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March 16, 2009

Washington Department of Ecology
Jeffree Stewart, SMP Project Officer
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SUBJECT: Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update Contract Extension Request

We recognize the need and embrace the opportunity to update our Shoreline Master Program (SMP) in compliance with the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) and SMP Guidelines (WAC 173-26). There is much that is different now than when our current program was updated in 1989 – new scientific and technical understanding of shoreline functions and conditions, increased shoreline development, increased local and state population, shifts in community desire for appropriate land use and resource protection. We also appreciate the consistent support and participation you have provided as our Project Officer.

As you know, we have been diligent in our efforts to satisfy the obligations of our grant funding contract (G0600343), including:

- Preparation of required analyses and documentation, such as a Consistency Report, Integration Strategy, Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report, Shoreline Restoration Plan and a Draft Cumulative Impacts Analysis;
- Extensive public participation via two (2) advisory committees, over twenty (20) public outreach and involvement events, news releases, project website, email list, direct mailings and public review documents at community locations; and
- Preparation of a Preliminary Draft Shoreline Master Program proposal for formal public review, currently under consideration by our Planning Commission.

Our current grant contract has an end date of June 30, 2009 and requires submittal of a locally-approved SMP for Ecology review and final adoption along with other deliverables.


As you know, our staff and consultants have prepared the *Preliminary Draft SMP* based on the input of two advisory committees and the public. The timeline for this draft was somewhat delayed because of the extensive informal input from our citizen, agency and tribal advisors and due to our consultation with your department on a number of key issues of concern. We appreciate the time you and your colleagues have spent supporting our update effort, including the October 10, 2008 Policy Team consultation and the December 1, 2008 response memo you sent as a follow-up guidance to that meeting.

Our Planning Commission has already held a public hearing on the *Preliminary Draft SMP* and received over 400 comment letters, upon which they are now deliberating. To allow for thoughtful completion of the Planning Commission's work and continued public participation, we are requesting an extension of three months to submit a locally approved SMP to the Department. While this project has proven to be a monumental undertaking and we have found challenges in holding to the timelines, we maintain our good faith effort and believe it is within the public interest to request this extension.

The County hereby requests a contract extension of the submittal deadline to October 30, 2009. Existing grant funds are anticipated to be spent in full by June 30, 2009. A proposed Revised SMP Review Schedule is enclosed to show how we intend to make use of the additional time.

We look forward to a timely response to ensure no further delays occur in our process.

Sincerely,


David Sullivan, Chairman

Planning Commission Work Plan 2009

	February		March		April		May		June								
	2/4/09	2/18/09	2/25/09	3/4/09	3/11/09	3/18/09	3/25/09	4/1/09	4/8/09	4/15/09	4/22/09	4/29/09	5/6/09	5/20/09	6/3/09	6/17/09	6/24/09
Planning Commission Meeting																	
Comp Plan Amendments '09 (CPA '09)		X						X									
Critical Areas Appeal (CAO)						X											
Shoreline Master Program Update (SMP)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Urban Growth Area Compliance (UGA)		X		X													

NOTE: PC regular meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month; any meetings in addition to those are special meetings. All PC meetings are noticed in the Leader newspaper as well as on the County website and often to the SMP Email List

FEBRUARY

- 4-Feb UGA Presentation
 - SMP Deliberations - Review strategy & goals, Comment Matrix by Topic
 - 18-Feb CAO Line-in/Line-out Deliberation & Action
 - UGA Public Hearing and possible deliberations
 - SMP Deliberations - Beach Access Structures
 - 25-Feb SMP Deliberations - Beach Access Structures; Boating Facilities
- MARCH**
- 4-Mar UGA Line-in/Line-out Deliberation & Action
 - SMP Deliberations - PDSMP Review Process & Schedule; Boating Facilities
 - 11-Mar Last meeting for Mike Whittaker, Bill Miller, Peter Downey unless re-appointed/replacement appointed
 - SMP Deliberations - Aquaculture
 - 18-Mar CAO Revision Public Hearing
 - SMP Deliberations - Industrial/Port Development; Forest Practices; Agriculture
 - 25-Mar SMP Deliberations - Critical Areas/Buffers
- APRIL**
- 1-Apr CAO Revision Deliberations & Action
 - SMP Deliberations - Critical Areas/Buffers
 - 8-Apr SMP Deliberations - Commercial Development; Mining
 - 15-Apr SMP Deliberations - Residential Development; Shore Armoring/Stabilization; Non-Conforming Development
 - 22-Apr SMP Deliberations - Definitions; Admin/Permits; Exemptions
 - 29-Apr SMP Deliberations - Public Access; Vegetation
- MAY**
- 6-May PC Election of Officers
 - SMP Deliberations - Shoreline Environment Designations (SEDs); Final PDSMP Line-in/Line-out revisions
 - 20-May Release PC Revised Draft SMP to public; Open public comment period (2 weeks)
- JUNE**
- 3-Jun SMP Public Hearing on PC Final Draft SMP; Close public comment period
 - 17-Jun SMP - Deliberations on PC Final Draft SMP to address public comments received
 - 24-Jun SMP - Final deliberations on PC Final Draft SMP and determine GMI findings & conclusions; Action to submit PC Final Draft SMP to BoCC

SMP UPDATE SCHEDULE

As of 3-11-09

2009

March		
W	4-Mar	PC deliberations on PDSMP
W	11-Mar	PC deliberations on PDSMP (Special mtg)
W	18-Mar	PC deliberations on PDSMP
W	25-Mar	PC deliberations on PDSMP (Special mtg)
April		
W	1-Apr	PC deliberations on PDSMP
W	8-Apr	PC deliberations on PDSMP (Special mtg)
W	15-Apr	PC deliberations on PDSMP
W	22-Apr	PC deliberations on PDSMP (Special mtg)
Th	29-Apr	PC deliberations on PDSMP (Special mtg - not yet noticed)
May		
W	6-May	PC final deliberations on PDSMP; PC motion to submit PDSMP Li/Lo revisions to DCD
Th	7-May	PC Chair transmits PDSMP Li/Lo revisions to DCD; DCD begins preparation of <i>PC Revised Draft SMP</i> to reflect PC revisions
W	20-May	Publish legal notice for PC Public Hearing #2; Release <i>PC Revised Draft SMP</i> ; Open Public Comment period (2 weeks)
June		
W	3-Jun	PC Public Hearing on <i>PC Revised Draft SMP</i> ; Close Public Comment period
Th	4-Jun	DCD begins to process public comment for PC consideration
W	17-Jun	PC deliberations on any further revisions to reflect public comment and determine GMI findings & conclusions
W	24-Jun	Final PC deliberations on any further revisions to reflect public comment; PC motion to recommend <i>PC Final Draft SMP</i> to BoCC with final GMI findings & conclusions (Special meeting not yet noticed)
T	30-Jun	Ecology grant funds expire
DATES BELOW ARE TENTATIVE		
F	3-Jul	Independence Day Holiday
T	7-Jul	DCD submits Board Agenda request to the County Adm to submit the PC draft SMP to the BoCC
M	13-Jul	<i>PC Final Draft SMP</i> submitted to BoCC via regular agenda item;
T	14-Jul	DCD submits Board Agenda request to the County Adm to submit the DCD final recommendation on the draft SMP
M	20-Jul	<i>DCD Final Recommendation</i> submitted to BoCC via regular agenda; Board approval of legal notice for PH; DCD submits legal notice to Leader
W	22-Jul	Publish legal notice for BoCC PH; Open Public Comment period (3 weeks);
M	27-Jul	BoCC workshop on SMP?
August		
M	3-Aug	BoCC workshop on SMP?
M	10-Aug	BoCC workshop on SMP?
M	17-Aug	BoCC Public Hearing on SMP; Close Public Comment period
T	18-Aug	DCD begins processing public comment for BoCC consideration
September		
M	7-Sep	Labor Day Holiday
T	8-Sep	BoCC begins deliberations to identify any needed revisions based on public comment
M	14-Sep	BoCC deliberations
M	21-Sep	BoCC deliberations
M	28-Sep	BoCC final deliberations on SMP
T	29-Sep	DCD begins preparation of SMP based on BoCC revisions
October		
T	6-Oct	DCD submits BoCC Agenda Request for SMP approval
M	12-Oct	BoCC resolution to locally approve SMP for ECY submittal
T	13-Oct	DCD begins preparation of ECY submittal packet with locally approved SMP, Final Cumulative Impacts Analysis, SMP Checklist
W	30-Oct	Revised deadline for submitting a locally-approved SMP to Ecology for review & final adoption