorelines Public Open Houses 	Winter 2008
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and characterize shoreline conditions 	Spring 2008
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categorize each shoreline segment into a designation such as urban, suburban or rural. Each will have a different set of rules. Develop draft rules and policies Public meetings 	Fall 2008 Winter-Spring 2009
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the cumulative impacts of expected shoreline development or redevelopment. Develop a restoration (and preservation) plan, including public access 	Winter - Spring 2009
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public hearings Planning Commission recommendations City Council approval State approval 	Late 2009-2010

For more information please contact: Steven Morrison, Senior Planner
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Additional information can be found on TRPC's website: www.trpc.org.



About Us

Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) is an intergovernmental board made up of local jurisdictions within Thurston County. TRPC's mission is to "Provide Visionary Leadership on Regional Plans, Policies and Issues." TRPC serves as a regional resource by:

- Developing regional plans and policies for transportation, growth management, environmental quality and other topics determined by the Council.
- Providing data and analysis to support local and regional decision-making.
- Building consensus on regional issues by serving as a "convener" of intergovernmental and community discussions.
- Building intergovernmental consensus on regional plans, policies, and issues.
- Providing planning, administrative, and technical services for other jurisdictions on a contractual basis.

Council Members

Governmental Jurisdiction

City of Lacey
City of Olympia
City of Rainier
City of Tenino
City of Tumwater
City of Yelm
Town of Bucoda
Thurston County
Intercity Transit

Name of 2008 Representative

Virgil Clarkson, Mayor
Rhenda Iris Strub, Councilmember
Dennis McVey, Councilmember
Ken Jones, Mayor
Ed Stanley, Councilmember
Robert Isom, Councilmember
Jerry Broadbent, Councilmember
Cathy Wolfe, County Commissioner
Karen Valenzuela, Transit Authority Board Member
Graeme Sackrison, Board Member
Paul Pickett, PUD Commissioner
David Elliott, School Board Member
Shawn Lewis, Staff
Frank Wilson, School Board Member
Lennea Magnus, Planning Director
Francine Lester, Tribal Councilmember

LOTT Alliance
Thurston County PUD No. 1
Griffin School District
North Thurston Public Schools
Olympia School District
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
Nisqually Indian Tribe

Associate Members

Economic Development Council of Thurston County
Lacey Fire District #3
Puget Sound Regional Council
Timberland Regional Library

John Setterstrom, EDC President
Frank Kirkbride, Commissioner
Norman Abbott, Director
Dick Nichols, Library Board Member

Charter Member Emeritus

The Evergreen State College

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